



Building America Program Overview

ERIC WERLING

Building America Program Director

Building Technology Office

Building America

Vision

Improved homes for Americans, that **cut bills in half**, improve **health/comfort**, & increase **jobs/profits** for housing industry based on **better home performance/value**

Goals

Demonstrate by 2020 integrated building & HVAC technologies that affordably **reduce EUI 60% for new homes** and **40% for existing homes** in all U.S. climates

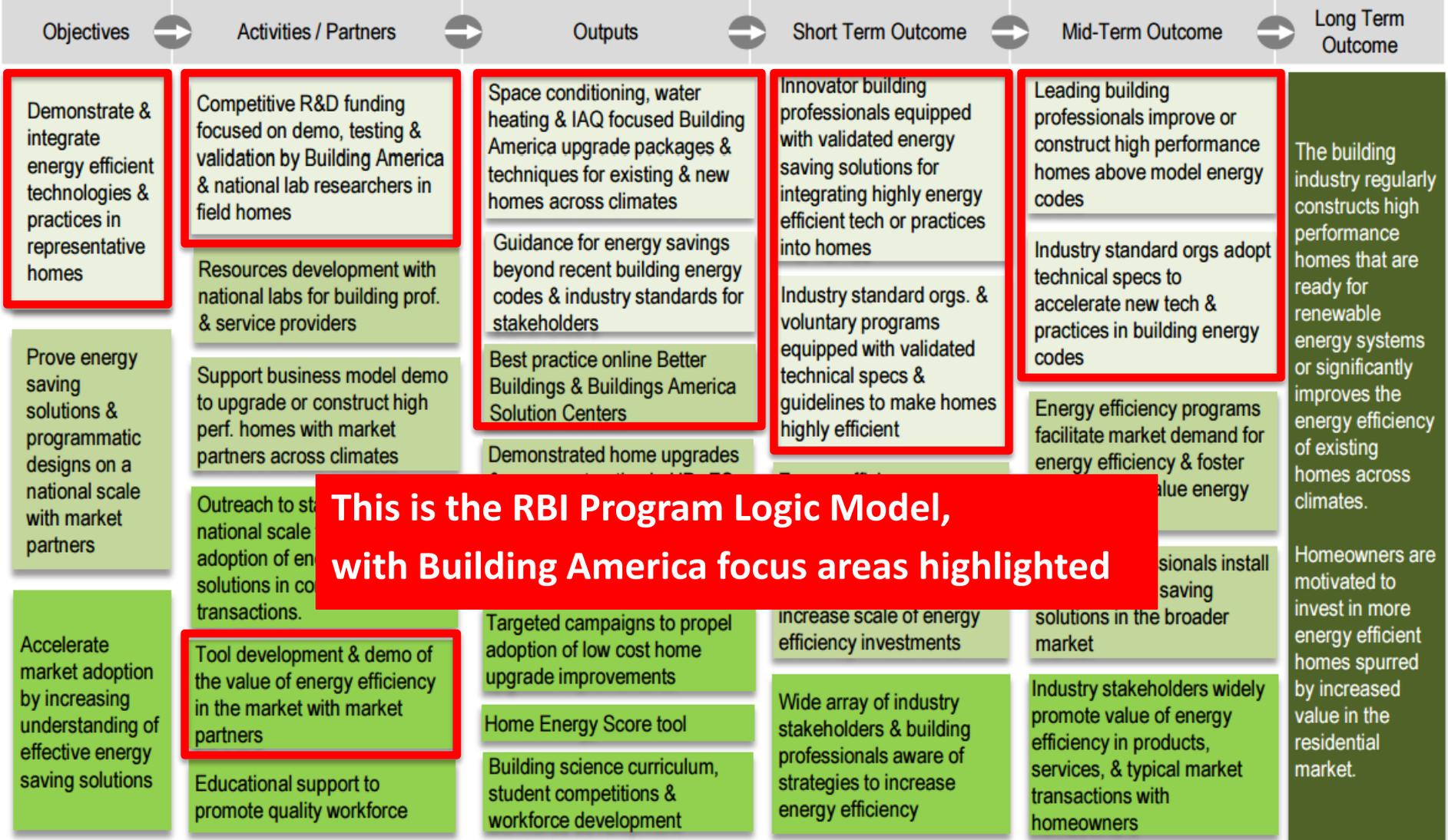
Strategy

Develop/Demonstrate/Disseminate building science & engineering **best practices** that **improve home performance** and **lower risks**, market tested through **industry partnership**

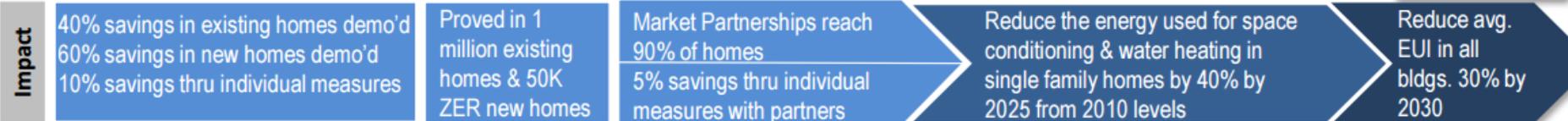


The Residential Integration Program accelerates energy improvements in existing and new residential buildings by reducing technical and market barriers to spur investment and achieve high performance homes.

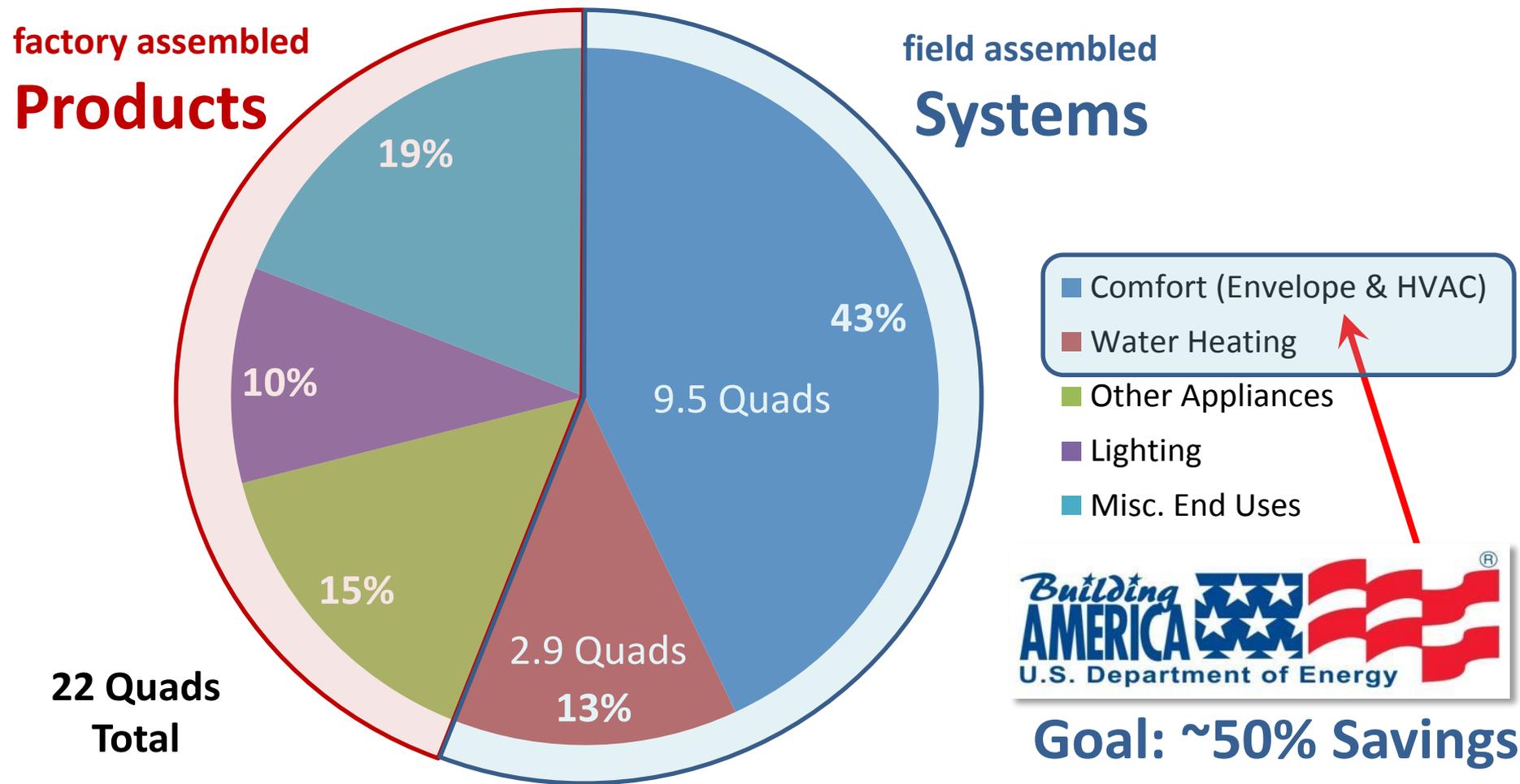
External Influences: DOE budget, Construction industry, Energy prices, Real estate market, Market incentives, State/local policies, Regulation



