

## **Tax Deduction Qualified Software for Buildings Placed in Service per Announcement 2023-1**

### **DesignBuilder 7.3.1.003**

On this page you'll find information about the DesignBuilder 7.3.1.003 Qualified Software for Calculating Commercial Building Tax Deductions | Department of Energy

<http://energy.gov/eere/buildings/qualified-software-calculating-commercial-building-tax-deductions>, which calculates energy and power cost savings that meet federal tax incentive requirements for commercial buildings.

Date Documentation Received by DOE: 01/24/2025

*Statements and information in the right hand column of this table are from the software developer.*

Internal Revenue Code §179D (c)(1) and (d) Regulations Notice 2006-52, Section 6 requirements as amplified by Notice 2008-40, Section 4 requirements.

(1) The name, address, and (if applicable) web site of the software developer;	DesignBuilder Software Ltd, Stroud House, Russell Street, Stroud, Gloucestershire, GL5 3AN, UK <a href="http://www.designbuilder.co.uk/">http://www.designbuilder.co.uk/</a>
(2) The name, email address, and telephone number of the person to contact for further information regarding the software;	Dr. Andy Tindale andy.tindale@designbuilder.co.uk +44(0)1453 755500
(3) The name, version, or other identifier of the software as it will appear on the list;	DesignBuilder 7.3.1.003
(4) All test results, input files, output files, weather data, modeler reports, and the executable version of the software with which the tests were conducted; and	Provided to DOE.
(5) A declaration by the manager in charge of software development, made under penalties of perjury, that all statements and information in the right hand column of this table are true and correct.	"On behalf of the DesignBuilder Software Ltd development team I certify the following:"
(a) The software has been tested according to ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 140-2014 Standard Method of Test for the Evaluation of Building Energy Analysis Computer Programs (except for sections 5.2.4, 7, and 8);	The software has been tested according to the American National Standards Institute/American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ANSI/ASHRAE) Standard 140-2014 Standard Method of Test for Evaluation of Building Energy Analysis Computer Programs.
(b) The software can model explicitly <sup>(1)</sup> —	The DesignBuilder software is fully compliant with ASHRAE 90.1-2007, 2010, 2013 and 2019 and meets all of the requirements below.
(i) 8,760 hours per year;	The DesignBuilder software complies.

(ii) Calculation methodologies for the building components being modeled;	The DesignBuilder software complies.
(iii) Hourly variations in occupancy, lighting power, miscellaneous equipment power, thermostat setpoints, and HVAC system operation, defined separately for each day of the week and holidays;	The DesignBuilder software complies.
(iv) Thermal mass effects;	The DesignBuilder software complies.
(v) Ten or more thermal zones;	The DesignBuilder software complies.
(vi) Part-load performance curves for mechanical equipment;	The DesignBuilder software complies.
(vii) Capacity and efficiency correction curves for mechanical heating and cooling equipment; and	The DesignBuilder software complies.
(viii) Air-side and water-side economizers with integrated control.	The DesignBuilder software complies.
(c) <sup>(2)</sup> The software can explicitly model each of the following HVAC systems listed in Appendix G of Standard 90.1-2007 <sup>(1)</sup> :	
(i) Packaged Terminal Air Conditioner (PTAC), constant volume (CV) fan, DX coil cooling, hot-water fossil fuel boiler.	The DesignBuilder software models this system.
(ii) Packaged Terminal Heat Pump (PTHP), CV fan, DX coil cooling, electric heat pump heating.	The DesignBuilder software models this system.
(iii) Packaged Rooftop Air Conditioner (PSZ-AC), CV fan, DX coil cooling, fossil fuel furnace heating.	The DesignBuilder software models this system.
(iv) Packaged Rooftop Heat Pump (PSZ-HP), CV fan, DX coil cooling, electric heat pump heating.	The DesignBuilder software models this system.
(v) Packaged Rooftop Variable-Air-Volume (PVAV) with reheat, Variable-Air-Volume (VAV) fans, DX coil cooling, hot-water fossil fuel boiler.	The DesignBuilder software models this system.
(vi) Packaged VAV with parallel fan-powered boxes (PVAV with PFP boxes) with reheat, VAV fans, DX coil cooling, electric resistance heating.	The DesignBuilder software models this system.

(vii) Packaged Rooftop VAV with reheat, VAV fans, chilled water cooling, hot-water fossil fuel boiler.	The DesignBuilder software models this system.
(viii) VAV with PFP boxes with reheat, VAV fans, chilled water cooling, electric resistance heating.	The DesignBuilder software models this system.
(d) The software can—	
(i) Either directly determine energy and power costs or produce hourly reports of energy use by energy source suitable for determining energy and power costs separately; and	The DesignBuilder software models this system.
(ii) Design load calculations to determine required HVAC equipment capacities and air and water flow rates.	The DesignBuilder software models this system.
(e) <sup>(2)</sup> The software can explicitly model:	
(i) Natural ventilation.	The software models natural ventilation.
(ii) Mixed mode (natural and mechanical) ventilation.	The software models mixed mode ventilation.
(iii) Earth tempering of outdoor air.	The software models earth tempering of outdoor air.
(iv) Displacement ventilation.	The software models displacement ventilation
(v) Evaporative cooling.	The software models evaporative cooling.
(vi) Water use by occupants for cooking, cleaning or other domestic uses.	The software models water use by occupants.
(vii) Water use by heating, cooling, or other equipment, or for on-site landscaping.	The software can explicitly model water use by heating, cooling, and other equipment or for on-site landscaping.
(viii) Automatic interior or exterior lighting controls (such as occupancy, photocells, or time-clocks).	The software models automatic interior and exterior lighting controls.
(ix) Daylighting (sidelighting, skylights, or tubular daylight devices).	The software can explicitly model daylighting (sidelighting, skylights, but not tubular daylighting devices).
(x) Improved fan system efficiency through static pressure reset.	The software models improved fan system efficiency through static pressure reset.
(xi) Radiant heating or cooling (low or high temperature).	The software models low and high-temperature radiant heating and cooling.

(xii) Multiple or variable-speed control for fans, cooling equipment, or cooling towers.	The DesignBuilder software models multiple and variable-speed control for fans, cooling equipment, and cooling towers.
(xiii) On-site energy systems (such as combined heat and power systems, fuel cells, solar photovoltaic, solar thermal, or wind).	The software can explicitly model on-site energy systems (solar photovoltaic, solar thermal, or wind) and combined heat and power systems. For fuel cells the model must be exported to EnergyPlus.

Date Posted: 01/24/2025

- 1) 90.1-2007 is defined by the PATH Act of 2015 as "Standard 90.1-2007 of ASHRAE and IESNA (as in effect on the day before the date of the adoption of Standard 90.1-2010 of such Societies)." This definition includes 90.1-2007 and the addenda supplement package (Addenda a, b, c, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, p, q, s, t, u, w, y, ad, and aw) and addendum r, plus all published errata.
- 2) Software that cannot explicitly model one or more of the HVAC systems or features in sections 5.c and 5.e of the table can still be listed as qualified software. It cannot, however, be used for 179D analyses of projects that need to model such systems or features. When this is the case, the statement used for the particular requirements shall be as follows: The *AAA EnergySoftware* cannot model *system or feature X* and shall not be used for projects with this technology.

Tax Deduction Qualified Software — <http://energy.gov/eere/buildings/qualified-software-calculating-commercial-building-tax-deductions>



Dr Andy Tindale  
Managing Director