



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

July 22, 2019

Dear ENERGY STAR® Partners and other Stakeholders:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to share both an update on [ENERGY STAR Most Efficient 2019 and proposed recognition criteria across 14 product categories](#) for 2020. The proposed criteria for Dehumidifiers will be shared with stakeholders this fall. Stakeholders are invited to provide written comments on these criteria no later than **August 22, 2019** to MostEfficient@energystar.gov.

ENERGY STAR Most Efficient 2019

As of July 2019, 2,811 models from 175 ENERGY STAR partners meet the ENERGY STAR Most Efficient 2019 recognition criteria. The number of models and partners per category is noted in the following table:

Product Category	Models	ENERGY STAR Partners
Boilers	545	31
Ceiling Fans	104	10
Central Air Conditioners and Air Source Heat Pumps	187	8
Clothes Dryers	21	6
Clothes Washers	26	4
Computer Monitors	181	21
Dehumidifiers	11	4
Dishwashers	91	8
Furnaces	141	7
Geothermal Heat Pumps	611	10
Refrigerators-Freezers	391	32
Televisions	6	6
Ventilating Fans	38	9
Windows	458	42
Total*	2,811	175

**Total ENERGY STAR partners that meet the ENERGY STAR Most Efficient 2019 recognition criteria is calculated by removing duplicate partners that may appear in more than one product category. Therefore, unlike the Total Models count, the total ENERGY STAR Partners count does not represent the sum of its column.*

ENERGY STAR Most Efficient enjoys robust utility support and is leveraged by over 30 energy efficiency program sponsors, serving almost 13 million households (or roughly 30 million consumers). These rebate programs feature one or more product categories covered by ENERGY STAR Most Efficient 2019 and reflect a diverse geographic spread, including two water utilities in California.

ENERGY STAR Most Efficient is also being leveraged for retailer incentives as part of the ENERGY STAR Retail Products Platform (ESRPP), an innovative, nationally coordinated, market transformation initiative. In 2016, during its first pilot year, three retailers and eight energy efficiency program sponsors representing 11 states and almost 18% of the U.S participated in the ESRPP. ENERGY STAR certified models in five

product categories were promoted by program sponsor-labeled signage in almost 700 stores. Participation grew in 2017 with new sponsors and the addition of Lowe's and Nationwide Marketing Group. ESRPP retailers now represent more than 70% of the appliance market, more than 1,000 stores in current program sponsors' service areas. In 2019, there are 15 efficiency program sponsors participating in ESRPP. Going forward, the ESRPP is striving for large-scale market participation – serving more than 30% of the US population – a key milestone in the ESRPP vision to transform the market for energy efficient consumer products.

EPA has also made progress in arming consumers with the information they need about recognized products. In addition to highlighting ENERGY STAR Most Efficient 2019 products, our website includes images of models, as well as real-time information on retail pricing and where to locate and buy these models. This information is currently available for clothes washers, dryers, dishwashers, monitors, refrigerators, and ventilating fans found at select major retailers. In order to continue to access pricing data from the Amazon API, EPA is completing significant upgrades to our underlying structure for pulling the information. We expect to have that in place by the end of the summer, at which point we will again have prices for dehumidifiers, ceiling fans, and TVs.

2020 Product Categories and Recognition Criteria

For 2020, EPA intends to continue to highlight all 14 of the product categories currently eligible for ENERGY STAR Most Efficient recognition, and introduce room air conditioners to the portfolio for a total of 15 categories.