This is the RBI Program Logic Model, with Building America focus areas highlighted



Building America Aims to *Cut Energy Use of U.S. Homes in Half* by Helping Industry Improve “Integrated” (Field Assembled) Systems



U.S. Residential Buildings Primary Energy Consumption

* Source: U.S. EIA

The Prize



High-performance homes, so energy efficient,
all or most annual energy consumption
can be offset by renewable energy.

The Business Case

High-Performance Home Impacts:*

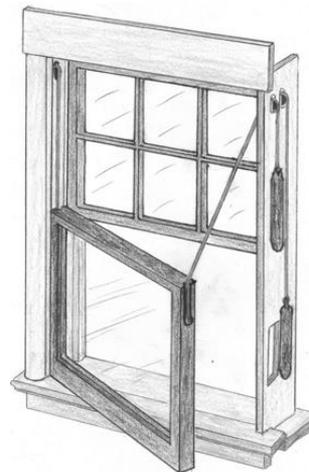
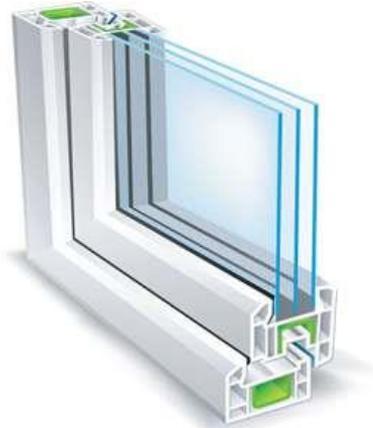
- **~\$350 Billion – \$1+ Trillion** Utility Bill Savings
- **~\$20 - \$100+ Billion** Annual Health Related Benefits
- **~\$90 – \$270 Billion** Annual Construction Revenue
- **~120,000 – 360,000** Persistent New Jobs

* Estimated impacts based on internal DOE analysis assuming 30% penetration of high-performance new and existing homes by 2025

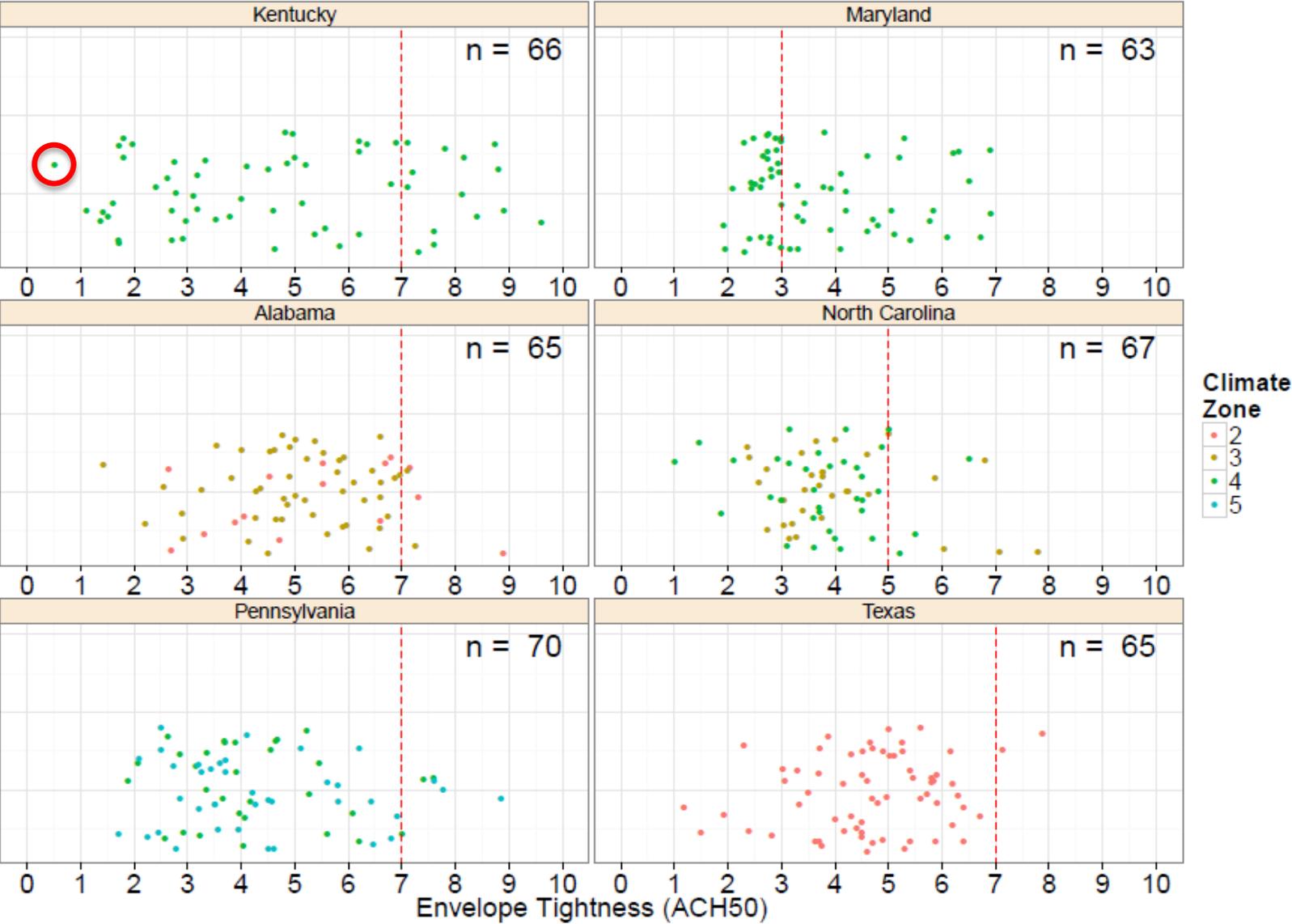
- **\$170 homeowner savings per \$1 spent**



