



**Uniform Energy Factor (UEF) Transition
Notification as of June 12, 2017**

On June 12, 2017, the water heater industry was required by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to transition from the well-known Energy Factor (EF) metric for water heater efficiency to an entirely new metric called Uniform Energy Factor, or UEF. In addition to the change from EF to UEF, manufacturers are required to use an entirely new First Hour Rating (FHR) test procedure. While the name of the metric remains the same (FHR), the resultant values will likely be different from the previous FHR values for the same models due to the new test procedures.

These changes affect almost all residential water heaters, and some commercial water heaters. The commercial water heaters included in this rulemaking are now called “Residential Duty Commercial” water heaters. Previously, these Residential Duty Commercial heaters would have commonly been called “Light Duty” or “Medium Duty” commercial water heaters, and would have been subject to minimum Thermal Efficiency (TE) and maximum Standby Loss (SBL) certification and labeling requirements. Those that fall within the input ranges in Table 1 below are now required to meet the minimum UEF and list the FHR (the same requirements as residential water heaters).

Table 1. Models Now Required to be Labeled in Terms of UEF.

Product Type	Fuel Type	Input Range
Storage	Gas	105,000 Btu/hr and less
Storage	Electric	12 kW and less*
Storage	Oil	140,000 Btu/hr and less
Instantaneous	Gas	200,000 Btu/hr and less
Instantaneous	Electric	58.6 kW and less
Instantaneous	Oil	210,000 Btu/hr and less

*NOTE: Models currently classified as Light Duty, Medium Duty, and Heavy Duty Commercial Electric models below these limits can continue to be sold and rated as is until December 31, 2017.

We understand that these new metrics may cause confusion and generate questions, so Bradford White has supported the water heating industry’s efforts to work with the DOE on additional resources that will be available for all to use regarding these changes. These resources are expected to provide additional details on the changes to the new metrics, UEF and FHR, and provide consistent answers to questions you may receive from your customers and staff. We will advise you as soon as DOE makes these resources available.

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In the meantime, you will notice that literature (specification sheets, pocket catalogs, etc.); our website; the AHRI directory; the FTC Energy Guide affixed to these water heaters; etc. will all be updated to reflect the new UEF and FHR metrics.

Again, this is an industry wide change that affects all manufacturers. Perhaps most importantly, ***any products labeled in terms of the old metrics can still be sold as you normally would, with no additional action on your part. Light Duty, Medium Duty, and Heavy Duty Commercial Electric models below the limits noted in the chart above will continue to be rated in terms of SBL until December 31, 2017.***

Should you have any questions regarding this change, please contact your Sales Representative or your Regional Sales Manager.

Regards,



Eric Truskoski
Director of Government and Regulatory Affairs