

HERS ~ ESH ~ REM Sampling Reconsidered



- Improve Audit Efficiency
 - If we fail at market transformation, we have failed our goal
 - If we fail to handle the market when it comes ...
we have failed our goal.
- Streamline the Process
 - Identify the goal
 - Continually evaluate the process
 - Objectively rate the results
 - Remember the goal

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[PDF](#)

HERS ~ ESH ~ REM Sampling Reconsidered



- Identify the goal
 - Enable better, lower lifecost homes
 - Enable more home ownership
 - Enable HERS to make it happen
 - Perfect the Sample Audit rating model
 - Streamline the ESH pass/fail process

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- Continually evaluate the Process
 - HERS ratings are gaining market momentum
 - Current business models may not accommodate
future volume
 - Sample Audits present opportunities with
volume builders

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- Questions from this audit project
 - Rating Scores are relatively insensitive
 - To shell size variables
 - To air leak factors
 - Data requirements seem redundant

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Modeling Reconsidered Shell Factors



- Typical changes in shell size
 - Minimal score change
- Window / wall changes
 - Greater score change
 - 1% Win/Wall increase, > .2 point drop in score

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Modeling Reconsidered Air Leakage Factors



- 0.35 ACH natural is unrealistic rating parameter
 - Large homes can be barns
 - Builders have no incentive to build airtight
 - Few homes > 0.35 ~ BD testing generally unproductive
 - Minimal Impact (0.2 reduction in score / .05 ACHnat)
- Duct loss issues - unclear if all into heated space
 - Minimal impact (0.1 reduction in score / 50 CFM25)

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ENERGY DESIGNED HOMES

Modeling Reconsidered Worst Case Construction



- ESH Pass / Fail on the given model
 - Base model scored at 88.6
 - With 0.50 ACH natural
 - With 500 CFM25
 - With 50% increase in window area
- Score: 86.3 ~ still an ENERGY STAR HOME!

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Modeling Reconsidered Streamline ESH pass/fail process



- Current HERS modeling too detailed
 - Shell variables are score stable
 - Simpler win/wall factor only slightly more important
 - Air leakage variable relatively score stable
- Software models show feature not shell efficacy
 - BOPs produce predictable score results

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Modeling Reconsidered Streamline ESH pass/fail process



- In demonstrating minimum ESH compliance, we can assume most of the data we are calculating
 - Base models can be extrapolated to additional homes
- Rater efforts could be refocused
 - Not on unproductive repetitive tasks
 - On real performance issues, on building better homes

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The Lean Mean HERS Rating Machine



- Develop multiple certification models
 - Sample Audits for consistent Volume Builders
 - Full audit (Lender paid?) for others
 - BOPs ... if designed to work not punish [PDF](#)
- Reduce unnecessary data detail
 - Model particular builder or local BOPs
 - Expand to balance of builder's portfolio

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A Lean Mean HERS Rating Machine ... for Volume builders



- Develop Sample Audit protocol
 - Baseline Audits [PDF](#)
 - Performance review of audit findings [PDF](#)
 - Design Builder BOP with a score margin
 - Sample 1/7 of homes, HERS diagnostics and inspection
- Computer Model
 - Baseline audits
 - Establish the Builder BOP

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Remember our Goal!



- Enable better, lower lifecost homes
- Enable more home ownership
- Enable HERS to make it happen

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