Building Materials Are Changing



Average New Homes in These States are Tighter



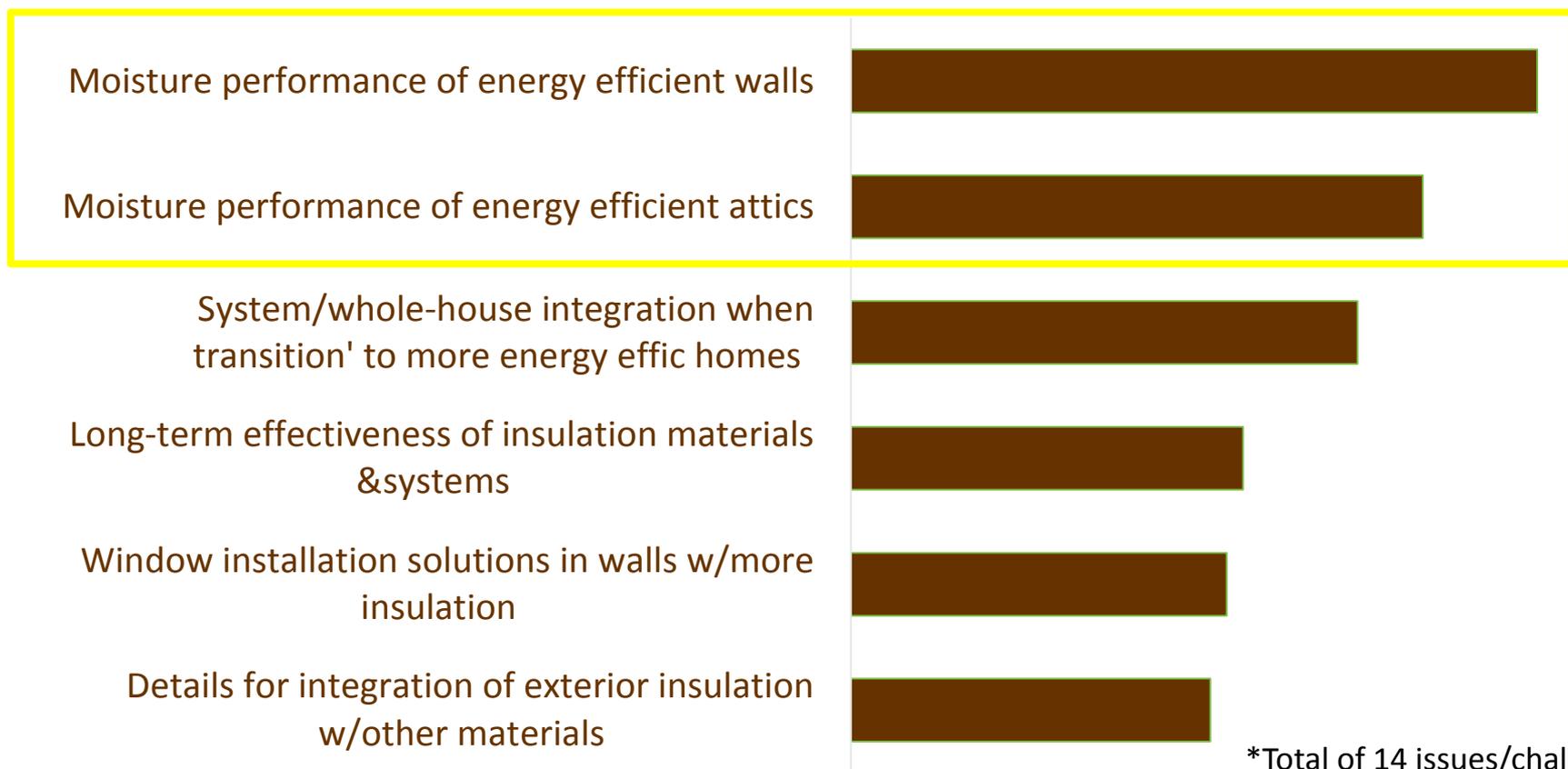
Technology & Expectations are Changing



Anyone who looks can find defects

Building Industry Concerns

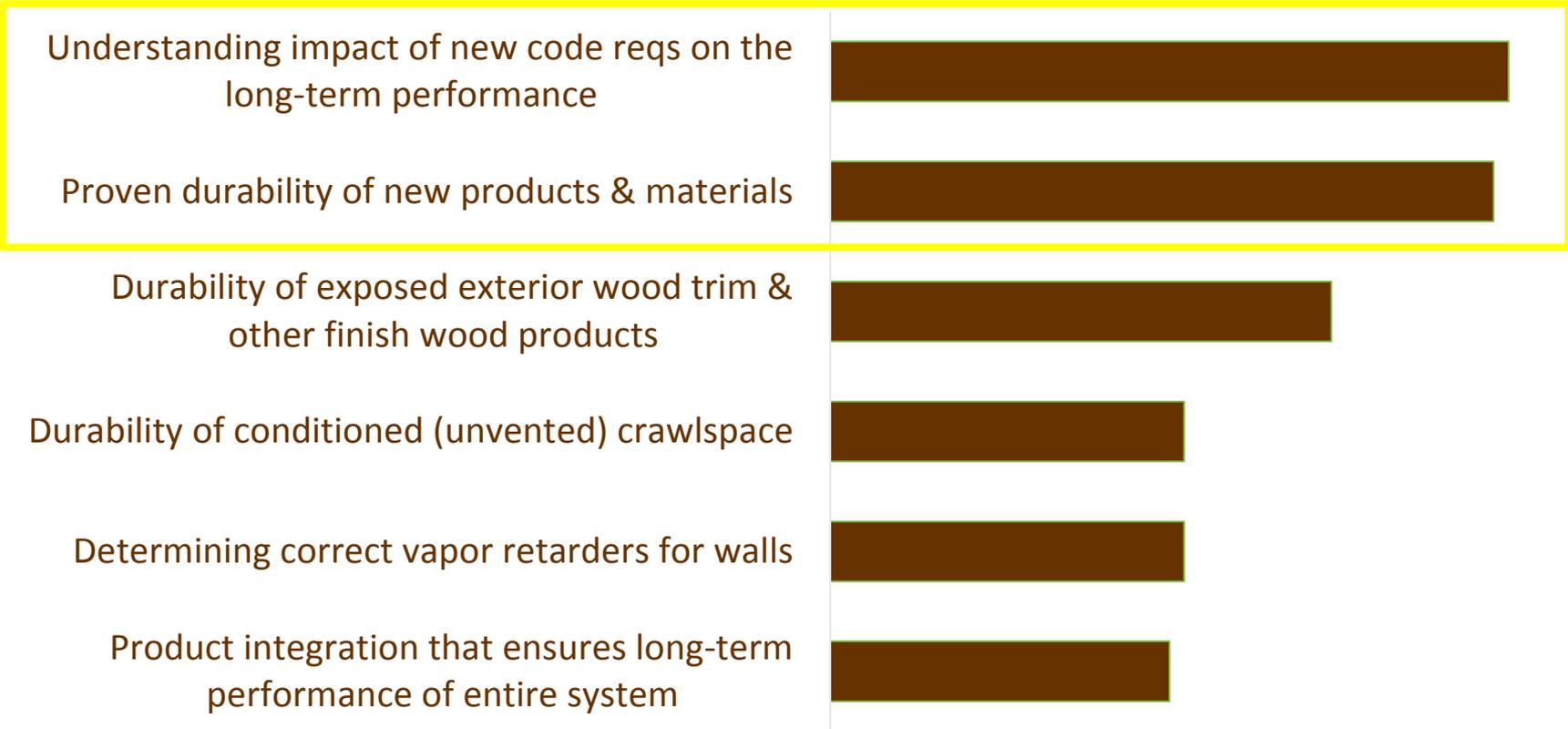
Top Challenges in Energy Efficiency



*Total of 14 issues/challenges presented to respondents

Building Industry Concerns

Top Challenges in Durability



*Total of 19 issues/challenges presented to respondents

Reduce Your

RISK



Remaining Technical Challenges to High Performance

1. Moisture Durability Risks of Insulated Envelopes

Risk of condensation & inadequate drying potential inside building assemblies

2. Comfort Risks in Low-Load Homes

Risk of inadequate air flow and RH control at part load conditions

3. Indoor Air Quality Risks in Tight Homes

Risk of poor indoor air quality in tight homes

Building America is Tackling These Challenges

for Energy Efficient New and Existing Homes:

1. Moisture Managed High-R Envelopes

- **Reduce Heating/Cooling Loads & Improve Durability**
