

Why Us?



#### WE ARE PROBLEM SOLVERS

We provide quality solutions to drive our partners' success.



### WE INCREASE CONTRACTOR EFFICIENCY

We offer unique services to support our partners' needs.



#### WE TEACH THE INDUSTRY

We lead in-person and virtual trainings to enhance technical & business expertise.

# BASE SOLUTIONS

The home base for Chicagoland's HVAC contractors



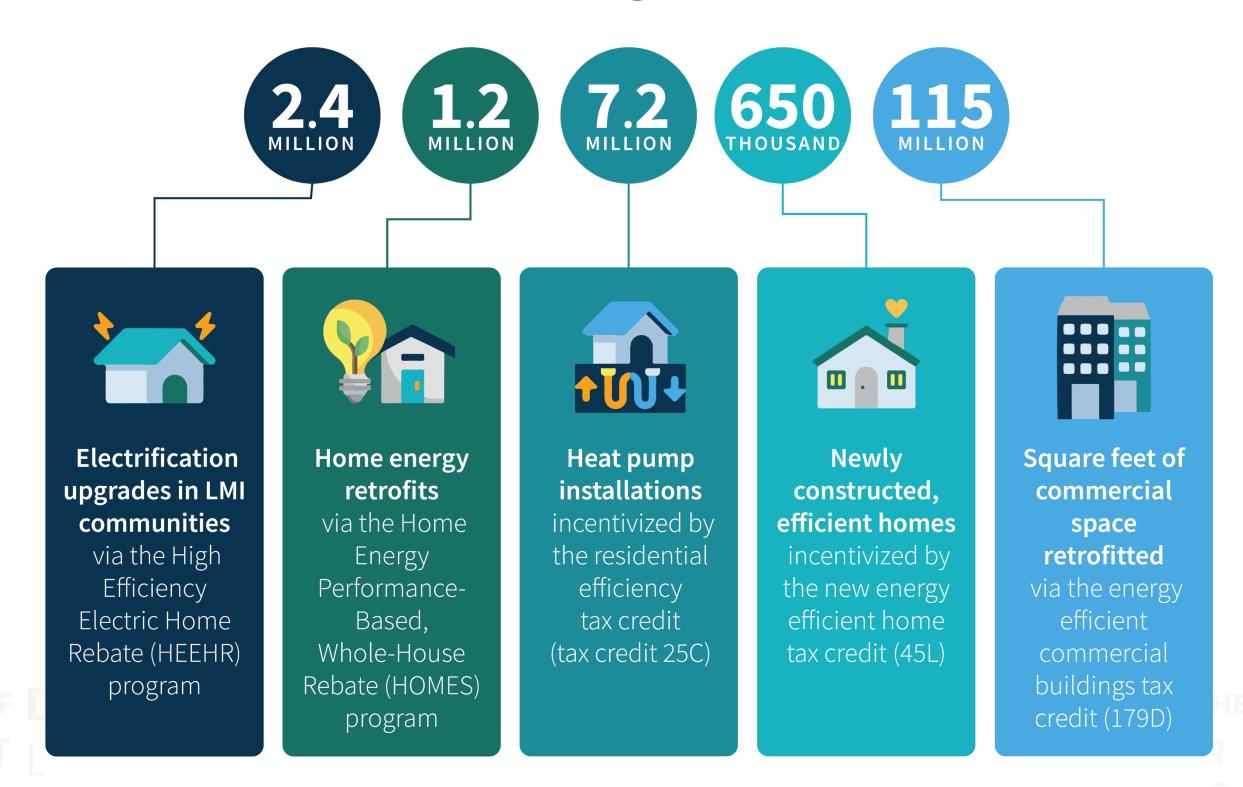
Regulatory SEER-ies *November 2023* 

## Agenda

- 1 Regulatory Programs
- 2 Inflation Reduction Act updates
- **Developments with the AIM Act and A2L Refrigerants**



