

April 15, 2005

Re: **MICROPAS®7 v. 7.0 Upgrade now available for 2005 Standards**

Dear **MICROPAS User:**

On March 30, 2005, 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.

Attached is an upgrade order form for existing users. But before you order, please read the following:

What's the Same

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 its own directory and leaves older 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.

What's Different

This version 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. Cosmetic changes include items like the elimination of the C-2R and Form 3R, reducing the amount of paper generated for compliance. More details on the standards are available at www.micropas.com and www.energy.ca.gov/title24.

What About Windows

We are working on a Windows version and hope to have it available around the time the standards go into effect. In the mean time, you can get MICROPAS7 to learn the new standards and help clients that are interested now, and upgrade to the Windows version when it becomes available. We will credit you the cost of the upgrade to MICROPAS7 when the Windows upgrade is available. While we have not set a price for the windows version yet, there will be a charge for the Windows interface above and beyond the cost of MICROPAS7.

Who Should Order This Version

This version is ideal for anyone working on projects with long lead times such as homes built by production builders. Note that this version does not include the capability to do additions and alterations at this time. This feature will be added before the standards become effective.

Thanks for considering 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.

Sincerely,

Ken Nittler
Enercomp, Inc.