High performance homes with increased insulation, reduced infiltration, reduced risk of condensation, & adequate drying potential inside building assemblies

2. Optimized Low-Load Comfort Solutions

- **Effectively Manage Airflow & Indoor RH for Comfort**
High efficiency comfort systems for homes with low thermal loads, including optimal efficiency, managed air flow and RH control at all part load conditions

3. Smarter Indoor Air Quality Solutions

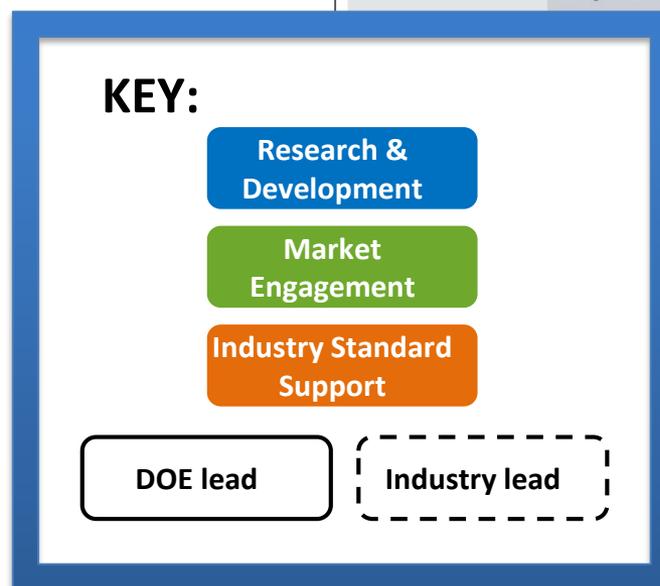
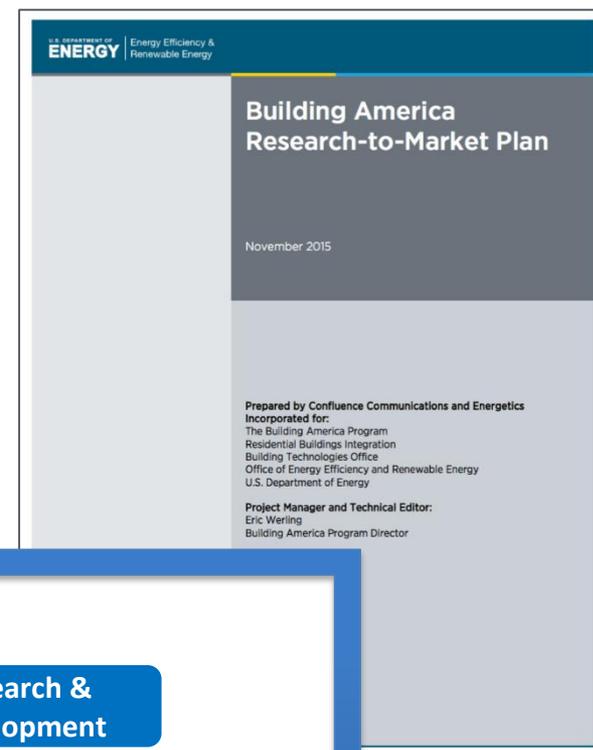
- **Control Fresh Air Supply & Contaminant Removal**
Added tightness with improved source control, dilution, and high efficiency filtration, with little or no energy penalty

Building America Technology to Market Roadmaps

- A. High Performance, Moisture Managed Envelope Systems
- B. Optimal HVAC Systems for Low Load Homes
- C. Optimal Ventilation and IAQ Solutions for Low Load Homes

Roadmap Objectives:

- Improve Standard Practice
- Manage Risks
- Optimize Performance
- Practical, Profitable Solutions



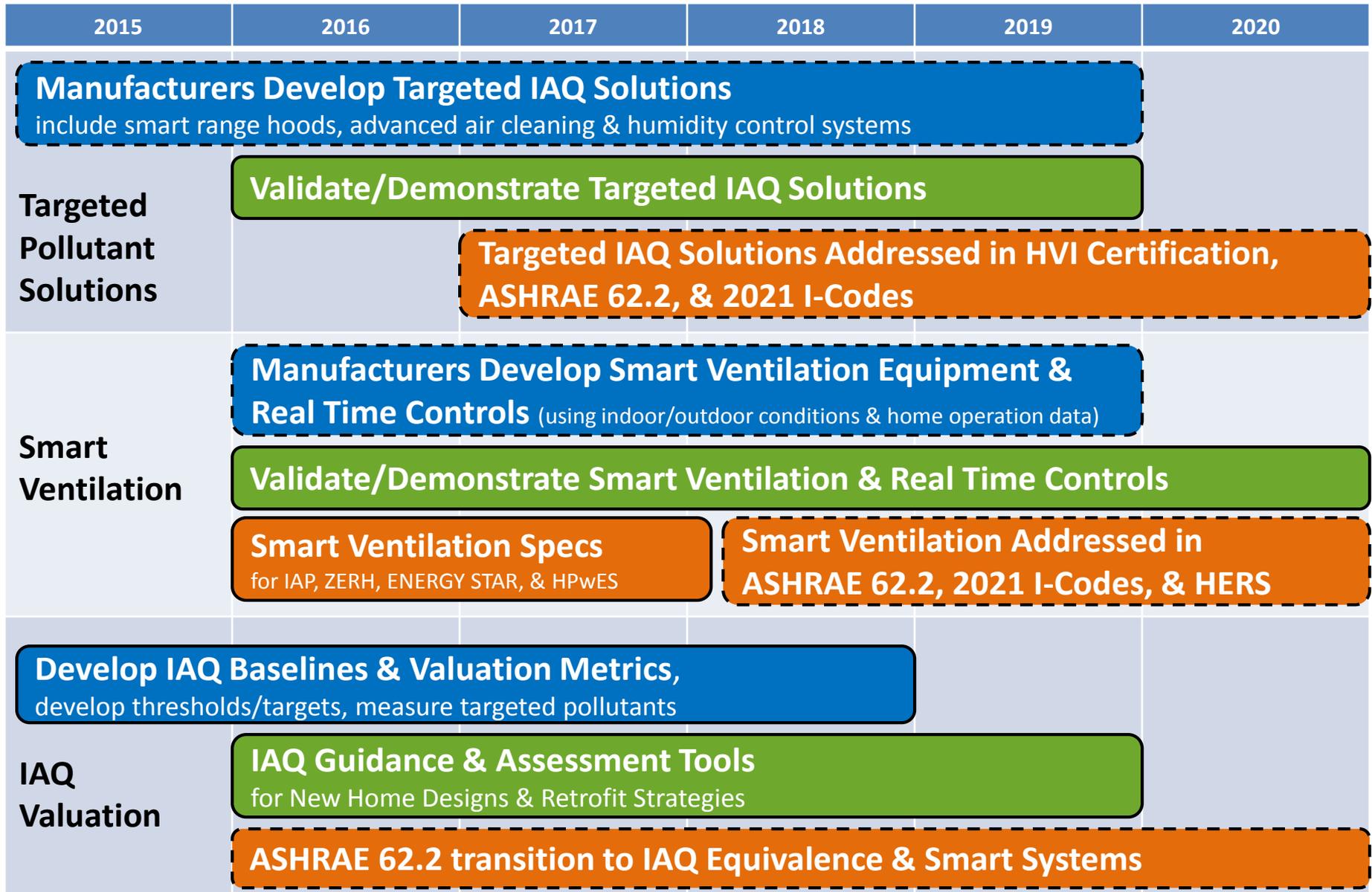
A. High Performance Moisture Managed Envelopes

