

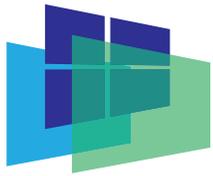
Window attachments represent a significant and untapped energy savings opportunity. About 30% of a home’s heating energy is lost through its windows, according to energy.gov. However, window attachments offer a cost-effective way to upgrade their performance. The Attachments Energy Rating Council (AERC) provides third-party ratings and certifications for the energy performance of residential and commercial window attachments including:

- Interior shades & blinds
- Secondary & storm windows
- Exterior shades, shutters & awnings

AERC’s product ratings are the result of a robust four-step process developed by Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and AERC members:

1) <b>Testing</b> of solar heat reflectance, insulation properties, and in some cases air leakage, along with other material characteristics	2) <b>Simulation</b> of performance ratings with a baseline window, including U-factor, Solar Heat Gain Coefficient, Visible Transmittance, and Air Leakage	3) Independent third-party validation and <b>certification</b> of simulation results	4) <b>Labeling</b> of tested and certified products
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AERC ratings measure the additional energy benefit that the product provides when installed in a typical home or building. The ratings cover both warm and cool climates, guiding consumers on ways to reduce HVAC loads while maintaining comfort. Rated and certified products are affixed with a consumer-facing label and listed on a publicly available **certified products website**, allowing both consumers and utilities to differentiate products based on their energy performance and identify the product that works best for them. AERC provides the latest information on energy savings, product lifetime, target market, and relevant research for each of these product categories at <http://aercenergyrating.org/available-products/>.



Attachments Energy Rating Council

# AERC

**Energy Rated. Added Comfort.**

## Energy Savings Opportunity

AERC ratings offer utilities the opportunity to add window attachments to their program portfolios and provide rebates to residential and commercial customers, including homeowners, architects, and building owners and managers. AERC-rated products are already available in big box retailers, such as Lowe's, and specialty dealers.

A number of AERC utility partners have implemented pilot programs and incentives that incorporate products certified by AERC to meet their sustainability and energy-efficiency targets including Efficiency Vermont, Focus on Energy Wisconsin, and Xcel Energy. More information on these programs and others in AERC's growing program pipeline can be found at

<https://aercenergyrating.org/pilots-and-programs/>.

## Membership Benefits

AERC offers utilities a number of services:

- Expertise in setting up energy savings measures, pilots, and programs.
- Invitation-only access to national events in Spring and Fall with interactive sessions featuring thought leadership opportunities and discussions, as well as the latest research and industry developments.
- Robust discussions with research, industry, and public-interest leaders that shape program development, AERC ratings and labels, and future priorities.
- Access to AERC technical documents and technical specifications relevant to window attachment products and energy rating research.
- Excellent networking opportunities with energy experts from government, product development, and marketing organizations.

Contact us at [info@aercnet.org](mailto:info@aercnet.org) or visit <https://aercnet.org/membership/> to learn more.

## About AERC

Established in 2014, the **Attachments Energy Rating Council** represents a cooperative research effort. Key partners include:

- The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), which sponsored the program development;
- Utility companies conducting pilot studies and incentive programs;
- Leading manufacturers who are developing new products and components; and
- National and international public-interest and research organizations contributing advocacy and deep technical expertise.

To date, this collaboration has resulted in groundbreaking industry-accepted energy performance standards and test methods, valuable simulation studies and field-demonstrated energy savings, and successful utility program designs that can be leveraged across the country. **Its goal? Reduce energy consumption in homes and buildings, while also enhancing their comfort.**

It is the AERC's mission to rate, label, and certify the energy performance of window attachment products in order to provide consumers and decision makers with credible, relevant, and comparable information.