

Dear ENERGY STAR® Partners and Other Interested Stakeholders,

The following is a mid-year update on ENERGY STAR specification development activities and plans looking forward to 2005. This update also provides the contacts at EPA and DOE that are guiding these efforts. The next quarterly update will be posted to the ENERGY STAR Specifications in Development Web site at www.energystar.gov/productdevelopment in September.

For more detailed information on these activities, visit the Specifications in Development Web site or email the EPA or DOE contacts provided at the end of this summary.

New Product Category Launches

Refrigerated Beverage Vending Machines

The ENERGY STAR Refrigerated Beverage Vending Machine program was launched at the National Automatic Merchandising Association (NAMA) Expo in Las Vegas, NV on April 1, 2004. To date, there are four manufacturing partners and more than 35 qualified indoor and outdoor models. Currently the specification only applies to new machine models. EPA is continuing to work with industry stakeholders to determine how to incorporate remanufactured machines into the specification.

Room Air Cleaners

The Final ENERGY STAR Room Air Cleaner specification was released on June 15, 2004 and became effective on July 1, 2004. EPA kicked off the new program with a press release and new ENERGY STAR room air cleaner Web page that lists four partnering companies with 10 qualifying air cleaner models.

New Product Categories Currently Under Development

External Power Supplies

EPA is working closely with a number of countries to develop a harmonized voluntary energy efficiency level for single-voltage external ac-dc power supplies. EPA held stakeholder meetings in both the United States and China to discuss the proposed requirements with power supply and end use manufacturers. A Draft 2 specification was released in late June for stakeholder review. EPA plans on releasing a Draft 3 version in late July/early August and hopes to finalize the new requirements by the 10th China International Power Supply Exhibition (PowerChina 2004) in Beijing, China, September 27-29, 2004.

Target Release Date: September 2004

Specification Revisions and Clarifications – Completed

Bottled Water Coolers

On May 10, 2004 EPA released a clarification to the ENERGY STAR Version 1.0 Bottled Water specification allowing compartment-type models to qualify as ENERGY STAR. This product type must be tested to ARI Standard 1010 (Table 1 – Standard Rating Conditions) and meet the same performance requirements as non-compartment product types.

Computer Monitors

The Final ENERGY STAR Version 4.0 specification for computer monitors has been released and will take effect on January 1, 2005. The new specification addresses computer monitor power consumption in the “on,” “sleep,” and “off” modes. Formal announcement of the new specification will be made after publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.

Exit Signs

The Final Version 3.0 ENERGY STAR Exit Sign specification was released and will become effective on August 1, 2004. In addition to minor clarifications, the new specification now allows non-electrically-powered exit signs, such as those employing photoluminescent or radioluminescent technologies, to

qualify as ENERGY STAR and requires a maximum 5 watts per sign, a change from the previous 5 watts per face requirement.

Specification Revisions – Currently in Development

Clothes Washers

On March 17, 2004, DOE sent a letter to all clothes washer manufacturing partners announcing its intention to begin discussions on changing the ENERGY STAR criteria on January 1, 2007 when the federal standard changes. In early July, a letter will be sent to all ENERGY STAR clothes washer stakeholders announcing a meeting at DOE on August 31, 2004. The purpose of this meeting is to solicit feedback on possible new energy and water criteria. DOE will distribute a preliminary analysis in mid-July.

Dishwashers

DOE has received updated Federal Trade Commission submissions from all manufacturers. In July, DOE will be examining the effects of the new dishwasher test procedure.

HVAC (CAC/ASHP)

In the coming months EPA will be revisiting the current ENERGY STAR specification for central air-conditioners (CACs) and air-source heat pumps (ASHPs). This is in light of the recent announcement by DOE to go forward with a new 13 SEER national standard. **Target Release Date:** April 2005

On a related note, the EER requirement in the ENERGY STAR specification is being reinstated effective August 5, 2004. The Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration Institute (ARI), with funding from the Consortium for Energy Efficiency (CEE) and its members, is hosting a national database that will allow consumers to identify products that meet the current ENERGY STAR specification as well as other levels of efficiency. A link to the ARI database will be available from the ENERGY STAR Web site starting August 5th.

