

Midwest Collaborative: Contractor Resource Hub



Introduction

This resource hub was originally created by the late Dan Wildenhaus, who dedicated his career to advancing contractor education and homeowner awareness around high-efficiency technologies. Dan's vision was to provide a trusted, annually updated collection of the "latest and greatest" tools to help contractors amplify their impact; whether working directly with homeowners, training peers, or sharing knowledge across the industry. In honoring his legacy, this resource hub continues to serve as a bridge between cutting-edge technical guidance and the real-world needs of contractors and homeowners alike.

How to Use These Resources

These curated resources are designed to be practical, shareable tools for both contractors and homeowners. Each document offers clear guidance on specific aspects of heat pump technology, from system design and controls to weatherization and duct retrofits. Contractors can use the technical guides to strengthen their installations, inform project decisions, and support peer-to-peer training. At the same time, homeowner-facing resources can be shared directly with customers to help them understand their system, adopt best practices for operation and maintenance, and feel confident in the long-term value of their investment.

By using and sharing these resources, contractors can not only deliver better installs but also build trust and long-term relationships with homeowners.



**MIDWEST
COLLABORATIVE**

Consortium for Energy Efficiency ASHP Education and Guidance Project Resources

Homeowner Resources:

[Weatherization for Homeowners](#)

In this resource for residents considering weatherization or lowering their loads, the concepts of improved comfort and better sizing of heat pumps when a home is also weatherized are dove into. This is a companion piece to the Weatherization for Contractors document. In this homeowner version, the resource looks into comfort, right sizing, energy audits/assessments, air sealing, insulation, windows and doors, and the savings potential for performing weatherization.

[Controls for a Heat Pump with Secondary Heating](#)

In this 2-pager, the resource will cover how two-system controls work and when they should be installed (this means an integrated control process for multiple systems). Standard control strategies, aligning with homeowner priorities, and questions to talk about with your contractor are all covered.

Contractor Resources:

[System Design with Existing Heating](#)

This resource covers partial vs full load applications, benefits of a heat pump in partial load applications, applicable control strategies, calculating economic switchover temperatures, running multiple systems, and the potential for savings even with a partial load system.

[Weatherization for Contractors](#)

This 4-page resource covers the benefits for weatherization as part of the heat pump install or sizing, when to prioritize certain weatherization measures, the basics of weatherization, and potential savings and rebates for weatherization.

[Controls for a Heat Pumps with Secondary Heating](#)

This resource addresses the same homeowner topic but directed towards contractors. This covers, what two-system controls are and how they work, when they should be installed, strategies and approaches, thermostat controls/options, balance points and switchover temperatures.

[Duct Retrofit Decision Guide](#)

This robust guide provides a somewhat comprehensive guide designed to assist contractors in evaluating and testing the longevity and compatibility of a duct system with a heat pump setup. This decision guide will help to determine if ductwork is acceptable to use, needs modification, or should be replaced or abandoned.

[ASHP Decision Matrix and System Design Guide](#)

In this 6-page design guide, contractors will walk through key decisions and determine how they impact overall system design. This includes determining if a partial system or whole-home system makes the most sense, the potential for savings, when to replace a legacy system, choosing ductless vs ducted systems, system layout, and overall sizing and design.

[ComEd's Contractor Resources on GoElectric.ComEd.com](#)

[ComEd's Switchover Temperature Guide](#)

This resource for contractors takes a deep dive into the considerations and options for calculating an effective switchover temperature for a dual fuel air source heat pump installation. In this guide, the design has been to provide options and opportunities that align with contractor's experience and business models. In this resource, the recommended practices for calculating switchover temperatures are assessed and presented as Recommended Practices for participating contractors.

[ComEd's Controls Guide](#)

The controls guide is designed to provide options and opportunities that align with a contractor's experience and business models when it comes to offering a controls solutions, best practices for selection, install, and set up; and finally communicating strategies and settings to homeowners.