



ENERGY STAR® Program Requirements For Programmable Thermostats

Partner Commitments

Note: After reviewing all comments from stakeholders, EPA is proposing that the ENERGY STAR education partnership continue its emphasis on programmable thermostats. While an ENERGY STAR educational graphic for thermostats will accordingly be restricted to use in association with programmable thermostats, EPA will continue its broader education effort directed at users of the full range of technologies to provide homeowners the greatest opportunities to save energy through proper use.

Commitment

The following are the terms of the ENERGY STAR Partnership Agreement as it pertains to the programmable thermostat education partnership. The ENERGY STAR Partner must adhere to the following program requirements:

Note: After reviewing all comments from stakeholders, EPA proposes that ENERGY STAR qualified product performance requirements be suspended until future studies can confirm meaningful savings from product attributes or features that can be defined in an ENERGY STAR specification. As such, there is no accompanying Eligibility Criteria mentioned in the Partner Commitments or as a standalone document.

EPA intends to support the National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) in setting a new industry-consensus quality standard for programmable thermostats. NEMA has indicated their desire to involve current ENERGY STAR partner manufacturers beyond NEMA members to develop a consensus within the industry.

- comply with current ENERGY STAR Identity Guidelines, describing how the ENERGY STAR marks 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;
- participate in ongoing consumer education using approved messaging. Education will include, but not be limited to, using the ENERGY STAR education graphic in product literature (i.e., user manuals, spec sheets, marketing materials, etc.), on product packaging, and on the manufacturer's Internet site;

Note: Given that the education graphic is not intended to convey product certification, EPA is proposing that manufacturers would not be required to use the graphic on the product itself.

EPA would like to work closely with industry to develop an education partnership and determine messaging for it. EPA will hold a meeting with partners including manufacturers and retailers, as well as other interested parties on February 13, 2007.

- participation in the consumer education campaign may include, but is not limited to, any of the following tactics:
 - For Retail-based Manufacturers
 - Providing educational content (e.g., consumer brochure, takeaways, etc.) in-store
 - Developing in-store educational materials/campaigns with utility(ies) and retailer(s) by offering a special deal/coupon, co-op materials such as brochures and/or POP, training for store employees, or other promotional/educational activities
 - Consistently using approved messaging on product packaging/literature, Web site, trade articles, training for retail employees, and other channels
 - For Distributor/Dealer-based Manufacturers
 - Providing educational content to distributor/dealers for use with their customers
 - Providing brochures, signage, etc. to distributor/dealers for their store, as appropriate
 - Providing messaging to the distributor/dealer to use in their advertising and promotions
 - Running special promotions with dealers/distributors – manufacturer rebate, etc.
 - Consistently using approved messaging on product packaging/literature, Web site, trade articles, trade shows, training for distributors/dealers, and other channels

Note: EPA would like to receive feedback on additional tactics/channels that manufacturers and other stakeholders might use to educate consumers about proper thermostat use.

- as of **May 1, 2008**, use of the ENERGY STAR certification mark in association with programmable thermostats will cease.

Note: Typically EPA requires unit shipment data from ENERGY STAR product partners; however, given that this product area will no longer have performance criteria, this will not be a requirement. EPA would like to hear from manufacturers, though, of ways that EPA could monitor/evaluate effectiveness of the thermostat education.

- notify EPA of a change in the designated responsible party or contacts for thermostats 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:

- consider energy efficiency improvements in company facilities and pursue the ENERGY STAR label for buildings;
- purchase ENERGY STAR qualified 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 qualified product information to employees for use when purchasing products for their homes;
- 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; and,
- provide general information about the ENERGY STAR program to employees.