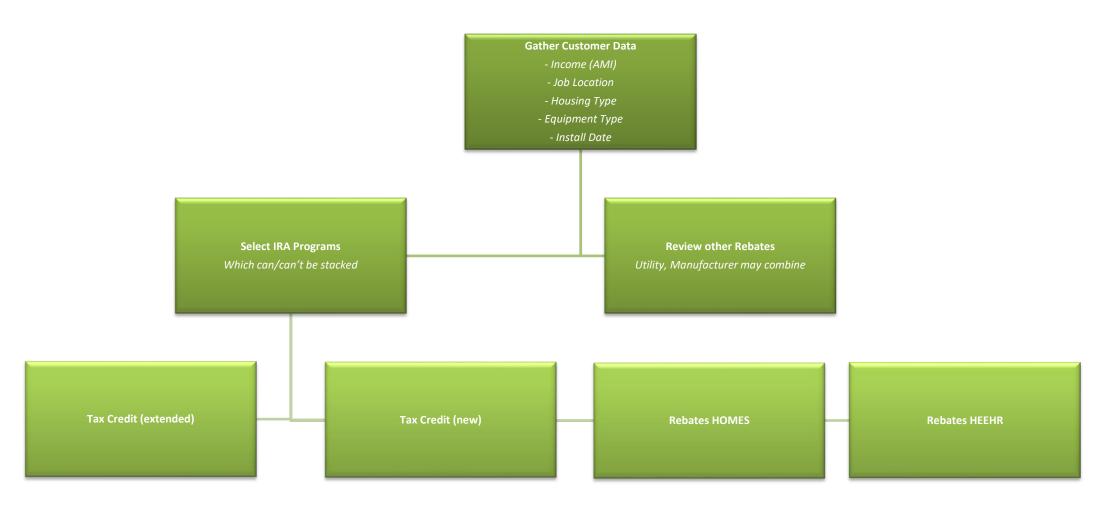
## IRA could transform the buildings sector:





## **Regulatory Update**

#### **Know Your Programs**



### **Select Qualified Equipment**

- Requires CEE
- Requires ENERGY STAR
- State Energy Office required
- Local utility specifications
- AC, HP, Furnace, Geo



#### **Example of Combining Programs**

| Outdoor   | Indoor      | Furnace        | ComEd Rebate | 25C Credit | Consumer Rebate | Spiff | Consumer Savings |
|-----------|-------------|----------------|--------------|------------|-----------------|-------|------------------|
| HMH72B341 | XAFC36DBCN1 | YP9C080C16MP13 | \$1,400      | \$2,600    | \$450           | \$70  | \$4,450          |

- Doesn't include the HEEHR
  - Use either that or 25C



#### **State & Territory Home Rebate Allocations**

| Alaska         | \$75 M    | Indiana        | \$182 M  | New Jersey     | \$183 M            |
|----------------|-----------|----------------|----------|----------------|--------------------|
| Alabama        | \$146 M   | Kansas         | \$106 M  | New Mexico     | \$88 M             |
| - Arkanisas    | \$105-M-  | Kentucky       | \$134 M  | New York       | \$318 M            |
| American Samoa | \$50 M    | Louisiana      | \$213 M  | Ohio           | \$249 M            |
| Arizona        | \$153 M   | Massachusetts  | \$146 M  | Oklahoma       | \$129 M            |
| California     | \$582 M   | Maryland       | \$137 M  | Oregon         | \$114 M            |
| Colorado       | \$140 M   | Maine          | \$72 M   | Pennsylvania   | \$259 M            |
| Connecticut    | \$99 M    | Michigan       | \$211 M  | Puerto Rico    | \$85 M             |
| District of    | \$59 M    | Minnesota      | \$148 M  | Rhode Island   | \$64 M             |
| Columbia       |           | Missouri       | \$151 M  | South Carolina | \$137 M            |
| Delaware       | \$66 M    | Northern       | \$50 M   | -South-Dakota  | \$ <del>69</del> M |
| Florida        | \$346-M   | Marianas       | \$20 IVI | Tennessee      | \$167 M            |
| Georgia        | \$219 M   | Mississippi    | \$105 M  | Texas          | \$690 M            |
| Guam           | \$51 M    | Montana        | \$71 M   | Utah           | \$101 M            |
| Hawaii         | \$68 M    | North Carolina | \$209 M  | Virginia       | \$189 M            |
| -towa          | \$121 M - | North Dakota   | \$74 M   | U.S. Virgin    |                    |
| Idaho          | \$81 M    | Nebraska       | \$91 M   | Islands        | \$51 M             |
| Illinois       | \$264 M   | New Hampshire  | \$70 M   | Vermont        | \$59 M             |