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Moisture Risk Management		Moisture Managed Guidance/Tools & Best Practice Specs for priority High-R Envelope Systems in each climate				
	Lab and Field Moisture Risk Assessment of priority High-R Assemblies & Materials					
	Moisture Risk Assessment & Modeling Standards (e.g., ASHRAE 160)					
High Performance Envelope Solutions	Validate/Demonstrate High Performance Envelope Specs in Real World Test Homes					
		Specs in Voluntary Program Standards (ZERH, Energy Star & HPwES)		Moisture Managed High-R Envelopes addressed in 2021 IECC and IRC		

B. Optimal Comfort Systems for Low-Load Homes

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
System Design	Develop System Design Procedures/Tools & Comfort Metrics/ Criteria for Low-Load Homes (Address whole-house humidity & distribution)				I-Codes Adopt Low-Load Design and Performance Standards	
	Validate/Demonstrate Comfort System Solutions in Low-Load Homes using Comfort Metrics/Criteria					
				Best Practice Guidance, Training, and Tools on System Design for Low-Load Homes		
				System Design Standards Address Low-Load Homes (e.g., ACCA, ASHRAE)		
Systems and Equipment	Assess Load Profiles/Market Demand for Low-Load Homes		Manufacturers Develop Low-Load HVAC and Dehumidification Equipment (For whole-house comfort. Address design & installation issues.)			
	Manufacturers Develop Automated FDD & Optimization Controls Address equipment & distribution/comfort performance, learning & wireless sensors/controls					
	FDD, Sensors/Controls, Metrics & Performance Validation Standards (e.g., ACCA, ASTM)					
				Develop Installation Quality Verification Metrics		I-Codes Adopt Installation Quality Metrics
				Validate/Demonstrate Smart HVAC & Advanced Dehumidification Systems		
				Best Practice Guidance on Automated Smart HVAC Operation, Controls, & Maintenance		

C. Optimal Ventilation & IAQ Solutions

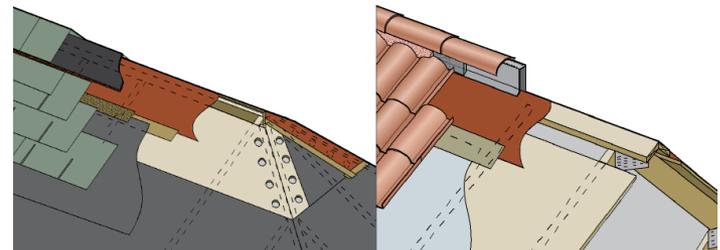
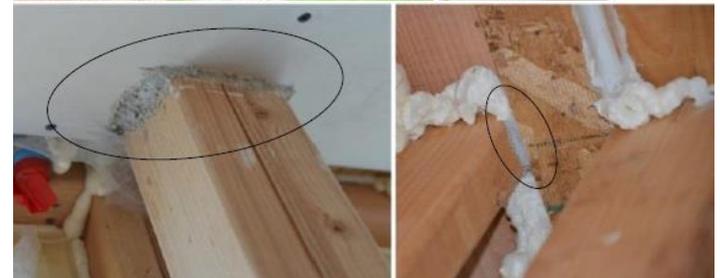
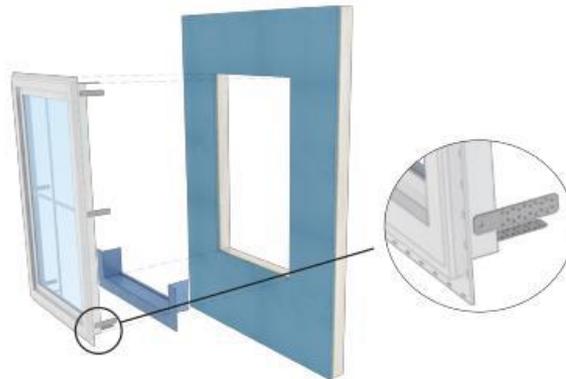


Building America Research Activities in FY17

- Ongoing Research Projects to Address Roadmap Objectives (FY15-16 funded FOAs & FY17 Lab AOPs):
 - Envelope Projects: 5 Partnership Teams & 2 Nat'l Lab projects
 - HVAC Projects: 4 Teams & 1 Nat'l Lab projects
 - IAQ Projects: 3 Teams and 3 Nat'l Lab projects
- Select/Negotiate/Award FY17 FOA Awards (FOA# DE-FOA-0001630)
 - Topic 1: Additional Projects to Address Remaining Roadmap Objectives
 - Topic 2: Baseline Indoor Air Quality Study of New Occupied Homes

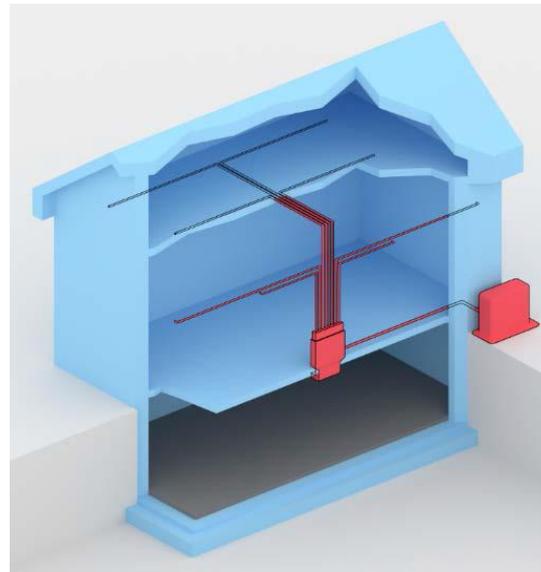
Current Industry Partnership Team Projects (FY15-16 funded): HIGH PERFORMANCE MOISTURE MANAGED ENVELOPE SOLUTIONS

