

The "Role of Batch Testing"

Marc C. Milin ICF Consulting February 26, 2001



Agenda

- What is batch testing?
- But does it work?
- Where do we go from here?



What is Batch Testing?

- The Sampling Protocol
 - Production builders
 - -Initial testing of first 3 homes
 - -Batch selection
 - -Random sample
 - Select 15% of homes for inspection/testing
 - Tested home fails, whole batch fails



But does it work?

EPA Sampling Protocol Review

- Full HERS ratings on 71 homes
- Three raters
- Six builders
- Three different climates



But does it work?

EPA Sampling Protocol Review

Zero failures

• Mean HERS score: 87.6

• Variance: 0.45

• Standard deviation: 0.66



But does it work?

- Rater Implementation
 - Advance Preparation
 - Worst case modeling on all models
 - Custom BOP for all models
 - Training subcontractors
 - Testing every model once



But does it work?

- Rater Implementation
 - -Batch Selection
 - Batch size (keep it small)
 - Size of sample (15% minimum)
 - Random selection (target different models)



But does it work?

- Rater Implementation
 - -Inspections
 - Visual inspections of all homes
 - Test additional homes at start of every new subdivisions
 - Repeat training for new crews or subs, inspect additional homes



But does it work?

Participating Production Builders

- Top 15 builders produced 50% of the ENERGY STAR Labeled Homes in 2000
- 4 out of the top 5 builders have homes verified with the sampling protocol
- In the year 2000, two builders built over 1000 ENERGY STAR Labeled Homes
- 11 out of top 15 builders have homes verified with the sampling protocol



A Partnership with the HERS Industry

- New Pilot Sampling Program in Ohio
 - HERS Provider
 - Terry Smith, Ohio Office of Energy Efficiency
 - HERS Rater
 - Paul Rimelspach, Energy Design Alternatives