ASK ABOUT ENERGY STAR

OPERATION CHANGE OUT MILITARY CHALLENGE

Talking Points

The Campaign

- ENERGY STAR *OPERATION CHANGE OUT* – THE MILITARY CHALLENGE, a joint effort of the U.S. Department of Energy, (DOE) and the U.S. Department of Defense, (DoD) is the first national, military-focused energy-efficiency campaign to encourage every serviceman and woman to save energy, money, and protect the environment by replacing their inefficient, incandescent light bulbs with ENERGY STAR qualified bulbs.
- Founded on the successful, national ENERGY STAR Change a Light, Change the World Campaign, the goal of *OPERATION CHANGE OUT* is to replace at least one incandescent light bulb with an ENERGY STAR qualified model in each residential unit at participating military installations.
- Launching on Earth Day—April 22, 2008—at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, *OPERATION CHANGE OUT* will focus on encouraging the entire base community to get involved, including military members, energy managers, housing management companies, retail stores, recreation centers, spousal groups, local utilities and interested community partners.
- *OPERATION CHANGE OUT* will track the total number of residential units replacing light bulbs on each installation, via the www.energystar.gov/OCO Web site. The installation with the greatest percentage of participating residential units will be announced on ENERGY STAR Change a Light Day, October 1, 2008. In addition, 2009 ENERGY STAR recognition may be given to bases demonstrating exemplary, verifiable challenge results, outstanding promotional activities, and campaign success.
- *OPERATION CHANGE OUT* supports federal energy-efficiency goals, such as Executive Order 13423, "Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management."
- *OPERATION CHANGE OUT* supports the Department of Defense sponsored Residential Communities Initiative, a new policy that shifts responsibility for utility bills from the government to service members.
- *OPERATION CHANGE OUT* also supports the Energy Independence and Policy Act of 2007.
- *OPERATION CHANGE OUT* offers significant savings potential for military families and taxpayers, as well as a substantial reduction in energy use at military facilities.
- Additional information, including toolkits for bases, will be available in late April on the campaign Web site at www.energystar.gov/OCO. For specific questions or to sign up, please contact OperationChangeOut@drintl.com.

Our Environment

- There is growing concern amongst the general public and on military bases to conserve energy. Choosing ENERGY STAR qualified lighting is a simple way to save money, energy and time, while also protecting our environment.
- Lighting accounts for almost 20 percent of the average home's electricity use. Switching to energy-efficient lighting is one of the easiest, most immediate and effective ways our servicemen and women can start saving energy today.
- The energy used in the average home contributes more than twice the greenhouse gas emissions of the average car per year. This is because electricity is typically generated by burning fossil fuels, which release greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. Service personnel on bases nationwide can use energy more efficiently at home, resulting in less electricity that needs to be generated.
- Because about 70 percent of our electricity comes from burning fossil fuels, using energy-efficient lighting helps reduce emissions of carbon dioxide, mercury, nitrogen oxides, and sulfur dioxide.

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ENERGY STAR Qualified Lighting

- An ENERGY STAR qualified light bulb can save about $30 or more in electricity costs and prevent more than 400 pounds of greenhouse gas emissions over its lifetime, an equivalent of keeping nearly 200 pounds of coal from being burned.
- ENERGY STAR qualified light bulbs use 75 percent less energy, last up to 15 times longer, and produce about 75 percent less heat than traditional incandescent models so they are safer to operate and can cut energy costs associated with home cooling.
- To obtain the greatest savings, replace bulbs in the lights that are used the most.
- Manufacturers producing ENERGY STAR qualified light bulbs are required to offer a minimum 2 year warranty for residential applications.
- Learn more about the variety of ENERGY STAR qualified lighting at www.energystar.gov/lighting.

Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs and Mercury

- Compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) contain a very small amount of mercury, an average of 5 milligrams, which is roughly equivalent to an amount that would cover the tip of a ball-point pen. By comparison, older thermometers contain about 500 milligrams of mercury.
- Because CFLs contain a small amount of mercury, they should be disposed of properly, ideally recycled. Take advantage of base–sponsored or local recycling options, where available, or for help finding a local facility, visit www.epa.gov/bulbrecycling.
- If a CFL breaks at home, it can be easily and safely disposed of. Clean-up recommendations are available at www.energystar.gov/CFLsandMercury.
- Coal-burning power plants are the single largest source of human-caused mercury emissions in the United States, contributing more than 40 percent. Because CFLs use 75 percent less energy than the incandescent bulbs they replace, they represent a net mercury emissions reduction.
- Learn more about CFLs and mercury at www.energystar.gov/CFLsandMercury.