

ENERGY STAR® SHEMS NEWS

Smart Home Energy Management Systems

May 2020 | Volume 1



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ENERGY STAR SHEMS Updates

During this challenging time, the ENERGY STAR program wants you to know that we are here to support your energy efficiency efforts. While other concerns may take priority in the near term, as we look to the future the use of smart technology and smarter energy solutions will continue to play an important role in our lives. Any feedback on how we might support your efforts toward smart energy savings now and going forward would be greatly appreciated.

Smart Home Energy Management Systems (SHEMS) are now eligible for the ENERGY STAR label. The focus of the ENERGY STAR SHEMS Version 1.0 specification, which was finalized on September 3, 2019, is on energy-saving SHEMS features designed to deliver cost savings as well as user convenience. These features include reliable occupancy-based control of connected devices, user feedback and display of energy use data, and limiting the standby power of required devices, such as an ENERGY STAR certified connected thermostat.

SHEMS Resources

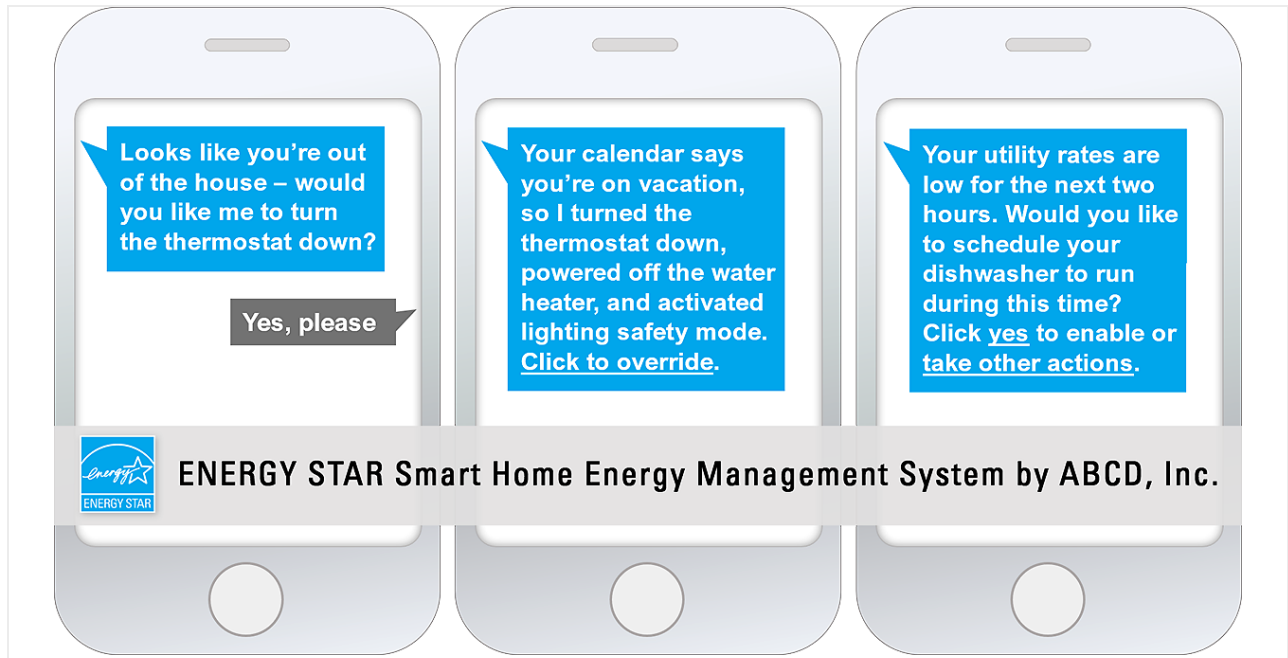
- [Past Webinars](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Key Product Criteria](#)
- [Version 1.0 specification](#)

Certification Bodies

- [UL Verification Services Inc.](#)

"This joint public-private effort to define smart home energy management is a welcome step. It should help the market flourish..."

– *Neil Strother, Principal Research Analyst, Navigant Research.*



Documents relating to the development of the specification, including publicly submitted comments from stakeholders, are available at www.energystar.gov/SHEMS. Interested service provider partners can find out about certifying their SHEMS packages by viewing the resources on the [SHEMS for Partners page](#).

News You Can Use



Time Of Use Growth

Recent Parks Associates research reveals 11% of US broadband households participate in a time-of-use program, accounting for 53% of broadband households with a utility program.

[Read more.](#)

Growing Interest in Energy Automation

According to Parks Associates, consumers are showing more interest in automated energy programs,

as 42% of current smart thermostat owners would allow a utility to adjust their device in order to save energy, and 65% of smart thermostat owners and purchase intenders would pay \$10 per month for an energy consumption monitoring service.

