

## **"The New RESNET Sampling Standard"**

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**Panel:**        **Ben Adams**, MaGrann Associates  
                  **Kathy Howard**, Energy Sense  
                  **C.T. Lloyd**, The Nelrod Company  
                  **Daran Wastchak**, D.R. Wastchak, LLC



### **Presentation Outline**

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- ☐ Background Information
- ☐ High-lights of New Sampling Standard:
  - 601 – General Provisions
  - 602 – Definitions
  - 603 – Technical Requirements
  - 604 – Accreditation for Providers
  - 605 – Accreditation Process
- ☐ Panel Discussion: "Challenges to Implementation"

## Background Information

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- ☐ Where sampling started/came from
- ☐ The great debate
- ☐ EPA Proposed Protocol
  - RESNET comments taken, not all adopted
  - Protocol published and in effect January 1, 2004
  - Requested that RESNET create and adopt an accreditation standard for Sampling Providers
- ☐ RESNET Sampling Task Force
  - January 2004 – “Sampling Provider Accreditation Standards Exploration Task Force” created (42 volunteer members)
  - March 2004 – “Sampling Standard Drafting Subcommittee” first meeting at RESNET Conference

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## Background Information

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- ☐ RESNET Sampling Task Force (cont'd)
  - April - November 2004 - Subcommittee held monthly-weekly teleconferences to discuss issues critical to new standard and the framework for the new standard
  - January 2005 – “Issues Paper” + “Proposed Framework” Submitted to EPA for comment
  - June 2005 – Subcommittee approves Draft Standard
  - July 2005 – Full Task Force approves Drafts Standard
  - January 2006 – Board approves Draft Standard
  - Feb – March 3, 2006 – Public Review & Comment

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## What's Left

- ❑ Remaining Steps:
  - Task Force consideration of Public Comments
  - Final changes to Standard
  - Final Vote of Task Force and Board
  - July 1, 2006 - New Standard goes into effect
- RESNET Accreditation of Sampling Providers/Raters
  - ❑ Form "Sampling Accreditation Review Committee"
  - ❑ Develop "Sampling Provider/Rater" test
  - ❑ Develop an "Accreditation Application" for Sampling Providers
  - ❑ Begin reviewing "Applications" for approval
- RESNET QA Committee to develop QA procedures specifically for Sampling Providers

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## High-lights of New Standard

- ❑ 601 – General Provisions
  - 601.1 – Purpose
    - ❑ Certification via the Sampling Standard does not constitute a "confirmed" rating
    - ❑ HERS Index can be assigned, but must be the same for each home plan and equal to the threshold specification determined from plans
- ❑ 602 – Definitions
- ❑ 603 – Technical Requirements
  - 603.1.2 – Homes eligible to be sampled
    - ❑ Homes of "same construction type using the same envelope systems"
    - ❑ Same set of trade contractors who have passed seven (7) consecutive homes

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## High-lights of New Standard

- ❑ 603 – Technical Requirements (cont'd)
  - 603.1.3 – Worst-case analysis of floor plans
  - 603.1.4 - Creating a "Sample Set" (i.e. "batch")
    - ❑ Homes to be sampled can be selected within the same subdivision or metropolitan area and climate zone
    - ❑ All "sampling controls" (i.e. tests and inspections) for a sample set must be completed within 30 days
  - 603.1.6.1
    - ❑ Sample controls must be completed at a minimum ratio of one (1) test or inspection per seven (7) homes.
    - ❑ Sample sets do not have to consist of the same homes at different stages of construction
  - 603.1.6.2 – Sampling controls can be completed collectively on a single home or distributed across several homes within a given sample set

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## High-lights of New Standard

- ❑ 603 – Technical Requirements (cont'd)
  - 603.1.6.3 – To start sampling, a builder must first complete seven (7) consecutive homes "without any incidence of failure."
  - 603.1.6.6 – "When an initial failure occurs, the failed item(s) shall be tested or inspected in two (2) additional homes"
  - 603.1.6.7 – "When an additional failure occurs, in one or more of the two (2) additional homes, the failed item(s) shall be tested or inspected in the remaining four (4) homes" in the sample set
  - 603.1.6.8 – "Until the failure is corrected in all identified (failed) homes in the sample set, none of the homes shall be deemed to meet the threshold or labeling criteria."

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## High-lights of New Standard

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### ❑ 603 – Technical Requirements (cont'd)

- 603.1.6.9 – A builder must re-qualify for sampling if:
  - ❑ There are three (3) “additional failures” within a three (3) month period, or
  - ❑ Homes in subdivision or metro area are no longer of the “same construction type using the same envelope systems” or they are not using the same set of trade contractors who have passed seven (7) consecutive homes.
- 603.1.6.10 – Builders and trade contractors who were sampling for Energy Star as of January 1, 2006 are given a one time exception to qualifying for the metropolitan area they were sampling in.

## High-lights of New Standard

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### ❑ 604 – Accreditation for Providers/Raters

- 604.1.1 – Must have completed a minimum of twenty (20) confirmed ratings
- 604.1.2 – Pass the RESNET sampling provider/rater test
- 604.1.3 – Carry minimum of \$1,000,000 in general and professional liability insurance
- 604.1.5 – “Ensure that the specifications for the minimum rated features for the rated homes be communicated to the personnel or trades responsible for completing the work.”
- 604.1.6 – “Builders choosing to rate homes using this sampling standard shall not rate their own homes.”

## High-lights of New Standard

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- ❑ 604 – Accreditation for Providers/Raters (cont'd)
  - 604.3 – Provider's Operation Policies and Procedures must be written and provide for the following:
    - ❑ 604.3.1 – How to keep track of homes that are part of the sampling process (including failures and re-inspections)
    - ❑ 604.3.2 – How to track blower door testing
    - ❑ 604.3.3 – How to track duct testing
    - ❑ 604.3.4 – Sampling Inspector discipline procedures
- ❑ 605 – Accreditation Process
  - 605.1.3 - Accreditation must be renewed annually
  - 605.3.1 – Application must be filed with the "Sampling Accreditation Review Committee"
  - 605.3.3 – Review and approval of Application takes forty-five (45) days

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## High-lights of New Standard

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- ❑ 606 – Renewal of Accreditation
- ❑ 607 – Suspension and Revocation of Accreditation
- ❑ 608 – Appeals Procedures For Application Not Being Approved, Suspension, or Revocation
- ❑ 609 – Revision of Accreditation Procedures

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## Panel Discussion

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### □ "Challenges to Implementation"

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- Daran Wastchak, D.R. Wastchak, LLC



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