

Centex Energy Advantage Fact Sheet

Overview

A suite of energy-efficient features installed as standard in all new Centex homes nationwide.

Centex is the first national homebuilder to announce it will install an **energy monitor** in every home, enabling homeowners to play an active role in measuring and controlling their energy consumption.

Energy Efficiency

Centex Energy Advantage homes in the study demonstrated an improvement in energy efficiency of up to 22 percent over comparable homes built to the most widely used energy efficiency code (the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code), and up to 40 percent more energy efficient than the typical 10-year-old home (as defined by the U.S. Department of Energy's Building America program).¹

Additionally, homeowners who actively use energy monitors to reduce energy usage can reduce their electricity usage by 4–15 percent, based upon published studies reviewed by the NAHB Research Center.

The Centex Energy Advantage could also result in significant reduction in the carbon footprint of each house built, according to the NAHB Research Center:²

- Each Centex Energy Advantage home will produce 1.78 fewer metric tons of carbon per year than a comparable home built to 2006 IECC standards.
- If the same amount of carbon were released, it would be roughly equivalent to: greenhouse gas emissions from a passenger vehicle for four months; CO₂ emissions from 183 gallons of gasoline consumed; annual carbon absorption by more than one-third acre of pine or fir forest

Features³

- Energy monitor
- Whirlpool or KitchenAid brand ENERGY STAR® qualified appliances
- Lennox high-efficiency HVAC system⁴
- Honeywell programmable thermostat(s)
- Low-emissivity windows
- Radiant-barrier roof decking⁵
- R-38, R-40 or R-60 insulation (varies by climate zone)
- Compact fluorescent lights in high traffic areas
- Instructions for operating the home to maximize efficiency and minimize wasteful use of resources

About the Study

Centex retained the NAHB Research Center to evaluate the energy efficiency gains attributable to the features included in the Centex Energy Advantage package and to relate those efficiency gains to potential decreases in greenhouse gas emissions. Additionally, the NAHB Research Center reviewed and summarized existing research on the energy-saving potential of energy monitoring devices. The research on the Centex Energy Advantage features compared a representative sample of Centex floor plans constructed in various climate zones against two established benchmarks of residential energy efficiency using the Energy Gauge USA software model. The analysis compared Energy Advantage homes against reference houses built to the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code (the most current standards available) and the U.S. Department of Energy's Building America Benchmark, which is representative of homes built in the late 1990's. The analysis of potential reductions in greenhouse gases attributable to Energy Advantage features was calculated using conversion tables provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The review of existing research on the energy-saving potential of energy monitors included 21 studies conducted in the United States, Canada and Europe over the past 29 years. The NAHB Research Center is an ANSI-accredited research facility located in Upper Marlboro, Md. More information is available at www.nahbrc.org.

Timing

Energy Advantage features will be incorporated into all new Centex homes built nationwide by January 2009.

About Centex

Dallas-based Centex Corporation, founded in 1950, is one of the nation's leading home building companies. Its homes are marketed and sold under the trade names Centex, Centex Homes, Fox & Jacobs Homes and CityHomes. Centex also offers mortgage, title and insurance services through its subsidiaries. Centex has ranked among the top three builders on *FORTUNE* magazine's list of "America's Most Admired Companies" for nine straight years and is a leader in quality and customer satisfaction.

NOTES:

¹ This study evaluated the energy efficiency gains attributable to the Centex Energy Advantage features in a variety of single-family floor plans typical of the Centex product line in the climate zones where the Company currently operates. Not all floor plans, building materials or construction techniques were evaluated in the study. Efficiency gains will vary for other plan types, building materials, construction techniques and change of climate zone.

² These examples represent an average across the entire Centex portfolio. Calculations are based on NAHB Research Center estimated efficiency of 1.78 metric tons of CO₂ per home equipped with Centex Energy Advantage features, as determined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's "Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator" (see www.epa.gov).

³ The Centex Energy Advantage will be supplemented³ or otherwise adjusted as required by state and local codes. In several markets, Centex is currently building homes with components that exceed the combined efficiencies provided by the Centex Energy Advantage.

⁴ 14-SEER air conditioning or 90-percent AFUE furnace, depending upon climate zone. SEER is "seasonal energy efficiency ratio," a measure of seasonal or annual efficiency of a central air conditioner or air-conditioning heat pump that is the average BTUs of cooling delivered for every watt-hour of electricity used by the heat pump over a cooling season. AFUE is "annual fuel utilization efficiency," a measure of average combustion efficiency in a furnace or heating unit.

⁵ By climate zone, as indicated by ENERGY STAR requirements.