[Read more.](#)



Utility Interest in Smart Homes

According to E Source's "Smart home pilots and programs: A 2020 snapshot of utility initiatives," 22 utilities across the U.S. and Canada are operating in the smart home space and are running pilots, programs, and educational campaigns. Of these, Arizona Public Service Company, ConEdison, Efficiency Vermont, Pacific Gas and Electric, Pepco, Energie, New Brunswick Power, Alabama Power, and Green Mountain Power also run water heater control programs. [Read more.](#)

Water Heater Control on the Rise

According to the Smart Electric Power Alliance's Utility Demand Response Market Snapshots, the number of utilities offering water heater control programs and the enrolled capacity of water heater controllers both doubled from 2018 to 2019. Similarly, E Source reports receiving increased interest in connected water heater programs through their Ask E service, and that utilities are exploring innovative options from winter season demand response to renewable-optimized water heating. These trends suggest that connected water heaters and controllers

are poised for rapid growth in the coming years.

[Read more.](#)



ENERGY STAR SHEMS in the News

Home Energy Management Evolves as Tools and Customer Expectations Change

"Until recently, standards for HEM and smart home products have been relatively loose or nonexistent. That is changing with the US Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) ENERGY STAR program's effort to develop specifications for smart HEM systems (SHEMS)... Navigant Research anticipates this standard to have a significant long-term impact on the HEM market."

[*-Neil Strother, Principal Research Analyst, Navigant Research, September 11, 2019.*](#)



ENERGY STAR Redefined to Include Smart Home Products

"With SHEMS, ENERGY STAR has 'gone from defining products that are energy-efficient to defining a service that will result in energy savings,' McGowan said. And that will also include Smart Home Service Providers (SHSP), the first ones of which ENERGY STAR expects to qualify by the second quarter of 2020."

[*-Andrea Lillo, Managing Editor, Home Accents Today, December 5, 2019.*](#)

The EPA has Created a Program for the Smart Home

"The program's goal is to certify a smart home under the ENERGY STAR SHEMS label if they contain a cluster of connected products that help cut energy use... The EPA hopes to see companies create packages based around the hardware and service requirement that builders, homeowners, or system integrators such as Alarm.com or Control 4 might install."

[-Stacey Higginbotham, Editor, Stacey on IoT, February 28, 2020.](#)

ENERGY STAR SHEMS On The Road

Past

In September 2019, EPA hosted its annual ENERGY STAR Products Partner Meeting in Charlotte, NC. [Two sessions devoted to SHEMS](#) were attended by 150-180 stakeholders representing smart home service providers; home builders and property managers; thermostat, lighting, and other connected device manufacturers; and utility program managers and implementers.

Smart Home Energy Management Systems (SHEMS) 1 of 2: Building Towards a Future Vision

- [Abi Daken, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#)
- [Troy Huntley, Johnson Controls](#)
- [Essie Snell, E Source](#)

SHEMS 2 of 2: Smart Home Energy Management: Exploring Utility Program Models for SHEMS

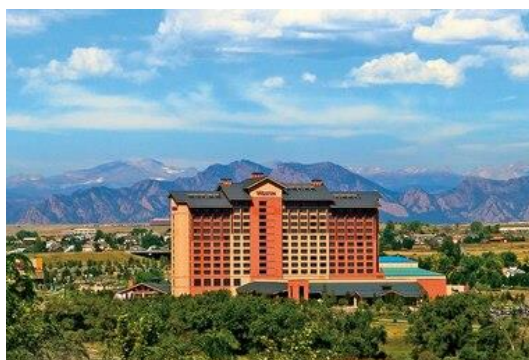
- [Elliot Seibert, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#)
- [David Meisegeier, ICF](#)
- [Drew Scatizzi, CenterPoint Energy](#)
- [Michael Wajsgas, Constellation](#)

Upcoming

EPA will be presenting regarding SHEMS and smart technologies as part of the 2020 National Home Performance Virtual Conference. This online content will be available to registrants starting the week of May 18. [Learn more!](#)

Save the date! The [2020 ENERGY STAR Products Partner Meeting](#) will be held from October 27-29 outside of Denver, CO and will feature dedicated SHEMS content. Smart home service providers, device manufacturers, and other interested parties are encouraged to attend. The meeting will provide unique opportunities to network with residential new construction partners and utilities and meet with EPA representatives.

Have SHEMS insights to share from a pilot or research? Contact smarthomesystems@energystar.gov.



Looking forward to helping our future get energy smart together! Have SHEMS insights to share from a pilot or research? Please contact SmartHomeSystems@energystar.gov or Taylor Jantz Sell at jantz_sell.taylor@epa.gov.

ENERGY STAR® is the simple choice for energy efficiency. For more than 20 years, EPA's ENERGY STAR program has been America's resource for saving energy and protecting the environment. Join the millions making a difference at energystar.gov.



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