PROJECT LEAD	PROJECT TITLE
Home Innovation Research Labs, Inc.	<u>A Constructible and Durable High-Performance Walls System: Extended Plate and Beam</u>
University of Minnesota - Twin Cities	<u>Achieving Affordable Zero Energy Ready Homes with an Advanced Solid Panel Wall System</u>
Center for Energy and Environment	<u>Aerosol Sealing in New Construction</u>
Home Innovation Research Labs, Inc.	<u>Attic Retrofits Using Nail-Based Insulated Panels</u>
Home Innovation Research Labs, Inc.	<u>Moisture Performance of High-R Wall Systems</u>
Building Science Corporation	<u>Monitoring of Unvented Roofs with Diffusion Vents and Interior Vapor Control in a Cold Climate</u>
Home Innovation Research Labs, Inc.	<u>Structural Support of Windows in Walls with Continuous Insulation</u>



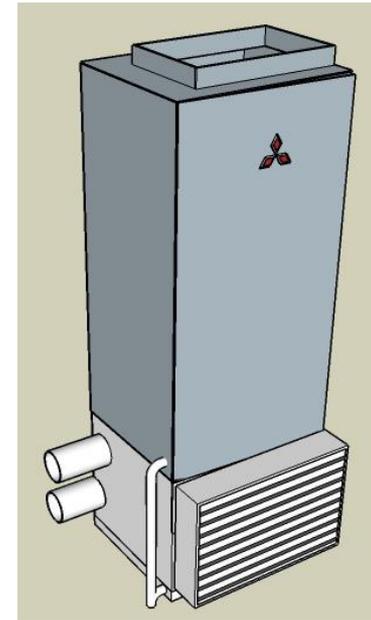
Current Industry Partnership Team Projects (FY15-16 funded): OPTIMAL COMFORT SYSTEMS FOR LOW LOAD HOMES

PROJECT LEAD	PROJECT TITLE
IBACOS (Integrated Building and Construction Solutions)	A "Plug-n-Play" Air Delivery System for Low-Load Homes and Evaluation of a Residential Thermal Comfort Rating Method
University of Central Florida	Building America Partnership for Improved Residential Construction (Lab and Field Testing of High Efficiency HVAC Systems for Low-Load Homes)
The Levy Partnership, Inc.	Integrated Design: A High Performance Solution for Affordable Housing
Fraunhofer USA, Inc.	Physics-based Interval Data Models to Automate and Scale Home Energy Performance Evaluations
Steven Winter Associates, Inc.	Ventilation Integrated Comfort System



Current Industry Partnership Team Projects (FY15-16 funded): OPTIMAL VENTILATION & INDOOR AIR QUALITY (IAQ) SOLUTIONS

PROJECT LEAD	PROJECT TITLE
University of Central Florida	<u>Building America Partnership for Improved Residential Construction (Temperature and Humidity Controlled Smart Ventilation)</u>
Newport Partners	<u>Development of the Industry's First Smart Range Hood</u>
Gas Technology Institute	<u>Energy Savings with Acceptable Indoor Air Quality Through Improved Air Flow Control</u>
Southface Energy Institute	<u>Performance-Based Indoor Air Quality and Optimized Ventilation</u>
Steven Winter Associates, Inc.	<u>Ventilation Integrated Comfort System</u>



Building America National Laboratory Activities in FY17

- **Whole house energy analysis tools & standards (NREL):**
 - Develop EnergyPlus/Open Studio interface and state-of-the-art energy analysis capabilities for residential buildings (public domain)
 - Nat'l Lab support to RESNET Std committee on HERS software accuracy
- **Building envelope knowledge, tools, & roadmap support (ORNL):**
 - Launch *Building Science Advisor v1*, a decision support tool for builders to understand & manage moisture risks of wall designs
 - DOE & Nat'l Lab support to ASHRAE Std committee on envelope moisture analysis
- **HVAC market research, analysis, & roadmap support (multiple Labs):**
 - HVAC market characterization for energy efficient homes
 - Industry stakeholder engagement on HVAC QI (ACCA, ASHRAE, etc.)
- **IAQ knowledge, tools, & roadmap support (LBNL):**
 - Develop & vet draft Home IAQ score (like HERS)
 - DOE & Nat'l Lab support to ASHRAE Std committee on residential ventilation & IAQ
- **Building America Solution Center (PNNL):**
 - Complete existing home guidance taxonomy
 - Develop new guidance from R&D results

Building America Technology to Market



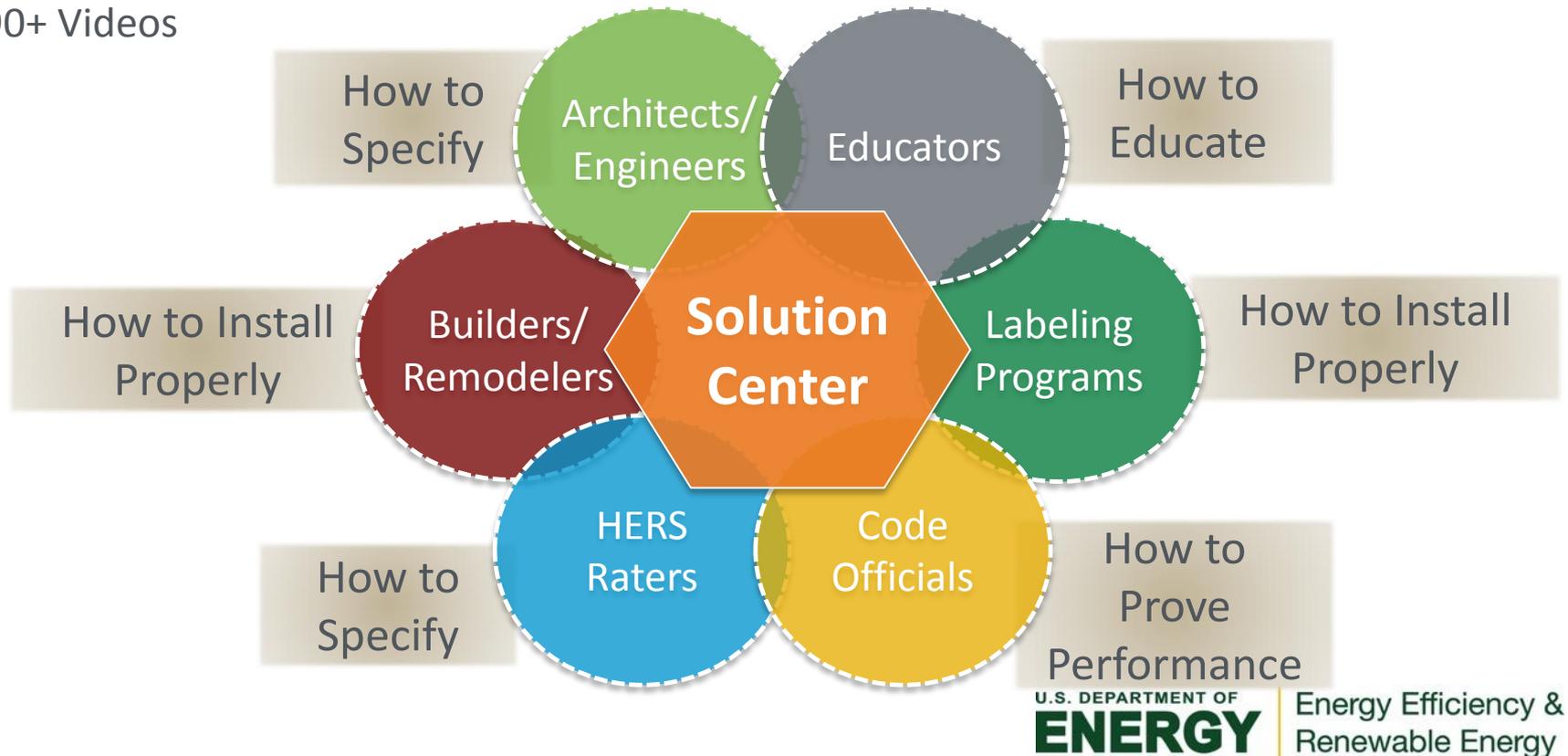
World Class Guidance for High-Performance Homes...

