

## The HVAC SAVE Program will save You Money

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The **HVAC SAVE** (System Adjustment & Verified Efficiency) is a regional HVAC Program developed by the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (MEEA). It was designed for midwest utilities, mostly in Iowa, Wisconsin, and Illinois, that offered rebates to homeowners who purchased and installed high efficiency furnaces, heat pumps, and air conditioners. These utilities discovered that often the higher efficiency equipment was underperforming because of poor installations by local HVAC (**H**eating, **V**entilation, **A**ir-**C**onditioning) contractors. So, the HVAC SAVE Program was created to ensure peak operating performance of heating and cooling equipment. HVAC SAVE Program trains HVAC contractors and equips them with a software diagnostic tool that allows them to measure efficiency in real time. This allows the contractor to make adjustments and fine tune the equipment in real time until peak performance is realized. This process, called commissioning, is rarely performed in the residential market (see our June 2013 Midtown Monitor article, <http://www.transductiontechnologies.com/article-4-home-performance-guild-of-nebraska.html>).

In Iowa in 2013, where the HVAC SAVE program was implemented by local utilities, data obtained by the utilities and MEEA showed that the average air conditioner installed was performing at 70% of the rated capacity. So a 5-ton installed air conditioner was performing as if it was a 3.5 ton air conditioner. But the homeowner still paid for the 5-ton air conditioner! However, the average air conditioners installed under the HVAC SAVE Program was performing at 96% rated capacity.

Furthermore, the HVAC SAVE Program actually measures delivered performance both at the equipment (furnace or air conditioner) and the registers or grille in at least 3 rooms. This enables you to isolate deficiencies between equipment and the duct work. This test can be run before and after tune-ups, service calls, or equipment replacements so you will know if the service call or replacement actually improved system performance or not.

Although Nebraska utilities have not yet implemented the HVAC SAVE Program, many Nebraskan HVAC contractors have already gone through the HVAC SAVE training. To find a HVAC SAVE contractor, click here: <http://www.hvacsave.com/homeowners/find-contractor> and request a HVAC SAVE Performance Tune-Up. To see an example of a HVAC performance test result, visit our website, [www.transductiontechnologies.com](http://www.transductiontechnologies.com) .