Commercial Asset Rating: New Methods for Driving Investment

Kevin Rose | Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships Andrew Burr | U.S. Department of Energy Ian Finlayson | Massachusetts Department of **Energy Resources**



Course Description

Asset ratings assess the performance of a building's energy features irrespective of its operations and enable 'apples-to-apples' comparison between buildings.

New asset rating tools are being developed that allow building owners, investors, and service providers to quickly identify and understand energy efficiency investment opportunities at a much lower cost.

Learning Objectives

After this session, the attendee will understand the:

- benefits and constraints of 'operational' (such as Energy Star) and 'asset' commercial building energy ratings
- latest results and key findings from the MA Building Asset
 Rating and DOE Commercial Asset Score pilot projects
- status, opportunities, challenges, and future trajectories of state and federal building asset rating initiatives
- value of enhanced access to building energy performance information in encouraging real estate and financial markets to invest in energy efficiency improvements

Polling Question 1

- Who are you? Why are you here?
 - Already using or interested in asset rating
 - Want to learn what asset rating is
 - Use Portfolio Manager, and want to learn what else I can do.
 - Too many people in the session I actually want
 - Insomnia?

About NEEP

Mission

 Accelerate energy efficiency as an essential part of demand-side solutions that enable a sustainable regional energy system

Approach

 Overcome barriers and transform markets via collaboration, education, and expertise

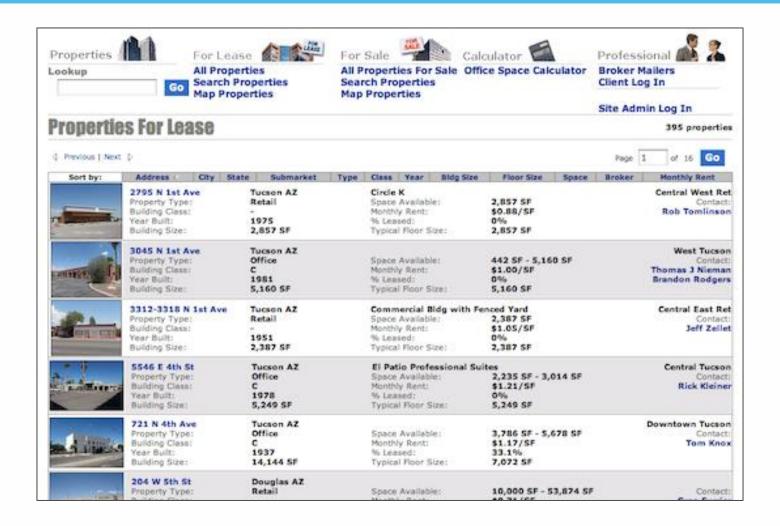
Vision

 Region embraces next generation energy efficiency as a core strategy to meet energy needs in a carbon-constrained world

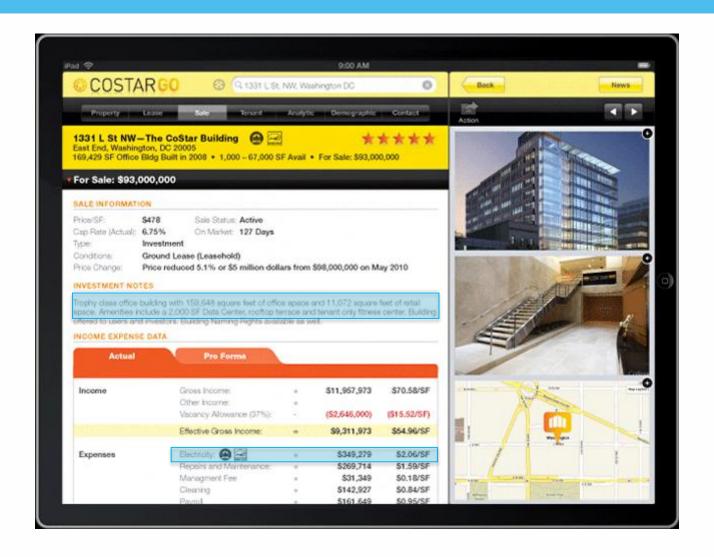
One of six regional energy efficiency organizations (REEOs) funded by the US Department of Energy (US DOE) to link regions to US DOE guidance, products and programs