The proposed recognition criteria for 2020 were based on an analysis of currently certified ENERGY STAR models and the engineering analysis DOE conducts for covered products. This analysis indicates that for many categories existing recognition criteria remain reflective of the “best of the best.” As a result, EPA is extending the 2019 efficiency criteria into 2020 for boilers, furnaces, central air conditioners and air source heat pumps, dishwashers, geothermal heat pumps (GHP), refrigerators/freezers, televisions, and vent fans. In addition to adding criteria for room air conditioners, EPA is also proposing to recognize additional refrigerator/freezer and windows product subtypes. EPA has revised the monitor criteria and is proposing modest changes to the ceiling fan and dryer criteria. Lastly, EPA has proposed to allow partners to indicate the availability of consumer features such as soil sensing on the ENERGY STAR Most Efficient product list for dishwashers, refrigerators, and dryers.

Ceiling Fans: EPA has maintained the 2019 criteria for ceiling fans for Standard and Hugger Ceiling Fans and has added new, higher criteria for the Low-Mount High Speed Small Diameter (HSSD) Ceiling Fan category, which previously had the same criteria as standard fans. However, the change will not affect which fans earn recognition, as all Low-Mount High Speed Small Diameter fans on the US market meet the criteria. This reflects the higher efficiency of these fans as a class. The list of ENERGY STAR ceiling fans has remained significantly reduced since the Version 4.0 specification went into effect but is expected to grow as the first federal minimum airflow efficiency standards go into effect in 2021. The 2019 criteria continue to provide distinctly higher efficiency than the Version 4.0 levels.

Clothes Washers: EPA has maintained the 2019 energy and water criteria for clothes washers in 2020. The ENERGY STAR Most Efficient list includes now 26 models from 5 brands, providing consumers with a good selection of models with superior energy and water efficiency.

Computer Monitors: The 2019 ENERGY STAR Most Efficient list of computer monitors includes 181 models from 21 manufacturers. With the pending effective date of ENERGY STAR Version 8.0, which is the current Most Efficient levels, EPA is proposing to raise the requirements for ENERGY STAR Most Efficient Monitors in 2020. More specifically, EPA proposes to decrease the constants for all size bins while maintaining the same E_{TEC_MAX} equation structure. This modification will recognize the top tier of the market and capture the associated increased savings potential. EPA is also proposing to apply the DC_AC conversion factor to the E_{TEC_MAX} equation for consistency with the Version 8.0 specification and to apply requirements fairly to both AC- and DC-powered models.

Dehumidifiers: Due to the recent transition to the IEF efficiency metric, EPA will delay the release of ENERGY STAR Most Efficient 2020 criteria for dehumidifiers until further data on market available products is available. EPA anticipates releasing draft recognition criteria early this fall.

Dishwashers: EPA has maintained the 2019 criteria for standard sized dishwashers, including the minimum cleaning performance floor. The ENERGY STAR Most Efficient list has grown steadily in this category, with 91 models from 8 brands now recognized. EPA is proposing to include optional reporting to highlight products with soil sensors and energy efficient drying technology that may deliver additional consumer amenity and savings.

Dryers: EPA is proposing a minor update to the 2019 criteria for dryers. The 2019 ENERGY STAR Most Efficient list with the max dry criteria grew steadily throughout the year, with 21 base models from 7 brands currently recognized. EPA proposes to consolidate the Compact Ventless Electric (240 V) product type into existing categories for Electric and Gas. The current ENERGY STAR Most Efficient Compact Ventless Electric (240 V) models all meet the more stringent level for Electric (All Other), so this change will not impact the currently recognized Most Efficient models. In response to utility interest this year, EPA worked with partners to identify dryers that use heat pump or hybrid heat pump technologies and provide a path to identify products with this technology on the ENERGY STAR Most Efficient product list. EPA proposes to add a new optional reporting element for the refrigerant type in 2020. EPA encourages partners to complete these optional fields when certifying products to make it easier for utilities to incentivize these technologies in the market.

Ducted and Non-Ducted Central Air Conditioners and Heat Pumps: EPA has maintained the 2019 criteria for ducted and non-ducted central air conditioners and heat pumps. The scope definitions in these recognition criteria have been updated to align with the federal test method definitions, without changing their scope. All products currently meeting the 2019 criteria will continue to be recognized.

