## HVAC Sensors, Controls, and Human Feedback Interfaces

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### Heating And Cooling Consume Almost Half of Total Residential Energy



One way to reduce residential HVAC energy consumption is by increasing System Design Efficiency

> Cooling Energy Cost Relative to 10 SEER





#### Studies Show 50-73% of Residential HVAC Installations Have Problems, Reducing Efficiency by 30-50%



#### The Value Proposition Is Multidimensional



## **P&T Sensing for Charge Indication**

To charge the system, the technician is supposed to ...

- 1. Measure liquid line pressure
- 2. Read corresponding saturation temperature from table
- 3. Measure liquid line temperature





**Degree of Subcooling = Saturation Temp. – Liquid Line Temp.** 

Some technicians don't know, some don't care

The result is a miss-charged system



#### **Emerson's Charge Indication Solution Automates Decision Taking**



Refrigerant Table and OEM Target Subcooling Table

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### Charge Indication Is Valuable To The Homeowner And Technician

- Shows if the system is properly charged with refrigerant
- Helps technicians during installation of the outdoor unit and during maintenance
- Ongoing indicator for homeowners
- Allows the technician to show homeowner he did a good job
- Requires adding pressure transducer to the system



## **Electronics Make For Better Use Of Sensors**

Emerson's 'Unitary Control' and 'Comfort Alert' provide diagnostics and protection for outdoor units

#### First Use of Compressor-As-A-Sensor

- Control
  - Compressor single or two stage
  - Defrost time temp or demand
- Diagnostics
  - Low / hi side pressure
  - Open start / run
  - Welded contactor
  - Locked rotor
  - Internal protector trip
  - Short cycle

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Current Transformers (Compressor start & run)



Local Display

(status/faults)

#### What Could Be Done With 2 Current Transformers And A Control Board

Fault	Action	Feedback		
		Tstat Display	Tstat Menu	Contractor
Short cycling			Fault code & message	Fault recall
Pressure switch trip	Compr. & fan off			
Low Voltage	Low stage			
Compressor protector trip		For ice"		
Locked rotor	Lockout	"Call Serv		
Open start/run	Lockout			



## Motor-As-A-Sensor: Provides System Data & Value Through Motor Sensing Technologies

- Airflow Verification
  - Can provide verification that airflow is within QI standard
    - between 85 to 115%
- Clogged Filter & Frozen Coil
  - Can determine when system performance is down due to cogged filter or frozen coil



Provide Real Time Performance Monitoring, Operational Status & Diagnostics





#### **Prognostic Capabilities of Smart HVAC Systems**





### Smart HVAC Systems – Automation Provides Efficient Solutions





# Smart HVAC Systems – User Friendly Access to Performance Information

Good

Change

- Recognize components on the network, no DIP switch settings
- Remote access is possible
- Sensor & diagnostic information distributed through the system
- Simple display for homeowner and detailed display for the contractor



High



Low

## Smart HVAC Systems are the Enabling Foundation to Integrated Solutions



## **Conclusions**

- A lot of value can be delivered from common sensors if electronics are used to diagnose and protect the system
- Component manufacturers can leverage their components as sensors
- Communications (between components and to the outside of the system) allow for better use of system information and better performing systems
- The way the information is utilized can affect market acceptance to the solution

