

September 21, 2005

Re: **MICROPAS®7 v. 7.1 for 2005 Standards**

Dear **MICROPAS User:**

Today the California Energy Commission approved MICROPAS7 for use with the 2005 Residential Energy Efficiency Standards that will take effect on October 1, 2005. MICROPAS6 will be decertified for compliance use when the new standards take effect. This version replaces MICROPAS7 v7.0 which was approved March 30, 2005. Please switch to this version as soon as possible.

With the release of v7.1, MICROPAS7 is now complete for the 2005 standards. Version 7.0 covered new construction, and v7.1 covers the new Existing plus Addition plus Alteration requirements. In addition, the MF-1R form was added and many other minor changes were made base on feedback from users of v7.0. The results from this version vary slightly from the earlier release, usually less than 0.25 TDV/ft2.

### **Operation and File Conversion**

The operation of the program has not changed. Screens will look the same. Editing, running and printing are virtually unchanged. If MICROPAS6 works on your computer, MICROPAS7 will also work. The new version installs in over v7.0 but leaves older MICROPAS6 versions alone so you can continue to use as needed. A file converter is provided. After you have converted your files, you will need to check the data to make sure it is consistent with the new standards.

The *MICROPAS7 User Manual* and many reference materials including the *Standards* and the *Residential Manual* from the California Energy Commission, and the MICROPAS7 Report Printer are now included on the installation CD.

### **2005 Standards**

MICROPAS7 is a major update to meet the requirements of the 2005 standards. The standards are significantly stricter because of the switch to time dependent valuation (TDV), the integration of new federal standards for water heaters and air conditioners, and changes to the treatment of glazing in the standard design. The changes are most noticeable in climates with significant cooling loads that consume electrical energy during on-peak summer afternoons.

The revisions also continue the trend of offering more compliance credit for Home Energy Rating System (HERS) verified features. Some of the new verified features include air conditioner EER, maximum cooling capacity and insulation quality. Some existing verified features, such as refrigerant charge and airflow (RCA) and the ACCA Manual D credit have been revised so that the airflow test is now required to get credit for duct design and layout.

Important cosmetic changes include the expansion of the CF-1R to include items formerly covered by the C-2R and the HVAC Sizing summary. As Form 3Rs have been eliminated and replaced by the Appendix IV lookup tables, most compliance jobs will now require only the CF-1R and the MF-1R. Overall, this reduces the amount of paper generated for compliance although the C-F1R is longer than in previous standards. More details on the standards are available at [www.energy.ca.gov/title24](http://www.energy.ca.gov/title24).

### **Support**

Thanks for using MICROPAS7. Any time you have questions about this new version or the new standards, please don't hesitate to call us at 800-755-5908. You can reach me at Extension 1 or Dee Anne Ross at Extension 2. And be sure to look for software updates and information on training at [www.micropas.com](http://www.micropas.com).

Sincerely,  
**Ken Nittler**  
Enercomp, Inc.