Other Heating and Cooling Products: EPA has retained the current recognition criteria for furnaces, geothermal heat pumps (GHP), and boilers. Recognized furnaces represent an elite group of products with exceptional performance. While the number of recognized GHP models continues to grow, overall GHP sales remain very small, and the consumer value in terms of savings and functionality remains significant at the current levels. For boilers, the 2019 criteria remain the best means of differentiating top energy savers. The system status and messaging criteria are unchanged from 2019. For furnaces, geothermal heat pumps, and ducted and non-ducted central air conditioners and heat pumps, the Narrative Guide will be replaced with an application, to clarify the submission requirements and ease the recognition process.

Refrigerators-Freezers: EPA is proposing ENERGY STAR Most Efficient criteria for compact refrigerators and freezers as well as standalone standard freezers. Criteria for standard-sized refrigerator-freezers are unchanged for 2020. For standard-size freezers, EPA is proposing models be greater than or equal to 15% above the federal minimum efficiency standards. For compact refrigerators and refrigerator-freezers, EPA is proposing models be greater than or equal to 25% above the federal minimum efficiency standards. For compact freezers, EPA is proposing models be greater than or equal to 20% above the federal minimum efficiency standards. For standard-size freezers, the level aligns with the ESRPP advanced tier. While no models as currently rated meet the criteria, there are many models, if rated differently, that would meet the criteria. For compact refrigerators and refrigerator freezers, 161 models from 11 brands, meet the proposed criteria. Finally, for compact freezers, 11 models from 6 brands, meet the proposed criteria. EPA proposes to add a new optional reporting element for the refrigerant type in 2020.

NEW! Room Air Conditioners: EPA is introducing room air conditioners as a new product category for ENERGY STAR Most Efficient in 2020. The proposed criteria are similar to those in the 2019 Emerging Technology Award. There are currently 4 models from one brand that will meet the proposed criteria, but EPA anticipates more models from more brands will be on the market in 2020. The proposal includes a maximum sound level requirement at the lowest operational setting and includes a reporting requirement for the refrigerant type. As with other ENERGY STAR Most Efficient products, EPA will recognize as connected products that meet the optional connected criteria found in ENERGY STAR Version 4.1.

Televisions: EPA has maintained the 2019 criteria for televisions. With ENERGY STAR Version 8.0 taking effect in March 2019, the count of recognized models is currently quite modest. However, EPA sees value in maintaining recognition as partners consider options for delivering top performance along with superior efficiency going forward.

Ventilating Fans: EPA has maintained the 2019 criteria for ventilating fans. The current efficiency criteria are met by an appropriate subset of ENERGY STAR products; however, a very small number of those fans are currently recognized as ENERGY STAR Most Efficient. This is due to a lack of reported data for the noise criteria as measured at 0.25 in water gauge (w.g.) static pressure for bathroom/utility fans. EPA encourages partners to submit these data and contact EPA with questions regarding how to do so.

Windows: EPA is proposing to expand the ENERGY STAR Most Efficient category for windows to include sliding glass doors using the same recognition criteria as those applied to all other windows. This category would only include sliding glass doors with the NFRC operator type: DDSG. Since sliding glass doors are similar to windows in form (similar Insulating Glass Units or IGUs with a narrow surrounding frame), they are likely to have similar performance and glass tints. No changes are proposed for the 2019 residential window recognition criteria. Although 458 window product lines are recognized from over 42 product brand owners, they still represent a relatively small percentage of the market.

The proposed ENERGY STAR Most Efficient 2020 criteria for the full suite of products are summarized below. In addition to meeting these recognition criteria, products must be certified as ENERGY STAR by an EPA-recognized certification body. Additional detail for each product category is included in the recognition criteria documents accompanying this letter.