... at Your Finger Tips



Building America Solution Center Snapshot

- 200+ best practice guides
- 1,500+ images
- 115+ CAD drawings
- 270+ proven performance case studies
- 530+ peer-reviewed references & resources
- 25+ Code Compliance Briefs
- 90+ Videos



Building America Solution Center

Program Checklists

Access guides directly from checklists for Zero Energy Ready Home, ENERGY STAR Certified Home, and Indoor airPLUS



Building Components

Access guides for new and existing homes based on building components of interest.



Sales Tool

Translate building science technical terms into a new language of value.



Climate Packages

Review new home energy efficiency specifications and case studies that exceed 2009 IECC by 30%.



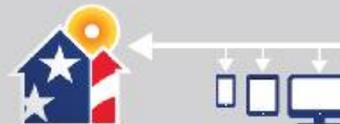
Building Science Pubs

Search library of building science publications from Building America.



Mobile App

Join our mobile community to access saved field kits wherever you need them.



Building America Solution Center

Program Checklists

Program Checklists

Access guides directly from checklists for Zero Energy Ready Home, ENERGY STAR Certified Home, and Indoor airPLUS



Building Components

Access guides for new and existing homes based on building components of interest.



Climate Packages

ask about efficiency guides that



Building Science Pubs

building science Building America.

Mobile App

Join our mobile community to access saved field kits wherever you need them.



Existing Homes



Building America Solution Center

Program Checklists

Access guides directly from checklists for Zero Energy Ready Home, ENERGY STAR Certified Home, and Indoor airPLUS



Building Components

Access guides for new and existing homes based on building components of interest.



Attic Knee Walls

Please [Register](#) or [Log In](#)

Scope	Description
Scope	
Fully Aligned Air Barrier	<p>A. Install a top plate over the top and bottom of the attic knee wall.</p> <p>B. Back attic knee wall with other support from sagging barrier.</p> <p>C. Seal all seams with air barrier with caulk.</p> <p>D. Install insulation in cavities.</p>

Last Updated: 08/15/2013

Attic Knee Walls

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Scope	Description
Description	<p>ENERGY STAR Note: ENERGY STAR recommends fully aligned with the surface of walls for Climate Zone 4 through 8.</p> <p>An air barrier is defined as any durable solid material that blocks air flow through unconditioned space, including necessary sealant and adequate support to resist positive and negative pressures. ENERGY STAR recommends, but does not require, rigid finished thickness ≥ 5.5 inches or 1.5 inches manufacturer indicates otherwise. If flexible air barrier is used, it must be supported unless otherwise indicated by the manufacturer paper-based products, or other materials that are ≥ 6 mil.</p> <p>ENERGY STAR highly recommends, but does not require, fully aligned with the surface of walls for Climate Zone 4 through 8.</p> <p>All insulated vertical surfaces are considered walls and must meet the air barrier requirements for multifamily dwellings. All insulated ceiling surfaces, conditioned attic roof decks, flat ceiling cavities.</p> <p>Exterior air barriers are not required for an air barrier is provided and insulation extends into unconditioned space at the following levels: Climate Zone 4 through 8.</p>

Last Updated: 08/15/2013

Attic Knee Walls

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Scope	Description
Ensuring Success	<p>None Available</p> <p>Last Updated: 08/15/2013</p>

Attic Knee Walls

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Scope	Description
Climate	<p>ENERGY STAR Version 3: Thermal Enclosure C fully aligned with the surface of walls for Climate Zone 4 through 8.</p> <p>DOE Zero Energy Ready Home Exhibit 2: DOE Zero Energy Ready Home 2.5; Zones 5-7; 2; Z RESNET-approved thermal enclosure.</p> <p>Marine Climate Zone 4 through 8</p>

Last Updated: 08/15/2013

Attic Knee Walls

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Scope	Description
Training	<p>Right and Wrong Installation</p> <p>Presentations: None Available</p> <p>Videos:</p> <p>Plates/Blocking at Top of Attic Knee Walls Publication Date: 08/15/2013 Courtesy Of: Rising Video describing how to install plates/blocking at top of attic knee walls.</p> <p>Attic Knee Walls Publication Date: 08/15/2013 Courtesy Of: Rising Video describing how to install attic knee walls.</p>

Last Updated: 08/15/2013

Attic Knee Walls

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Scope	Description
CAD Images	<p>Last Updated: 08/15/2013</p>

Attic Knee Walls

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Scope	Description
Compliance	<p>ENERGY STAR Version 3: Thermal Enclosure C material that blocks exterior air flow through the wall assembly. It must be supported unless otherwise indicated by the manufacturer paper-based products, or other materials that are ≥ 6 mil.</p> <p>DOE Zero Energy Ready Home Exhibit 2: DOE Zero Energy Ready Home 2.5; Zones 5-7; 2; Z RESNET-approved thermal enclosure.</p> <p>DOE Zero Energy Ready Home Version 3: Infiltration leakage shall be determined for envelope assemblies with the relevant vapor barrier is provided an unconditioned space.</p> <p>ASTM E1677-11: Standard Specification for Self-Adhered Membrane for Framed, Opaque Wall Performance Criteria or Design.</p> <p>ABAA 07261: Self-Adhered Sheet Membrane for Self-Adhered Membrane for Framed, Opaque Wall Performance Criteria or Design.</p>

Last Updated: 08/15/2013

Attic Knee Walls

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Scope	Description
More Info.	<p>Case Studies:</p> <p>New Whole-House Draft Barrier in Gainesville, FL Author(s): P Organization Publication 1 Case study at other builders</p> <p>References and Resources:</p> <p>DOE Zero Energy Ready Home Requirements Author(s): E Organization Publication 1 Standard doc ENERGY STAR</p> <p>Guide to Attic Knee Walls Author(s): L Organization Publication 1 Fact sheet print</p> <p>Thermal Enclosure C Author(s): E Organization Publication 1 Guide describing how to install thermal enclosure C</p>

