



ENERGY STAR® Products Enhanced Verification

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Background and Purpose



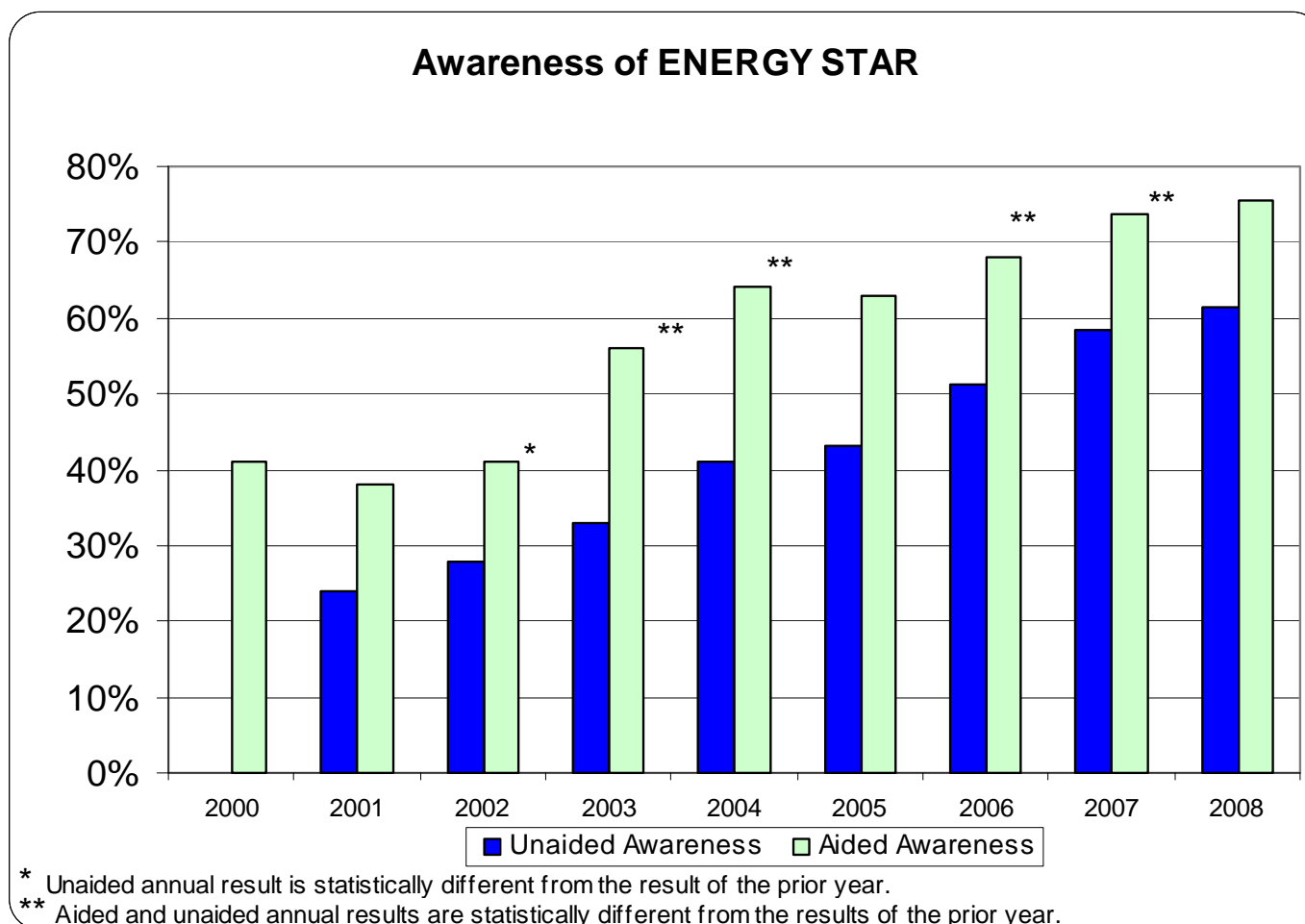
- Through over 15 years of shared effort, EPA and partners have built something of real value – the ENERGY STAR brand.
- Maintaining the value of this brand requires ensuring products labeled with the ENERGY STAR deliver on their promise to the consumer.
- This presentation will focus on enhancements to the ENERGY STAR program through increased verification efforts.

ENERGY STAR Value



- More than 2,000 manufacturers labeling more than 40,000 product models
- Over 1,000 retailers in US and Puerto Rico
- More than 550 utilities and other energy efficiency program sponsors promoting ENERGY STAR

ENERGY STAR Value



In 2008, more than 75% of households recognize the ENERGY STAR label at the national level.



Why Enhanced Verification?



- Increased scrutiny of voluntary programs
 - Proliferation of green standards – national, international, media, retail
 - Concern over “greenwashing”
 - OIG Reports at EPA and DOE
- New Partnership Agreement
 - “Verification of compliance with program requirements will be increased and efforts will be enhanced to identify and address product performance issues.”

Verification Testing - Developing a Program-Wide Strategy



- Goal is to maximize efficiencies by sharing information
- Build off existing approaches
 - Exhaust fans – third-party certification requirement
 - Computers – verification testing
 - Lighting – quality assurance testing
- Tailored approaches for product categories
 - Manufacturer-funded Testing: Electronics and IT Products
 - Quality Assurance Testing: Lighting Products
 - Third Party Testing: Commercial Food Service Products and Appliances and Home Improvement Products

Verification Testing – New Requirements



- Manufacturer-funded Testing
 - DOE/EPA selects models and informs mfg
 - Manufacturer secures lab to procure and test models
 - Lab shares results with manufacturer and DOE/EPA
 - Guidance developed for Computers; Plan to extend to other IT and electronics products

Verification Testing – New Requirements



- Quality Assurance Testing
 - Specific to lighting products
 - Similar process to Manufacturer-funded testing, but more extensive performance testing required

Verification Testing – New Requirements



- Third-Party Testing
 - Third-party certification program tests products initially and conducts verification testing on a regular basis
 - Program selects products; obtains and tests them; shares information with ES
 - Requirements in place for Vent Fans; Plan to extend to commercial food service, appliances and home improvement type products
 - Plan to leverage existing certification programs and support development of additional certification programs as needed

Verification Testing



- Selective EPA/DOE Testing
 - DOE/EPA select models
 - DOE/EPA secure lab to procure and test models
 - Lab shares results with DOE/EPA
 - DOE/EPA work with manufacturers to resolve issues as necessary
 - DOE close to launching effort to test appliances

Initial Testing – New Requirements



- Enhancements to qualification consistent with MOU
 - All testing conducted in accredited laboratories
 - Will consider ISO 17025 where appropriate
 - Other accreditations may be appropriate for some products
 - Third party certification programs can serve this function
 - Qualifying product information submitted to the government before the product can be qualified as ENERGY STAR
 - Ensures a level playing field for manufacturers
 - Facilitates broad verification testing

Next Steps



- Outline proposed verification testing plan as part of the ES program enhancements proposed under the new MOU – November 30, 2009
- Propose specifics of verification approach for relevant product categories
- Phase-in verification testing requirements allowing adequate time for certification programs to be developed and lab accreditation to occur

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