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Subject: Comments on sunseting gas boilers and and launching a new specification for air-to-water heat pumps
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Question 1: Is the name “ENERGY STAR Heat Pump Boilers” for the new specification preferable to “ENERGY STAR Air-to-Water Heat Pumps”? Is there another name that would better align with customer expectations of the product?

I recommend using heat pump boilers. I have been working Mechanical engineers and Owners of apartment complexes since 2012 on replacing gas boilers, and they don't want to learn new vocabulary for a function--heating water. So I make it easy and call it a heat pump boiler, and that effectively communicates with both parties.

Q3: Is there any need to distinguish boilers that are used with hydronic coils in a forced air distribution system from those used with hydronic distribution? Are the same products used in both situations?

Hydronic floors work at 80F-120F, Domestic Hot Water is 120F-140F, Fancoils work at 130F-150F, baseboard and radiators work at 160F to 180F. They definitely use different refrigerants--R-134a, R-410a and then CO2 as necessary temperatures go up. I think classifying them might be unnecessary, but prominently listing their max temperature is important.



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2015 Innovation Award from the **Department of Energy**