



HOT TOPICS & COOL SOLUTIONS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM YOUR LINC SERVICE CONTRACTOR

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[How Well Does Your Building Perform?](#)

[EPA Announces U.S. Cities With The Most Energy Star Certified Buildings](#)

DID YOU KNOW?



Energy Benchmarking can save 40-60% In energy costs each year.

Source: [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#)

MARKET TRENDS



Energy Star Labeled Buildings

[Click here](#) to view a larger image of this graph.

Dear Lisa,

Do you know how much you are spending on energy today? Did you know you could be spending twice as much on your utility bills as a similar building of the same size and occupancy? With the EPA's announcement of the U.S. Cities with the most ENERGY STAR certified buildings, this month's topic is Energy Benchmarking and how [BMI Mechanical, Inc.](#) can reduce your operating costs. We hope you find the April edition of *Hot Topics & Cool Solutions* beneficial!

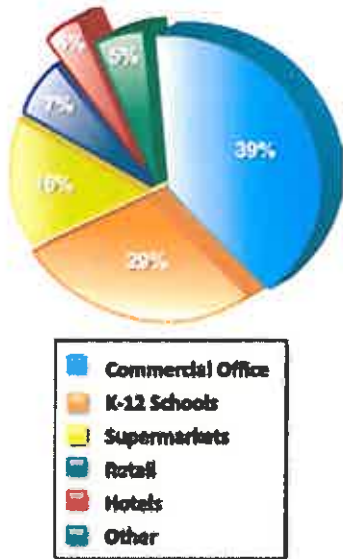
HOW WELL DOES YOUR BUILDING PERFORM?



If opportunities could be identified to immediately reduce your operating costs and improve cash flow, would you be interested in learning more? Energy Benchmarking compares your building's energy usage and cost to that of a similar building with comparable usage in a

related climate.

The most well known, well used mechanism for measuring energy benchmarking is the EPA's Energy Star Energy Performance Rating. The software application allows users to identify facility operating costs that are too high by running a comparison and generating a score or a report. Energy performance is rated on a scale of 1- 100 relative to similar buildings from a national survey conducted by the



Energy Efficiency = Cost Savings

More than 12,600 buildings across America have earned the EPA's Energy Star certification as of the end of 2010. With a few simple steps, energy performance and operating costs can dramatically improve, leaving additional capital to invest in further property improvement. In addition to delivering financial savings, cost reductions through energy efficiency translate into greater profitability for owners.

Source: [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](http://www.epa.gov)

Q & A

QUESTION: What is the process for obtaining an Energy Star certification on commercial buildings?

ANSWER: [BMI Mechanical, Inc.](http://www.bmi-mechanical.com) offers best-in-class services and customized programs that can fit most of your HVAC maintenance needs. They'll work with you to outline the scope of work that best fits your building's maintenance requirements, and provide you with the most energy-efficient products and services. Set up an appointment today to learn more about how they can potentially assist you in receiving

Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration. This national survey, known as the [Commercial Building Energy Consumption Survey \(CBECS\)](#), is conducted every four years and gathers data on characteristics and energy use from thousands of buildings across the U.S. Buildings with similar operating characteristics are compared in the CBECS survey. For example, a rating of 50 indicates that the building, from an energy consumption standpoint, performs better than 50% of all similar buildings nationwide. Buildings rating 75 or greater may qualify for the Energy Star label. The difference in savings on average in the 25th to 75th percentile is \$1.50 per square foot.

To find out how well your building performs and how we can help you reduce your operating costs, contact [BMI Mechanical, Inc.](http://www.bmi-mechanical.com)

EPA ANNOUNCES U.S. CITIES WITH THE MOST ENERGY STAR CERTIFIED BUILDINGS

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is releasing its third annual list of U.S. metropolitan areas



with the greatest number of energy-efficient buildings that earned EPA's Energy Star certification in 2010. The list of 25 cities is headed by Los Angeles; Washington, D.C.; San Francisco; Chicago; New York; Atlanta; Houston; Sacramento; Detroit; and Dallas-Fort Worth. The growth in Energy Star certified buildings across the country has prevented greenhouse gas emissions equal to the emissions from the energy use of nearly 1.3 million homes a year, protecting people's health, while saving more than \$1.9 billion.

"When it's more important than ever to cut energy costs and reduce pollution in our communities, organizations across America are making their buildings more efficient, raising the bar in energy efficiency and lowering the amount of carbon pollution and other emissions in the air we breathe," said EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson.

"Through their partnership with Energy Star, metropolitan areas across the U.S. are saving a combined \$1.9 billion in energy costs every year while developing new ways to shrink energy bills and keep our air clean."

In 2010 more than 6,200 commercial buildings earned the

Energy Star certification for your building.

Energy Star, an increase of nearly 60 percent compared to 2009. Since EPA awarded the first Energy Star to a building in 1999, more than 12,600 buildings across America have earned the Energy Star as of the end of 2010.



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[Click here](#) for more information about earning the Energy Star for commercial buildings.