#### **Key Factors:**

- Thirty states submitted applications
- States won't received funding all at once in waves
- States declining to accept IRA rebate funds Florida formally vetoed
- Each state energy office to administer
  - State does income validation



Residential Programs (HEEHR) & HOMES



#### **High Efficiency Electric Home Rebate (HEEHR)**

- HVAC Energy Star 5/6.1
- Both SEER & SEER2
- Electric HPs up to \$8,000
  - AMI Income Limits
  - 100% < 80% AMI
- 50% for 80-150% AMI
  - 0% > 150% AMI
- Max limit = \$14,00/unit
- Point-of-Sale Rebates

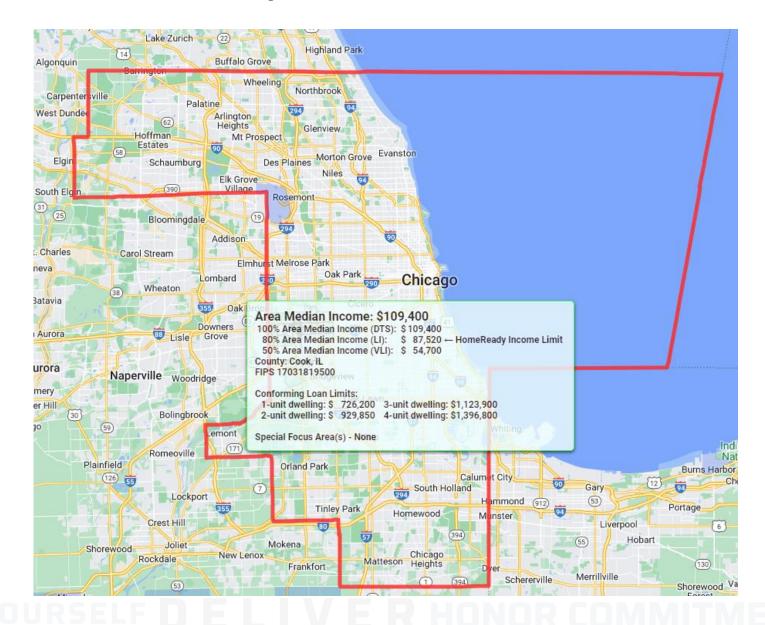


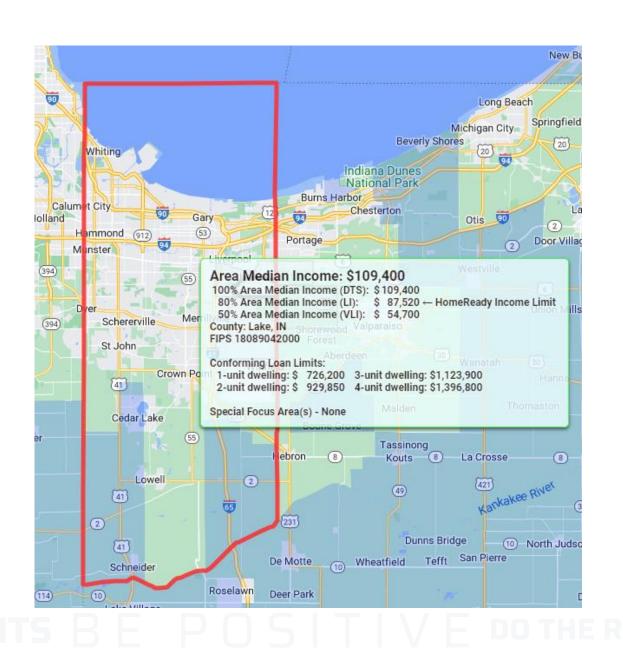
#### Home Owners Managing Energy Savings (HOMES)