Last Updated: 08/15/2013

Attic Knee Walls

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Scope	Description	Success	Climate	Training	CAD	Compliance	More	Sales
BUILDING SCIENCE-TO-SALES TRANSLATOR								
Fully Aligned Air Barriers = Whole-House Draft Barrier								
Insulating Sheathing								
Drainage Plane (housewrap)								
Exterior Sheathing (Plywood, OSB, Fiberboard)								
TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION:								
<p>A home may have a sound structure, high insulation levels, and a solid foundation, but if it does not have a continuously sealed whole-house draft barrier, the potential energy savings will be diminished. A whole-house draft barrier is a continuously connected layer of solid or air-tight materials that block air flow, moisture, and pests from entering the conditioned space of a home. One example of an air barrier is the drywall on the home's walls and ceilings, when the seams are taped and mudded and caulk, spray foam, or gaskets are used to seal around wiring, plumbing, ducts, etc. The wall and ceiling insulation should be in full contact with this air barrier layer.</p>								
Alternate Terms								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air Contaminant Barrier Energy Saving Air Barrier Advanced Air Barrier Technology Professionally-Installed Draft Barrier Moisture Control Air Barrier 								

Last Updated: 08/15/2013

Whole-House Draft Barrier Sales Message

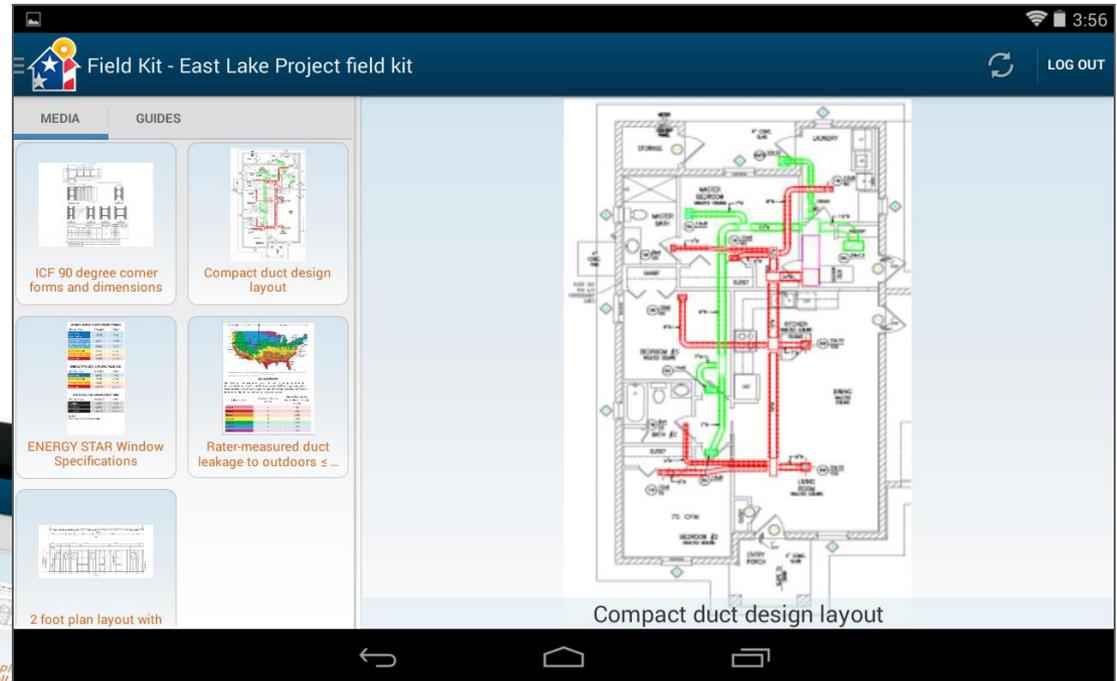
Whole-house draft barriers block air flow that can undermine the thermal protection with a complete high-performance insulation system. What this means to you is less wasted energy along with enhanced comfort, quiet, and durability. Wouldn't you agree it would be a shame to only get a partial return on your investment in advanced insulation?

BASC Mobile Access



Access your Building America Field Kits remotely using the new “Solutions” mobile application for Android and iOS. Access the iOS app through the Apple store, and use the link below for the Android app.

- Access media
- Access guides
- Access Field Kits for specific construction projects



<https://basc.energy.gov/solutions>

Field kits can also be accessed from computers



Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

Measuring Progress



One measure of success: BTO Goals

Climate	EUI 2010 Baseline (kBtu/ft ² /yr)	New Home 60% Reduction EUI Target (kBtu/ft ² /yr)	Number of Case Studies Achieving Target or Better
Very Cold/Cold	112.9	45.1	4
Hot-Dry/Mixed-Dry	115.4	46.2	1
Hot-Humid	124.9	50	2
Mixed-Humid	117.4	47.0	1
Marine	111.8	44.7	0

Climate	EUI 2010 Baseline (kBtu/ft ² /yr)	Existing Home 40% Reduction EUI Target (kBtu/ft ² /yr)	Number of Case Studies Achieving Target or Better
Very Cold/Cold	112.9	67.7	9
Hot-Dry/Mixed-Dry	115.4	69.3	0
Hot-Humid	124.9	74.9	1
Mixed-Humid	117.4	70.4	0
Marine	111.8	67.1	2



Another measure of success: Industry Engagement

12,812 Subscribers

Building America Subscribers

UP 227% since 2012

501,198 Pageviews

Website Pageviews **UP 43%** in
2016



Another measure of success ...

The Building America Program is filling an essential role in the marketplace—one that would be extremely difficult for the private sector to perform. I believe that investments by the federal government in this program reap huge rewards at the local level in terms of energy savings, comfort, and consumer protection.

—**Ron Flax**, Sustainability Examiner for Boulder County Land Use (Colorado)

*“Pulte has been working with the Building America Program since it began. **Building America has helped our business** research and develop strong new high-performance products that keep us competitive and offer our homebuyers exceptional efficiency and quality.”*

—**Robert Broad**, PulteGroup Southern California/Southern Nevada Division

*“We used the U.S. Department of Energy’s Building America program and its work with the energy efficiency industry to **bring state-of-the-art construction innovations and resources to the public.**”*

—Carolyn G. Goodman, Mayor of Las Vegas, Nevada

“Building America provides a much needed resource to our business and the industry. As a new home builder, we rely on the program to develop and demonstrate innovative technologies before we take the risk of putting them into our construction practices. Without Building America, the construction industry would have great difficulty adopting new practices.”

—Tom Wade, Palo Duro Homes

Thank You



Email me (I ran out of business cards):

eric.werling@ee.doe.gov

Relationships with other Departments

- Building America Solution Center designed to provide technical guidance to **EPA Energy Star Homes & Indoor airPLUS program partners** based on Building America R&D
- Building America collaborates with **EPA, HUD, & NIST** on related R&D objectives, including shared stakeholder engagement, FOA merit reviewer participation, and inter-agency research planning
- **DOE Building America Program, HUD Healthy Homes Office, and EPA Indoor Environments Division** have a current inter-agency agreement on Healthy Efficient Homes, co-funding a collaborative R&D agenda
- Building America partnership team (Building Science Corporation) provided primary design services for the **NIST Zero Energy Home Test Facility**.
- Building America Teams and Nat'l Labs provide technical support/guidance on building science to numerous programs and agencies, including **DOE WAP, FEMP, EPA, HUD, FEMA, & DOD**