



## ENERGY STAR® ROOF PRODUCTS PROGRAM PARTNER MEETING

By  
David R.  
Hawn, RRC

Approximately 40 manufacturers and association representatives attended the Energy Star Partner Meeting hosted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Feb. 27 in conjunction with the NRCA convention. Hosted by Rachel Schmeltz and Steve Ryan, the meeting was made up of presentations by EPA as well as open discussions. In one year, the Energy Star Roof Products Program has seen tremendous growth, from 65 to 112 partners. To date, 13 partners have submitted 37 compliant products that are now eligible to carry the Energy Star label. Partners were urged to submit their Energy Star-compliant product information.

The meeting began with a presentation of EPA's significant efforts to promote the Energy Star brand as a whole and the roof products program in particular. It was clearly noted that roofing is not sold the same way as computers or appliances, so the contractors, specification writers, and consultants all need to know and understand the program. EPA reviewed the 1999 program highlights, mentioned articles published in a number of the roofing trade publications, and distributed a copy of a published article from the May 1999 issue of *Building Operating Management* magazine, which explores reflective roofing products and describes the Energy Star Program. EPA also noted the RCI Region One meeting held in December that featured an Energy Star presentation aimed at raising program awareness among roof consultants.

The program goals were outlined as follows:

- To encourage the manufacture and marketing of as many Energy Star-compliant products as possible.
- To encourage and promote the widespread availability of compliant products.
- To reduce air pollution and mitigate the urban heat island effect.

The guidelines for logo use were also reviewed to ensure that the Energy Star logo and appropriate tagline are to be linked with compliant products only. Logo use is self-policing by the partners and monitored by EPA. EPA can revoke labeling privileges and partnerships if the Energy Star logo is used improperly. Because EPA received a proposal to add other testing procedures to the program for the purpose of qualifying products, EPA held an open-floor discussion of testing methods and the proposed changes to methods for voluntary compliance. Some of the manufacturers and the Roof Coating Manufacturers Association (RCMA) proposed ASTM D-2824 be used as an alternate to E-903. They also proposed that D-4789, cycle A (2000 hours of laboratory aging) be used as an alternate to the field testing after three years of service *in situ* testing. Neither proposal was adopted at this time; however, EPA will continue accepting comments from industry prior to making a final decision.

For additional information about Energy Star, visit their web site at [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov).