



# ENERGY STAR® Program Requirements for Residential Air Source Heat Pump (ASHPs) and Central Air Conditioner Equipment

## FINAL DRAFT Partner Commitments

### Commitment

The following are the terms of the ENERGY STAR Partnership Agreement as it pertains to the manufacturing of ENERGY STAR qualified residential ASHPs and central air conditioner equipment. The ENERGY STAR Partner must adhere to the following program requirements:

- X comply with current ENERGY STAR Eligibility Criteria, defining the performance criteria that must be met for use of the ENERGY STAR certification mark on residential ASHPs and central air conditioner equipment and specifying the testing criteria for residential ASHPs and central air conditioners. EPA may, at its discretion, conduct tests on products that are referred to as ENERGY STAR qualified. These products may be obtained on the open market, or voluntarily supplied by Partner at EPA's request;
- X comply with current ENERGY STAR Logo Use Guidelines, describing how the ENERGY STAR labels and name may be used. Partner is responsible for adhering to these guidelines and for ensuring that its authorized representatives, such as advertising agencies, dealers, and distributors, are also in compliance;
- X qualify at least one ENERGY STAR labeled residential ASHP or central air conditioner model combination within one year of activating the residential ASHPs and central air conditioners portion of the agreement. When Partner qualifies the product, it must meet the specification in effect at that time;
- X provide clear and consistent labeling of ENERGY STAR qualified residential ASHPs and central air conditioners. The ENERGY STAR label must be clearly displayed in product literature (i.e., user manuals, spec sheets, etc.) and on the manufacturer's Internet site where information about ENERGY STAR qualified models is displayed;
  - o whenever the ENERGY STAR certification mark is used in connection with a qualifying product in advertising, on specification sheets, on marketing materials, and on the manufacturer's Internet site, provide the following disclaimer language: "Proper sizing and installation of equipment is critical to achieve optimal performance. Split system air conditioners and heat pumps must be matched with appropriate coil components to meet ENERGY STAR criteria. Ask your contractor for details or visit [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)."
  - o Provide detailed information in installation manuals that stresses the importance of proper installation. This information should be written for the equipment installer and should include the following paragraph.

For Package Units:

**IMPORTANT** - This product has been designed and manufactured to meet ENERGY STAR criteria for energy efficiency. However, proper refrigerant charge and proper air flow are critical to achieve rated capacity and efficiency. Installation of this product should follow the manufacturer's refrigerant charging and air flow instructions. **Failure to confirm proper charge and airflow may reduce energy efficiency and shorten equipment life.**

For Split-System Units:

**IMPORTANT** - This product has been designed and manufactured to meet ENERGY STAR criteria for energy efficiency when matched with appropriate coil components. However, proper refrigerant charge and proper air flow are critical to achieve rated capacity and efficiency. Installation of this product should follow the manufacturer's refrigerant charging and air flow instructions. **Failure to confirm proper charge and airflow may reduce energy efficiency and shorten equipment life.**

- X offer and encourage training to distributors and/or contractors on the following issues: air distribution issues and their effect on equipment performance, refrigerant charging, proper installation of registers, duct work, and plenum to ensure low leakage and to meet insulation requirements, and proper use of the Manual J calculation, or other equivalent calculation, in order to encourage proper sizing of equipment;
- X provide to EPA, on an annual basis, an updated list of ENERGY STAR qualifying residential ASHP and central air conditioner models. Once the Partner submits its first list of ENERGY STAR qualified residential ASHP and central air conditioner model combinations, the Partner will be listed as an ENERGY STAR Partner. Partner must provide annual updates in order to remain on the list of participating product manufacturers. Alternatively, Partner is encouraged to submit product information through a Third Party such as the Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Institute, as long as the necessary energy efficiency criteria (SEER, EER, and HSPF) are readily determinable in the resulting publicly accessible listing;

**Note:** EPA does not plan to independently develop a complete list of qualifying products. Instead, assuming the Consortium for Energy Efficiency (CEE) adopts ENERGY STAR levels as their Tier 1, stakeholders will be encouraged to use the CEE Directory of ARI Verified Equipment to determine which model combinations meet the energy-efficiency criteria for qualified residential ASHPs and central air conditioners. Any manufacturers that do not participate in the ARI certification program will be expected to submit product information directly to EPA for listing on the [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov) web site.

- X provide to EPA, on an annual basis, unit shipment data or other market indicators to assist in determining the market penetration of ENERGY STAR. Specifically, Partner must submit the total number of ENERGY STAR qualified residential ASHPs and central air conditioners shipped (in units by model) or an equivalent measurement as agreed to in advance by EPA and Partner. Partner is also encouraged to provide ENERGY STAR qualified unit shipment data segmented by meaningful product characteristics (e.g., capacity, size, speed, or other as relevant), total unit shipments for each model in its product line, and percent of total unit shipments that qualify as ENERGY STAR. The data for each calendar year should be submitted to EPA, preferably in electronic format, no later than the following March and may be provided directly from the Partner or through a third party. The data will be used by EPA only for program evaluation purposes and will be closely controlled. If requested under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), EPA will argue that the data is exempt. Any information used will be masked by EPA so as to protect the confidentiality of the Partner;
- X notify EPA of a change in the designated responsible party or contacts for residential ASHPs and central air conditioners within 30 days.

### **Performance for Special Distinction**

In order to receive additional recognition and/or support from EPA for its efforts within the Partnership, the ENERGY STAR Partner may consider the following voluntary measures and should keep EPA informed on the progress of these efforts:

- X consider energy efficiency improvements in company facilities and pursue the ENERGY STAR label for buildings;

- X purchase ENERGY STAR labeled products. Revise the company purchasing or procurement specifications to include ENERGY STAR. Provide procurement officials' contact information to EPA for periodic updates and coordination. Circulate general ENERGY STAR labeled product information to employees for use when purchasing products for their homes;
- X ensure the power management feature is enabled on all ENERGY STAR qualified monitors in use in company facilities, particularly upon installation and after service is performed;
- X provide general information about ENERGY STAR to employees whose jobs are relevant to the development, marketing, sales, and service of current ENERGY STAR labeled product models;
- X feature the ENERGY STAR label(s) on Partner Web site and in other promotional materials. If information concerning ENERGY STAR is provided on the Partner Web site as specified by the ENERGY STAR Web Linking Policy (this document can be found in the Partner Resources section on the ENERGY STAR Web site at [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)), EPA may provide links where appropriate to the Partner Web site;
- X provide a simple plan to EPA outlining specific measures Partner plans to undertake beyond the program requirements listed above. By doing so, EPA may be able to coordinate, communicate, and/or promote Partner's activities, provide an EPA representative, or include news about the event in the ENERGY STAR newsletter, on the ENERGY STAR Web pages, etc. The plan may be as simple as providing a list of planned activities or planned milestones that Partner would like EPA to be aware of. For example, activities may include: (1) increase the availability of ENERGY STAR labeled products by converting the entire product line within two years to meet ENERGY STAR guidelines; (2) demonstrate the economic and environmental benefits of energy efficiency through special in-store displays twice a year; (3) provide information to users (via the Web site and user's manual) about energy-saving features and operating characteristics of ENERGY STAR qualified products; and (4) build awareness of the ENERGY STAR Partnership and brand identity by collaborating with EPA on one print advertorial and one live press event;
- X provide quarterly, written updates to EPA as to the efforts undertaken by Partner to increase availability of ENERGY STAR qualified products, and to promote awareness of ENERGY STAR and its message.