- HVAC Energy Star 5/6.1
- A certificate of savings and retrofits must be provided by an approved entity (maybe Pearl, Energy Star)
  - Savings = 20-35% is \$2,000/50% of project cost
  - Savings > 35% is \$4,000/50% of project cost
    - If AMI < 80%, open to all
  - Includes windows, doors, HVAC, insulation, etc.
    - Multi-family work in scope



#### **AMI for BASE territory area**







**Executing IRA \$\$\$s - HEEHR** 

Point-of-Sale (POS) rebate

Homeowner goes to site, puts to pre qualify for coupon

Site contains approved list of contractors

Homeowner gives coupon to contractor

Dealer applies
coupon to
cover the
system (cost
or balance)

Dealer is reimbursed - PENDING

#### **Notes:**

- Rebates are ENERGY STAR
- OEMs scrambling for ENERGY STAR certification again



#### **Use Best Practices to Prepare**

- Offer 25C eligible systems
  - 15.2 SEER2 heat pumps
  - 16 SEER2 AC units
  - 97% efficient furnaces
- Explain to homeowner:
  - These systems will reduce your taxes (if you pay taxes)
  - "Only you or your tax professional will be able to know for sure what your tax credit could be, but given the system that was quoted, it could be up to \$2,000 or \$2,600"
- Have a card for a local tax professional in your area for customers
- Be sure your 25C AFUE/SEER2/HSPF2 ratings & AHRI numbers are on your invoices to make claiming easy



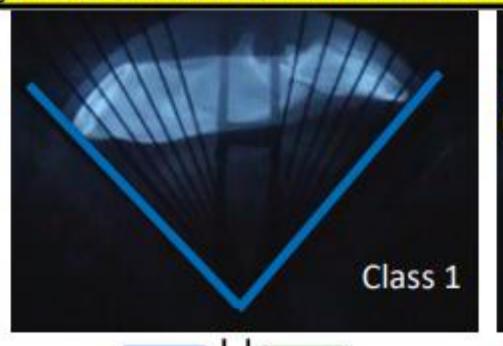
#### How flammable is mildly flammable?

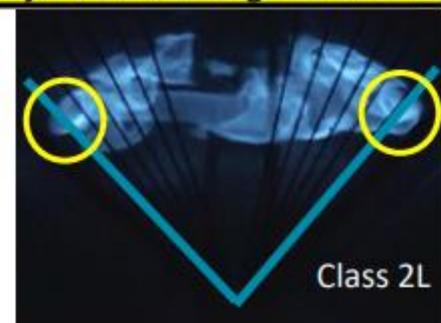
- Flame spread >90° indicates flammability
- The spread beyond 90°, as well as the speed at which the flame spreads defines the degrees of flammability
  - 2L lower flammability
  - 2 flammable
  - 3 higher flammability

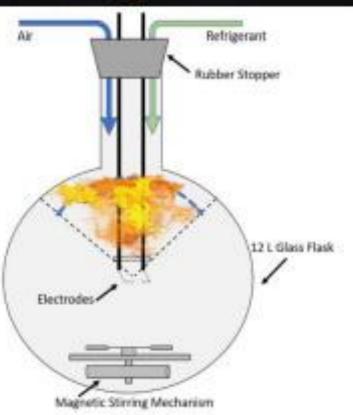
**NOTE:** Refrigerant propane is ~1.55 times heavier than air and has no stench.

