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[www.eswaterheaters.org](http://www.eswaterheaters.org)

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## **LEADING WATER HEATER COMPANIES SERVE AS PARTNERS IN THE COALITION FOR ENERGY STAR® WATER HEATERS**

*Companies Offer Several ENERGY STAR Model Options for a Variety of Needs to Distributors, Wholesalers, and Consumers*

**BOSTON, MA. (May 28, 2009)** – Four leading water heater manufacturers—Bradford White Water Heaters, Rheem Water Heating, Rinnai America Corporation, and A. O. Smith Water Heaters —have joined forces with the Consortium for Energy Efficiency (CEE) to become part of the Coalition for ENERGY STAR® Water Heaters.

Beginning January 1, 2009, manufacturers were allowed to apply the ENERGY STAR mark for the first time to their qualifying models. For a gas-fired water heater to be eligible for ENERGY STAR, it must have a minimum energy factor (EF) of 0.62 for storage water heaters, a minimum EF of 0.80 for condensing storage water heaters, or a minimum EF of 0.82 for tankless water heaters. The ENERGY STAR criteria for gas-fired storage water heaters will increase to 0.67 on Sept. 1, 2010. Criteria have also been established for heat pump water heaters and solar water heating systems.

To increase awareness of ENERGY STAR water heaters and demand in the market by reaching out to all points on the distribution system, CEE formed the Coalition for ENERGY STAR Water Heaters. The group is comprised of industry associations, efficiency program administrators and water heater manufacturers who are among those offering a variety of ENERGY STAR models.

ENERGY STAR models will continue to advance energy efficiency and will help reduce energy consumption and save money through reduced utility bills. Water heating is typically the second largest home energy expenditure behind heating and cooling. Because it can account for as

much as 15 to 17 percent of overall energy use in an average household, switching to an ENERGY STAR water heater can provide homeowners with significant savings.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy projections, Americans using ENERGY STAR qualified water heaters are expected to save approximately \$780 million in utility costs while avoiding 4.2 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions after the first five years of the ENERGY STAR program. For more information on the Coalition for ENERGY STAR Water Heaters, please visit [www.eswaterheaters.com](http://www.eswaterheaters.com).

**About CEE:**

CEE is a consortium of efficiency program administrators from across the U.S. and Canada who work together on common approaches to advancing efficiency. Through joining forces, the individual efficiency programs of CEE are able to partner not only with each other, but also with other industries, trade associations, and government agencies. By working together at CEE, administrators leverage the effect of their funding dollars, exchange information on effective practices and, by doing so, achieve greater energy efficiency for the public good. For more information, please visit [www.cee1.org](http://www.cee1.org).

**About ENERGY STAR:**

ENERGY STAR is a joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy helping us all save money and protect the environment through energy efficient products and practices. Today, the ENERGY STAR label can be found on more than 50 different kinds of products, new homes, and commercial and industrial buildings. Products and buildings that have earned the ENERGY STAR designation prevent greenhouse gas emissions by meeting strict energy efficiency specifications set by the government. In 2007 alone, Americans, with the help of the ENERGY STAR program, saved about \$16 billion on their energy bills while reducing the greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to those of 27 million vehicles.

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