From: Scott Elliott - MountainLogic
To: climatecontrols@energystar.gov; Daken.Abigail@epa.gov; Frazee, Douglas;
Subject: Re: ENERGY STAR Climate Controls Draft Specification 1.0
Date: Thursday, April 15, 2010 2:02:12 PM

Good day,

Please see the following comments on the document "ENERGY STAR® Program Requirements for Residential Climate Controls Version 1.0, Partner Commitments DRAFT 1."

Definitions (line 179 - 372)

These is no clear definition of residential. Does this includes or exclude institutional housing such as dorms, prisons and hotels? Does this include or exclude multi-family buildings? Are mobile and marine dwellings included?

The maintenance of a standard by a non-profit requirement may exclude much defacto open or traditional practice where no formal standards are published.

Labels, colored LED and Buttons (line 528 - 554)

Implied in the described UI there is an assumption that the users are literate in English, have full visual acuity, have cognitive abilities for document literacy (http://nces.ed.gov/naal/literacytypes.asp), have full color vision and full physical mobility/dexterity. This will limit the number of users who can use the systems. Alternative interfaces should be allowed. Practcaly, can the device UI, as described, be used to create an ADA complaint dwelling?

User Interface (line 499 - 526)

While item 7 does provide for performance testing it must also allow for advanced user interaction beyond buttons, LEDs and LCDs. At the current mass market level of consumer technology this includes touch screens and iPod style touch controls. Also seen in current consumer devices are gestures (both with cameras or Wii style motion sensors) and speech recognition/ speech output. Also available to designers are a whole host of inputs to and from any part of the house's other systems or dedicated occupant/cell phone location tracking systems. These should all be allowed as valid input/output/control mechanisms. All of these should be considered to be valid ways of accomplishing a task. For example, raising your hand and saying, "I'm cold," should be be just as acceptable as pressing a button. Another example is a non user directed data input such ascell hone entering a room should be an acceptable way to override a setback status.

LEDs (line 549 - 565)

The use of LEDs are problematic for two reasons. 1) They are a constant power draw that will reduce critical battery life. 2) Some individuals find LEDs intrusive, especially in the bedroom as some individuals find any light source to interfere with sleep. This would also apply to requiring a back-light.

No New Wires (line 700 - 702)

This requirement is critical to rapid adoption in the 125 million existing homes and should be reinstated.

Regards,
-scott
MountainLogic, Inc

From: Climate Controls <climatecontrols@energystar.gov>
To: scott@mountainlogic.com
Sent: Wed, March 31, 2010 2:01:41 PM
Subject: ENERGY STAR Climate Controls Draft Specification 1.0

Dear Climate Control Manufacturer or Other Interested Stakeholder:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to announce the release of the Draft 1 Version 1.0 ENERGY STAR® Residential Climate Controls specification. Linked below for your review and comment you will find: a cover memo from Abigail Daken, US EPA; the Draft 1 Version 1.0 document; and a summary of stakeholder comments received on the previously released Draft 1 Version 2.0 Programmable Thermostat specification, along with responses for items relevant to the new Draft 1 Version 1.0 Residential Climate Controls specification.

Stakeholders are encouraged to provide feedback to EPA **by April 30, 2010**. The documents linked below will soon be available on the ENERGY STAR Product Development Web site at www.energystar.gov/newspecs.

Save the Date: EPA will host a stakeholder conference call on April 19, 2010 to discuss the Draft 1 specification. Additional details will be distributed to stakeholders next week.

If you have any questions, please contact Abigail Daken, EPA, at Daken.Abigail@epa.gov or Doug Frazee, ICF International, at dfrazee@icfi.com.

Thank you.

For more information, visit: www.energystar.gov

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