Category	ENERGY STAR Most Efficient 2020 Recognition Criteria											
Boilers*	Gas Powered Boilers: 95% AFUE or higher. Oil Powered Boilers: 90% AFUE or higher											
Ceiling Fans	<p>Efficiency as per 10 CFR 430 Subpart B, Appendix U (cfm/W)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Ceiling Fan Type</th> <th>Blade Span (D)* (inches)</th> <th>Ceiling Fan Efficiency (CFM/W)**</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Standard and Hugger Ceiling Fans</td> <td>19" ≤ D ≤ 36"</td> <td>≥ 1.03D + 60.43</td> </tr> <tr> <td>> 36"</td> <td>≥ 3.88D - 42.17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Low-Mount HSSD Ceiling Fans</td> <td>All Blade Spans</td> <td>≥ 4.16D + 0.02</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">*D is the ceiling fan blade span in inches **This is a weighted average efficiency in different modes, according to 10 CFR 430 Subpart B, Appendix U</p>	Ceiling Fan Type	Blade Span (D)* (inches)	Ceiling Fan Efficiency (CFM/W)**	Standard and Hugger Ceiling Fans	19" ≤ D ≤ 36"	≥ 1.03D + 60.43	> 36"	≥ 3.88D - 42.17	Low-Mount HSSD Ceiling Fans	All Blade Spans	≥ 4.16D + 0.02
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Clothes Washers*	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Clothes Washer Capacity</th> <th>Integrated Modified Energy Factor (IMEF)</th> <th>Integrated Water Factor (IWF)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>≤ 2.5 cu-ft</td> <td>≥ 2.2</td> <td>≤ 3.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>> 2.5 cu-ft</td> <td>≥ 2.92</td> <td>≤ 3.2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td>Total Cleaning Score (CS_i)</td> <td>≥ 85.0</td> </tr> </table>	Clothes Washer Capacity	Integrated Modified Energy Factor (IMEF)	Integrated Water Factor (IWF)	≤ 2.5 cu-ft	≥ 2.2	≤ 3.7	> 2.5 cu-ft	≥ 2.92	≤ 3.2	Total Cleaning Score (CS _i)	≥ 85.0
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≤ 2.5 cu-ft	≥ 2.2	≤ 3.7										
> 2.5 cu-ft	≥ 2.92	≤ 3.2										
Total Cleaning Score (CS _i)	≥ 85.0											

