TECHNICAL BULLETIN No.12 - 013008

ENERGY STAR FOR NEW HOMES



Energy Star is a voluntary labelling program that recognizes consumer products for meeting strict energy efficient standards. Products that carry the government backed Energy Star label gives the consumer the comfort of knowing they are saving money and protecting the environment by buying better energy efficient products. The Energy Star program saved North Americans \$14 billion on utility bills and prevented greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to 25 million cars in 1996 alone.

In 1995, the Energy Star program was extended to new homes¹. The focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and protecting the environment has been a topic of growing social concern that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates by 2010 there will be 2 million homes qualifying for Energy Star label.

Building an Energy Star Home

Energy Star raters conduct on-site inspections and testing on homes to ensure they meet strict energy efficient guidelines set by the EPA in the US, and Natural Resource Canada.

In Canada, homes must be built by a licensed Energy Star for New Homes builder. The program is currently only available in Saskatchewan and Ontario². Energy Star builders are available in the US but are not a prerequisite to building an Energy Star home.

For more information, or to find an Energy Star rater or builder in your area, visit <u>www.energystar.gov</u> or <u>www.oee.nrcan.gc.ca</u> in the US and Canada, respectively.

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Energy Star labelled home built with LOGIX.

LOGIX Contributes to Energy Star Homes

So how does LOGIX contribute to new homes seeking the Energy Star label? LOGIX built homes have proven to be a major contributor to qualified Energy Star homes because LOGIX builds airtight, well insulated structures.

Creating airtight and well insulated structures are the most important design features when it comes to building energy efficient homes. They are also the key features Energy Star raters measure when qualifying a home for Energy Star. Airtight, well insulated homes prevent the movement of air and moisture through the walls making it easier to control the temperature and airflow, and reduce heating and cooling costs. A reduction in heating and cooling costs means less greenhouse gas emissions are produced.

Homes that qualify for Energy Star can be 30% more energy efficient than traditional homes. However, LOGIX can increase the energy efficiency of homes by 40 to 50% due to its airtight construction and high thermal value. Other LOGIX features that help contribute to qualifying for the Energy Star label include:

- Improved indoor air quality
- Does not promote mold growth
- Stronger and more durable structures than wood framed homes
- Lower maintenance costs compared to wood framed homes

Building with LOGIX can help ensure your home can qualify for the Energy Star label. For more information please contact info@logixicf.com.

1. Although, home products such as furnaces, thermostats, windows and doors may have the Energy Star label, the building itself must meet the energy efficient requirements to qualify for the Energy Star label for new homes.

 Other provinces run similar or equivalent programs to Energy Star for new homes. Government supported programs include Energuide, R-2000 and Built Green. To find out which program is in your province contact your local Canadian Home Builders Association or call (613) 230-3060.

