PATH Uniform Protocol for Energy-Efficient Remodeling of Existing Housing







Project Team

IBTS

- Institute for Building Technology & Safety
- Herndon, VA

BKi

- Bevilacqua-Knight, Inc.
- Oakland, CA

PSD

- Performance Systems Development
- Ithaca, NY

Team IBTS







Project Team

- **Technical Advisory** Panel
 - Remodelers, Trade Contractors
 - Trade Associations
 - Expert Consultants
- HUD
- DOE
- **EPA**



紫 Southface





San

NY5ERDA

Antonio

Responsible Solutions for Environmental Living

Air Conditioning Contractors of America







PATH Program

- U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development
- Partnership for <u>A</u>dvancing <u>Technology</u> in <u>Housing</u>
- Multi-faceted approach
 - New & Existing Housing
 - Technology & Market Research
 - Identifying & Removing Barriers
 - Information Dissemination

PDR









PATH Program

PATH works to improve housing:

- Affordability
- Energy-Efficiency
- Environmental Impact
- Quality
- Durability and Maintenance
- Hazard Mitigation
- Safety
- Started in May 1998







A Public-Private Partnership for Advancing Housing Technology



PATH Roadmaps

- Priority setting approach
 - Whole House & Building Process
 - Information Technology
 - Manufactured Housing
 - Panelized Construction
 - Energy Efficiency in Existing Homes
- www.pathnet.org











PATH Roadmaps

- Energy Efficiency in Existing Homes
 - Enable & motivate practitioners
 - Building envelope technologies
 - Consumer value & incentives
 - Structured industry protocol
 - Build practitioner credibility
 - Performance monitoring









What is a "Protocol"?

- A Protocol is a set of best practice instructions and references for each energy efficiency topic and level of improvement
- Identified for both technical and business practices







Project Overview – Phase I

- Identify baseline topics
 - Problem areas
 - Better practices & Common practices
- On-going Technical Review Panel guidance
- Design data structure
- Create prototype protocols
- Get market feedback
 - Focus groups
 - Remodelers, Trade contractors, Homeowners
- Computer modeling specifications
- Quality assurance







Underway

Upcoming

Project Overview -Multi-Phase

- Phase I
 - Current effort
- Phase II
 - Final protocol design
 - Test/pilot protocols
- Phase III
 - Complete final protocols
 - Cross-industry agreements
 - Consumer outreach
- Phase IV
 - Monitoring & Evaluation







Subject to funding availability ...

What is "Remodeling"?

- Residential remodeling includes:
 - Interior Renovations
 - Building Additions
- Targeted contractors include:
 - Full-service remodelers/general contractors
 - Mechanical Trades
 - HVAC
 - Water heating
 - Specialty Trades
 - Windows, doors
 - Insulation, Shell sealing
 - Painting, roofing, siding
 - Solar, PV









What are "levels"?

- Must have progression or path
 - Multiple entry points
- Capabilities and interest vary
 - Level 1 = narrow, easy, some energy savings, appropriate for all contractors, "cherry picking"
 - Level 2 = broader, more difficult, more savings, appropriate for fewer contractors
 - Level 3 = Comprehensive, difficult, maximum energy savings, appropriate for HPwEs, BPI







Establish Baseline

Scope & Purpose

- Establish topics for improvement in practices
- Focus on energy-saving topics
- Identify current remodeling common practices
- Suggest priorities for protocol development







Establish Baseline

Approach

- Telephone & in-person interviews with 60 industry representatives
 - Focus on remodelers & trade contractors
- Literature review of standards, guides, databases
- Technical Advisory Panel input
- Confirmation with multiple sources







Many "Better Practices"

- NAHB, NARI
- ACCA, NATE, SMACNA
- BPI for whole house
- Home Performance with Energy Star
- Other specific Energy Star programs
- Weatherization

- Building America
- PATH
- System benefit funds & utilities
- Green building initiatives
- Many more...

...but we needed <u>COMMON</u> practices







Baseline Topics

- General Business Practices 12
- Inspection & Testing13
- Finding/Selling solutions 9
- Installation practices
- QA & QC practices <u>3</u>
 - # of **topics** = **43**
- Three contractor categories
 - Building renovations & additions
 - Mechanical
 - Specialty







5

General Business Practices

- Need more assistance than currently available
- Need a stepwise path
- Home Inspection and Testing
 - Virtually no diagnostic testing or quality verification being done
 - Almost always to qualify for EnergyStar rather than to improve home performance







Finding/Selling solutions

- Little knowledge or attention to energy savings measures
- Once trained to do home inspection & testing, recommending correct solutions is easy; <u>but</u> very few contractors are trained
- Selling energy-related home improvements requires:
 - Significant effort
 - Consumer education
 - Upgraded contractor sales skills







Installation practices

- Widespread performance, comfort, safety, durability problems related to installation
- Vast majority of contractors have no easy access to knowledge needed
 - Relevant
 - Organized







Quality Assurance

- Internal test-based QA reduces liability risk, callback costs, customer disputes
- Providing homeowner instructions rarely done
- Annual service contracts rarely include safety testing







- Home Energy Efficiency Programs for Contractors
 - Many trade association, utility, government programs out there
 - Focus on single disciplines
 - Whole house programs few in number
 - Not widely known







WIFM

How will this be useful for Raters?

- Ready source of information
 - Don't reinvent the wheel
 - Credible
 - Training tools for staff & clients
- Fits various expanded Rater business models
 - Rater as consultant contractors need help
 - Rater as home performance contractor