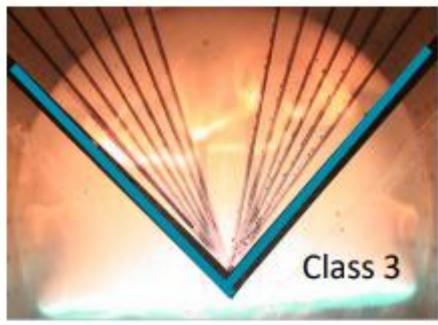


Cigarettes, toasters, static electricity not able to ignite A2Ls









#### American Innovation & Manufacturing (AIM) Act Multiple Parts

### Bulk Phase Down thru 2036

- Bulk phasedown & allocation for "virgin" HFCs
- Not just R-410A

### Technology Transitions

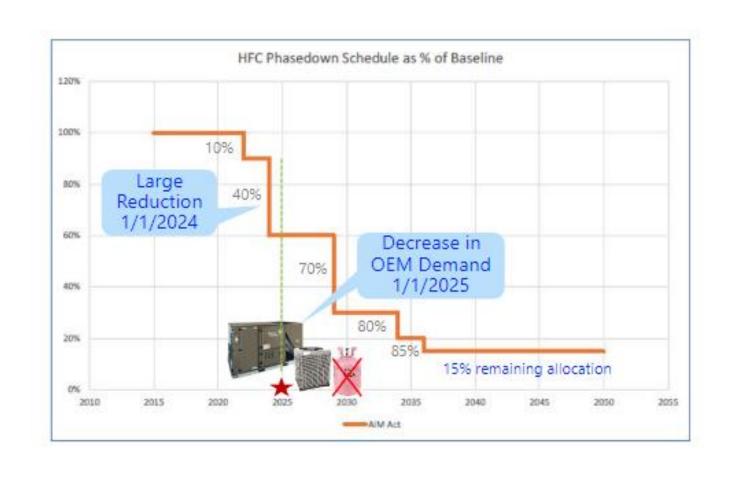
- Equipment bans for production of new equipment
- Proposed sell through
- Not final

## Refrigerant Management

- Recover, reclaim & licensing mandates
- Not final



#### **AIM Act Phase-Down**



#### **Main Components**

- Availability of HFCs, like R-410A and R-134a will decrease and price will increase
- 2024 will be volatile as OEMs and service competing for less virgin gas
- No drop in for R-410A like there was for R-22
- Reclaim refrigerants will be needed to fill the virgin gaps



Note: JCI will begin shipping R-454B ducted equipment in early 2024

**AIM Act Technology Transition** 

**Controversy Regarding Sell-Through** 

- 1/1/2025 < 700 GWP, ducted/ductless
- 1/1/2026 < 700 GWP, VRF
- New production prohibition; no impact on installed base
- Major issue preventing new split system installs > 700 GWP beginning 1/1/2025
- HFC parts and components (compressors, valves, heat exchangers) for repair/retrofit can be manufactured and exported/sold past 1/1/2025



#### **AIM Act Technology Transition**





As of 1/1/2025 (R-410A Self-Contained Systems)



#### **Proposed "Date of Installation"**

- Retrofits of existing systems allowed but NOT complete system installs
- 3-year sell through allowed for self-contained systems
- Indefinite R-410A loophole
- Furnaces not part of the rule



Commercial & Residential **Residential & Commercial** VRF/VRV AC/HP Components Package AC/HP Split System AC/HP Product System System Component

Manufacture prohibition after January 1, 2025 Sell-through for three years until January 1, 2028

Full system install prohibition after January 1, 2025

\*Chillers with no refrigerant leaving the unit are treated as a product and have a compliance deadline of January 1, 2025 Full system install prohibition after January 1, 2026

Unlimited repair/replacement of components including outdoor condensing units and evaporator units