Ducted Central Air Conditioners and Air Source Heat Pumps*	<p>System status and messaging capabilities, variable capacity</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="636 176 1328 344"> <thead> <tr> <th>Product type</th> <th>SEER</th> <th>EER</th> <th>HSPF</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Split AC</td> <td>18</td> <td>13.0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Packaged AC</td> <td>16</td> <td>12.0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Split HP</td> <td>18</td> <td>12.5</td> <td>9.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Packaged HP</td> <td>16</td> <td>12.0</td> <td>8.2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Product type	SEER	EER	HSPF	Split AC	18	13.0		Packaged AC	16	12.0		Split HP	18	12.5	9.6	Packaged HP	16	12.0	8.2
Product type	SEER	EER	HSPF																		
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Dehumidifiers	Criteria for Dehumidifiers will be proposed this fall.																				
Ductless AC and Heat Pumps*	Products must meet the following cooling and heating performance levels: 20 SEER, 12.5 EER, 10 HSPF (Heat pumps only); system status and messaging capabilities, variable capacity.																				
Geothermal Heat Pumps*	<p>System status and messaging capabilities; variable capacity except water-to-water models.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="597 674 1365 877"> <thead> <tr> <th>Product type</th> <th>EER</th> <th>COP</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Closed Loop Water-to-Air/GHP</td> <td>17.1</td> <td>3.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Open Loop Water-to-Air GHP</td> <td>21.1</td> <td>4.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Closed Loop Water-to-Water GHP</td> <td>16.1</td> <td>3.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Open Loop Water-to-Water GHP</td> <td>20.1</td> <td>3.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DGX</td> <td>16.0</td> <td>3.6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Product type	EER	COP	Closed Loop Water-to-Air/GHP	17.1	3.6	Open Loop Water-to-Air GHP	21.1	4.1	Closed Loop Water-to-Water GHP	16.1	3.1	Open Loop Water-to-Water GHP	20.1	3.5	DGX	16.0	3.6		
Product type	EER	COP																			
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Open Loop Water-to-Water GHP	20.1	3.5																			
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Computer Monitors	<p>Total Energy Consumption (E_{TEC}) in kilowatt-hours per year shall be calculated as follows:</p> $E_{TEC} = 8.76 \times (0.35 \times P_{ON} + 0.65 \times P_{SLEEP})$ <p>Where: P_{ON} = measured On Mode power in watts; P_{SLEEP} = measured Sleep Mode power in watts;</p> $E_{TEC_{MAX}} = (1.9 + (0.12 \times A) + [3.1 \times (r + C)]) \times eff_{AC_{DC}}$ <p>Where: $eff_{AC_{DC}} =$ 1.00 for AC-powered monitors 0.85 for DC-powered monitors $A =$ viewable screen area in square inches; $r =$ Total Native Resolution in megapixels; and $C =$ 1.2 if $A < 180 \text{ in}^2$ 2 if $180 \text{ in}^2 \leq A < 220 \text{ in}^2$ 1.2 if $A \geq 220 \text{ in}^2$</p>																				
Dishwashers*	<table border="1" data-bbox="591 1560 1373 1692"> <thead> <tr> <th>Product Type</th> <th>Annual Energy Use (kWh/yr)</th> <th>Water Consumption (gallons/cycle)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Standard Dishwasher</td> <td>≤ 240</td> <td>≤ 3.2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1" data-bbox="815 1724 1149 1892"> <thead> <tr> <th>Test Cycle</th> <th>Cleaning Index</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Heavy</td> <td>70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Medium</td> <td>70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Light</td> <td>70</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Product Type	Annual Energy Use (kWh/yr)	Water Consumption (gallons/cycle)	Standard Dishwasher	≤ 240	≤ 3.2	Test Cycle	Cleaning Index	Heavy	70	Medium	70	Light	70						
Product Type	Annual Energy Use (kWh/yr)	Water Consumption (gallons/cycle)																			
Standard Dishwasher	≤ 240	≤ 3.2																			
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Dryers	<p>Products must meet the applicable energy performance requirements shown in the table below, as determined by 10 CFR Part 430 Subpart B Appendix D2, unless noted otherwise.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="555 205 1408 373"> <thead> <tr> <th>Cycle Setting</th> <th>Product Type</th> <th>CEFBASE (lbs/kWh)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Normal</td> <td>Electric</td> <td>≥ 4.30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gas</td> <td>≥ 3.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Normal, Maximum Dryness¹</td> <td>Electric</td> <td>≥ 3.93</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gas</td> <td>≥ 3.48</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Cycle Setting	Product Type	CEFBASE (lbs/kWh)	Normal	Electric	≥ 4.30	Gas	≥ 3.80	Normal, Maximum Dryness ¹	Electric	≥ 3.93	Gas	≥ 3.48
Cycle Setting	Product Type	CEFBASE (lbs/kWh)												
Normal	Electric	≥ 4.30												
	Gas	≥ 3.80												
Normal, Maximum Dryness ¹	Electric	≥ 3.93												
	Gas	≥ 3.48												
Furnaces*	AFUE 97% or higher; system status and messaging capabilities.													
Refrigerator-Freezers and Freezers	<p>Product must have an Annual Energy Consumption (AEC) of less than or equal to 637 kWh per year.</p> <p>Side-by-side and bottom freezer product types must be at least 20% more efficient than federal requirements. Top freezers must be at least 10% more efficient than federal requirements. Standard-size freezer product types must be at least 15% more efficient than federal requirements. Compact freezer product types must be at least 20% more efficient than federal requirements. Compact refrigerator or refrigerator-freezer product types must be at least 25% more efficient than federal requirements.</p>													
<p>NEW! Room Air Conditioners</p>	<p>Product must have a Combined Energy Efficiency Ratio (CEER) that outperforms the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Federal Minimum Standard by the percentages in the table below.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="672 942 1292 1077"> <thead> <tr> <th>Cooling Capacity (BTU/hour)</th> <th>Percent Better than the Federal Standard (%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>< 14,000</td> <td>25%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>≥ 14,000</td> <td>35%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Products must also be at or below a maximum sound level of 45 dB(A) for the lowest operational setting.</p>	Cooling Capacity (BTU/hour)	Percent Better than the Federal Standard (%)	< 14,000	25%	≥ 14,000	35%							
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Televisions*	<p>Product must be certified to the ENERGY STAR Televisions Version 8.0 Program Requirements.</p> <p>The On Mode Power shall be less than or equal to the sum of the maximum allowable On Mode Power consumption and the high resolution On Mode Power Allowance:</p> $P_{ON} \leq P_{ON_MAX} + P_{HR}$ $P_{ON_MAX} = 66 * \tanh[0.000412 \times (A - 140) + 0.014] + 14$ $P_{HR} = 0.45 \times P_{ON_MAX}$ <p><i>Where:</i> P_{ON} is the On Mode Power in watts; P_{ON_MAX} is the maximum allowable On Mode Power consumption in watts; P_{HR} is the high resolution On Mode Power Allowance in watts; A is the viewable screen area of the product in square inches; and \tanh is the hyperbolic tangent function.</p>													

