

# 2015 Federal Regional Standards for Heating and Cooling Products

On April 24, 2014, the Department of Energy and the American Public Gas Association (APGA) reached a settlement agreement on the implementation of the Federal Regional Standards. Conditions under the terms of the agreement are outlined below.

- The Federal Regional Furnace Efficiency Standards, which were originally scheduled for implementation in May of 2013, will be removed. A new rulemaking process will begin to evaluate future changes to furnace efficiency standards.
- Federal Regional Standards for cooling equipment will go into effect as planned on January 1, 2015. All air conditioners (A/C) and heat pumps (H/P) (split system and packaged) manufactured after December 31, 2014 must comply with these Federal Regional Standards.
- The Federal Regional Standards for air conditioners sold in the south and the southwest is based on the date of installation; however, the industry will have an 18 month sell-through or grace period (starting on 1-1-2015). Original equipment manufacturers, distributors and dealers will be allowed to buy, sell, ship and/or install non-compliant products (13 SEER) during this period as long as they are manufactured prior to January 1, 2015.
- Split system and packaged heat pumps are not subject to the 18 month sell-through or grace period, as the standard applied is based on the date of manufacture. Split system and packaged heat pumps manufactured before January 1, 2015 can be sold after January 1, 2015 for as long as inventory exists.
- The Department of Energy (DOE) will issue, and publish on its appliance and equipment standards website, an enforcement policy statement clarifying the agency's policy for enforcing the Federal Regional Standards for split system air conditioners. The industry will work with the DOE to develop these enforcement standards.
- Federal regional efficiency requirements are summarized in the illustration below.

### Important Notes:

Additional notifications will be sent throughout the rest of the year to clarify the impact of these Federal Regional Standards.

We will also be providing information regarding new products that are being developed to comply with these Federal Regional Standards.