#### **JCI Product Transition - Residential**

- OEMs reshuffling a bit to turn over barns sooner
- Distributors trying to stock the "right" amount of R-410A products while transitioning in new
- Coils come out first
  - Not all 3 ton or below microchannel coils require RDS < 4 lbs. of refrigerant</p>
  - RDS kits will be available
- Summer 2024 AC products targeting 25C eligible ones first YC6 to replace YC2F for A2L



**AIM Act Refrigeration Management** 

#### What's Included for ACs & HPs

- No EPA Section 608 licensing changing
- 1/1/2028 require residential and light commercial ACs & HPs using HFCs to be initially charged with certified reclaim
- Charge threshold for inspection and leak repair lowered to 15 lbs. of HFCs, 1 year after final rule
- EPA proposing all disposable refrigerant cylinders be sent to an EPA-certified reclaimer to remove the remaining heel



#### **Use Best Practices to Prepare**

| ACTION  | A1s           | A2Ls     |
|---|---------------|----------|
| Safely remove refrigerant following local & national regs | Required      | Required |
| Purge circuit with inert gas (e.g., oxygen-free nitrogen) | Best Practice | Required |
| Evacuate circuit  | Best Practice | Required |
| Open circuit by cutting or brazing                        | Required      | Required |
| Make repairs, purging with nitrogen while brazing         | Required      | Required |
| Leak and Pressure Test                                    | Best Practice | Required |
| Evacuate the system                                       | Required      | Required |
| Charge the system   | Required      | Required |

#### **Installation, Service & Repairs**

- Purging, Evacuation and Leak and
   Pressure Testing become mandatory
- Everything else remains the same
- Opportunity to improve your practices and equipment



#### **Use Best Practices to Prepare**

| Service Item (versus R-410A)                   | A2L  |
|--|--|
| Refrigerant Recovery Cylinder                  | Flammable (GHS label, left-handed threads)                   |
| Vacuum Pump                                    | Check with manufacturer (switch located away from work zone) |
| Recovery Machines                              | Move to 2L compatible  |
| Gas Detector                                   | Move to 2L compatible  |
| Electronic Leak Detector                       | Move to 2L compatible  |
| Scales   | No changes   |
| Ventilation Fan                                | Similar (may be differences in machine rooms)                |
| Electrical Hand Tools                          | Non-sparking preferred (AHRI – 8017)                         |
| Dry Chemical/CO <sub>2</sub> Fire Extinguisher | Chemical compatible  |

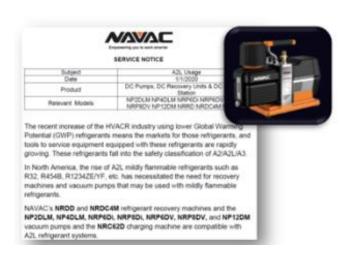


#### **Installation & Service Tools:**

- Many are similar; confirm they are approved
- Need correct gauges for the right refrigerant
- Make sure technicians look through ALL pieces of equipment to ensure compatibility



#### **Use Best Practices to Prepare**









#### **A2L Refrigerant Recovery Suitability**

A2L "militly fiammable" refrigerants, such as R32 and R1234yf, are becoming increasingly popular due to better efficiencies and lower ODP/GWP numbers than other refrigerants. However, due to the mildly flammable nature of these refrigerants, it is important to ensure proper technical training and compatible equipment is in place prior to recovering these refrigerants.

With proper training and technical procedures, the G5Twin and G15ingle units can safely be used to recover A2L refrigerants, in accordance with relevant regulatory guidance.









#### **Tested & Ready for A2L**

- Many installation & service tools being upgraded to include A2L refrigerants
- Some examples of those companies include:
  - Appion
  - Bacharach
  - Yellow Jacket
  - NAVAC
  - Inficon
  - CPS

**Use Best Practices to Prepare** 

#### **Have good sources of Reclaim**

- No low GWP, non-flammable drop in for R-410A
- 1/1/28 proposed date to no longer R-410A to be used in service
- California completed law saying virgin 410A can't be used in 2030
- Get good at reclaiming or stockpile it