¹ For purposes of this requirement, the manufacturer shall test the dryer according to the provisions in the DOE test procedure in 10 CFR 430, Subpart B, Appendix D2, but where the drying temperature setting can be chosen independently of the program, it shall be set to the maximum. At the time of certification, for each basic model the manufacturer shall report per this criteria section the energy performance (CEF), the cycle program name, the temperature setting, the dryness setting, as well as any settings enabled by default, and the time taken to complete the energy test cycle (as defined in the ENERGY STAR Version 1.1 specification, Section 5C).

Ventilating Fans*	Bathroom/utility fans: Efficacy at high speed (cfm/W): ≥ 10 In line fans: Efficacy at high speed (cfm/W): ≥ 5 In-line Ventilating Fan tested with a filter in place ($6 \leq \text{MERV} < 13$): ≥ 4.7 In-line Ventilating Fan tested with a filter in place ($\text{MERV} \geq 13$): ≥ 3.8 Bathroom and Utility Room Fans must provide a sound level ≤ 4.0 sones at 0.25 inches of water gauge external static pressure at high speed.
Residential Windows	U-factor ≤ 0.20 in all Zones SHGC in Northern Zone ≥ 0.20 SHGC in North-Central Zone ≤ 0.40 SHGC in South-Central and Southern Zones ≤ 0.25 North American Fenestration Standard/Specification (NAFS) Performance Grade ≥ 15

**Proposed criteria carried over from 2019 for these categories.*

EPA will provide additional information regarding the roll out of ENERGY STAR Most Efficient 2020 recognition with the finalization of these criteria. Products recognized in 2019 that meet the ENERGY STAR Most Efficient 2020 criteria will automatically receive recognition.

EPA will hold a stakeholder webinar on **August 7, 2019 from 2pm to 4pm Eastern Time** to discuss the proposed 2020 recognition criteria. To participate in this webinar, [please register here by August 6th](#). Please share written comments no later than **August 22, 2019** with MostEfficient@energystar.gov. EPA plans to finalize these recognition requirements in August.

Thank you for your support of the ENERGY STAR program.

Sincerely,



Ann Bailey, Director
ENERGY STAR Product Labeling