Imaging Equipment

On February 10, 2004, a Directional Draft was released to imaging equipment manufacturers and other industry stakeholders, which outlined the key elements of EPA's intended approach to revising the imaging equipment specifications. EPA will be holding a stakeholder meeting in Washington, DC on July 14, 2004 to discuss the draft document in an open forum. Attendees will also have the opportunity to share thoughts on draft test procedures, possible specification frameworks and product categorizations, and treatment of remanufactured products, among other topics. EPA will also discuss the timeframe and roadmap for moving forward on the revision of these specifications. **Target Release Date:** Spring 2005

Programmable Thermostats

EPA is in the process of developing a Final Draft of the ENERGY STAR Version 2.0 Programmable Thermostat specification. Over the last year, EPA has been working with industry stakeholders to design a new specification to make ENERGY STAR programmable thermostats unique and easy to use to improve the potential for greater energy savings. **Target Release Date:** August 2004

Residential Light Fixtures

On June 21, 2004, EPA announced that it would be revisiting the Version 3.2 Residential Light Fixture specification to conduct further research on the following key areas: the phase out of magnetic ballasts; new technical requirements to address lamp color variance; and a new removable ballast requirement. EPA also will review some of the existing requirements for needed clarifications based on questions received from partners regarding testing, documentation, and reporting requirements.

Target Release Date: January 2005

Residential Windows, Doors, and Skylights

DOE is reviewing stakeholder comments on the *Analysis Results for Performance Based Ratings for the ENERGY STAR® Windows Program* prepared by Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, which evaluated the feasibility of establishing a performance based amendment to the current prescriptive specification.

Roof Products

EPA plans on revisiting the current roof products specification this fall.

Room Air Conditioners

DOE is completing analysis on room air conditioners with a heat pump or reverse cycle.

Set-top Boxes

EPA is considering substantive revisions to the set-top box Tier 2 requirements, including a new separate specification for analog to digital converter boxes. Numerous international governments have expressed interest in participating in this effort. EPA also is discussing potential new requirements with the Electronic Industries Alliance (EIA). In the coming months, EPA will be conducting research on product performance and plans on meeting with set-top box manufacturers, software and component developers, and Multiple Systems Operators (MSOs). **Target Release Date:** Summer 2005

Telephony

Over the next few months, EPA is currently reassessing the specification to determine future new performance tiers. EPA plans to include a requirement for an ENERGY STAR qualified external power supply to be packaged with each qualifying model. **Target Release Date:** Summer 2005

New Product Category Research

EPA and DOE are conducting preliminary research on the following products over the next year. Efforts are being made to determine if these product categories represent viable opportunities for ENERGY STAR to play a role in these markets. If EPA or DOE decides to move forward with the development of a new specification, manufacturers and other industry stakeholders will be informed and included throughout the process.

Battery Chargers
Commercial Illuminated Signs
Commercial Dishwashers
Ice Machines/Soft Serve Machines
Medical Equipment (sterilizers, autoclaves)
Microwaves
Mini-Split Systems
Multi-Load Commercial Clothes Washers
Package Terminal Air Conditioners (DOE)
Pool Pumps
Pre-Rinse Spray Valves

Products in Need of Revisions – Not Yet Started (schedule TBD)

EPA plans on revisiting the following ENERGY STAR specifications in the near future*:

Dehumidifiers
TVs/VCRs
Lap-tops/Servers

* Initiation before the end of CY 2005.

EPA/DOE Contacts

If you have any questions about new EPA product categories, please contact Andrew Fanara at fanara.Andrew@epa.gov. For questions on other product categories listed in this update, contact the following:

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Clothes Washers, Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs, Dishwashers, Refrigerators, Room Air Conditioners, Windows, Doors, and Skylights.

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Exit Signs, External Power Supplies, Programmable Thermostats

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Bottled Water Coolers, Residential Light Fixtures