

Regional Efficiency Standards

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) minimum efficiency changes went into effect on **January 1, 2015**, affecting all residential air conditioners and heat pumps we manufacture. One additional change implemented that adds complication is regional standards that apply to Split System and Package Air Conditioners. Now, the DOE minimum efficiency standards include both national standards (which are based on date of manufacture) and regional standards (which are based on date of installation).

National Standards

- » Split system heat pumps (14 SEER / 8.2 HSPF)
- » Single package gas/electric (14 SEER / 81% AFUE)
- » Single package heat pumps (14 SEER / 8.0 HSPF)
- » Gas fired furnaces (80% AFUE)
- » Kept 13 SEER base national standard for split-system air conditioners
- » Single package air conditioner (14 SEER)

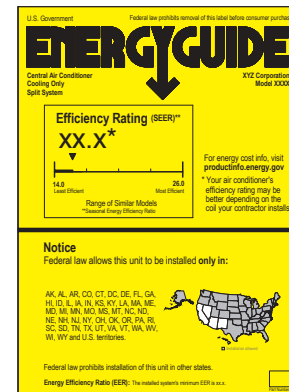
Labeling

There are two methods to help identify products subject to regional standards. The first is the EnergyGuide label that is noticeably different, with the inclusion of the map of the United States that identifies where the equipment can be installed.

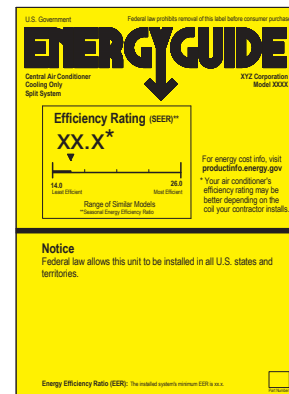
The second is a separate statement that will be on the rating plate or on a label next to the rating plate called the "Install Prohibited" statement. All products subject to regional standards have both the EnergyGuide label and the Install Prohibited statement.

NOTE: The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) originally required a range of SEER be placed on Split System products subject to regional efficiency standards. However, they reversed their decision and now only a single value is listed (since mid-2017). Products in inventory may have mixed EnergyGuide labels (some having a range, others having a single value for SEER).

EnergyGuide Labels Currently In Effect



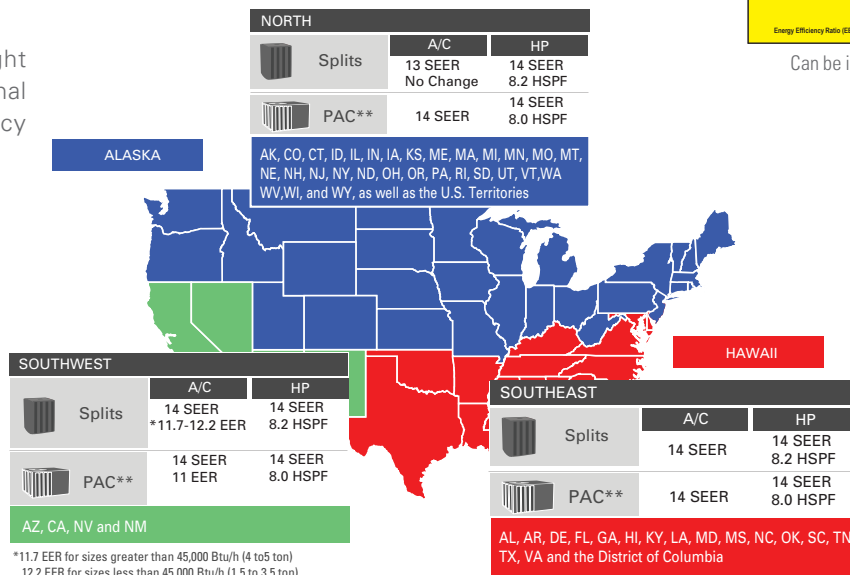
Subject to regional standards



Can be installed anywhere

Efficiency Standards

The map to the right summarizes the national and regional efficiency standards.



*11.7 EER for sizes greater than 45,000 Btu/h (4 to 5 ton)
12.2 EER for sizes less than 45,000 Btu/h (1.5 to 3.5 ton)
**PAC includes both single package cooling only and single package gas/electric models

- Regional standards apply only to single phase air conditioners, 5 ton and less

Regional Efficiency Standards

What You Need to Know as a Distributor

DOE defines a distributor as “a person (other than a manufacturer or retailer) to whom a consumer product is delivered or sold for purposes of distribution in commerce.” Therefore, if you resell product for sale other than to an end user, you may be considered a distributor as opposed to a contractor or dealer (see definitions below).

Distributors are required to comply with the requirements:

1. Do not knowingly sell product that will be installed in violation of regional standards.
2. Conduct regional standards training for all employees and customers.
3. Maintain records for all units subject to the regional standards for a period of 54 months. These records are to include the outdoor unit manufacturer, model number, serial number, date of purchase, date of sale, customer name and delivery address if delivered.

What You Need to Know as a Contractor/Dealer

As a contractor or dealer, you will also be required to adhere to requirements of the DOE 2015 HVAC Regional Standards Enforcement Rules. DOE has defined a contractor as “a person (other than the manufacturer or distributor) who sells to and/or installs for an end user a central air conditioner subject to regional standards.”

DOE has defined a dealer as “a type of contractor, generally with a relationship with one or more specified manufacturers.” The contractor/dealer requirements include the following:

1. Do not knowingly install product that is in violation of regional standards.
2. Conduct regional standards training for all employees.
3. Maintain records for all units subject to the regional standards for a period of 48 months. These records to include the indoor and outdoor unit manufacturer and model number, outdoor unit serial number, distributor purchased from, date and address of installation.

Enforcement

Enforcement of the standards will be at least partially via complaints registered with the DOE. DOE has set up an email for reporting suspected violations directly to them at EnergyEfficiencyEnforcement@doe.gov, or suspected violations can be reported by phone, at (202) 287-6997.

All verified violations will require remediation and can result in stiff fines. Notices of Violation will be posted publicly by the DOE. Further, if a distributor or contractor/dealer is found to routinely violate the standards, manufacturers can be prohibited from selling products to that party.

Contractors, dealers and distributors should be aware that the DOE may request copies of documentation proving product sales and installations are in compliance. Records requested by DOE must be provided within 30 days.

Training

A recorded webinar providing details about the efficiency standards is available for viewing at <https://daikincomfort.com/standards>. Questions about the efficiency standards can be emailed to RegionalStandardsQuestions@goodmanmfg.com.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

The information provided is a summarized overview and is not intended to provide a complete description of the DOE 2015 Regional Standards. For more information regarding the DOE 2015 HVAC Regional Standards and the enforcement of these standards, please visit <https://www.energy.gov/gc/legal-resources/office-assistant-general-counsel-enforcement/regional-standards-enforcement>