The Current State of Affairs



The Even More Current State of Affairs



Barriers to EE Retrofits

Owners/Investors need efficiency information, but

- Cost of comprehensive audits too high
- Custom audits currently not scalable
- Utility data not sufficiently accessible



Operational Rating

Compare performance

- vs. its past
- vs. its peers

Tracking

- Energy
- Water

Benchmarking



Operational Rating





Polling Question 2

- How effective are operational ratings / benchmarking in driving investment?
 - Very effective, or need more time to be
 - Not effective, we need more robust building level data
 - Helpful, but not sufficient
 - Not sure, need incentives / tax credits to justify \$.

Asset Rating

Analyzes energy features

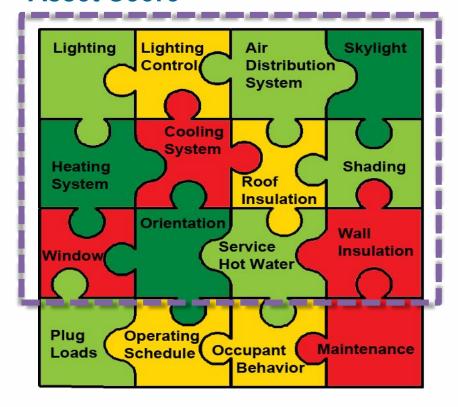
Tenant driven loads

Energy modeling software

Diagnostic tests

ASHRAE Level 2

Asset Score



Operational Versus Asset





ENERGY STAR® Scorecard

ENERGY STAR® Score

Sample Property

Primary Function: Office Gross Floor Area (ft2): 200,000

For Year Ending: April 30, 2013 Date Generated: June 28, 2013

Property Address: Sample Property 123 Main Street Arlington, Virginia 22030 **Nutrition Facts**

COMMERCIAL BUILDING **ENERGY ASSET SCORE**

BUILDING ASSETS

Retroficiency

Executive Summary

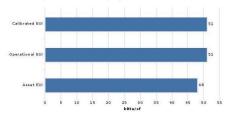
The following report summarizes the findings assembled based on an energy assessment conducted at 2 Oliver Street Boston, MA. Currently the 224,426 square foot office building consumes 3,243,034 kWh of electricity and 5,567 Therms of natural gas per year. The facility has an annual Energy Use Intensity (EUI) of 48 kBtu/square foot and an ENERGY STAR Score of 84 (Asset Model). Two notes on this report: 1. There continue to be questions about both the electrical and gas consumption that was reported for this building. The gas consumption is both very low and irregular. Gas data raises questions about the operation of the make-up air fan. 2. This building changed ownership immediately before the site visit and new staff were still becoming familiar with the specifics of the site.

Your Building Asset Rating



The chart below illustrates the annual EUI for this building in three related ways. a) The calibrated EUI is modeled based on recent actual energy usage data.

- b) The operational EUI is based on building usage adjusted for weather and is comparable to the building's ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager EUI, which is shown for comparison on the
- c) The asset EUI adjusts the building energy model to reflect typical hours of use and typical office space tenants to allow for easy comparisons with other office buildings.



For this building, the Asset EUI is both low and close to the Calibrated value. This suggests that this facility is doing an adequate job of conserving energy. Regardless, expanding the building automation

ASHRAE Level 2 - Energy Survey and Analysis





Asset Rating: Applications

Bldg. audit

Data and screening

Compliance with reporting requirements



Inform real estate transactions

Asset Rating: Paths to Investment

Rating – Suggested Upgrades Building Owner Motivation

Investment in EE

Rating – Energy Label Energy Awareness and Ranking

Market Valuation Building Owner Motivation

Investment in EE

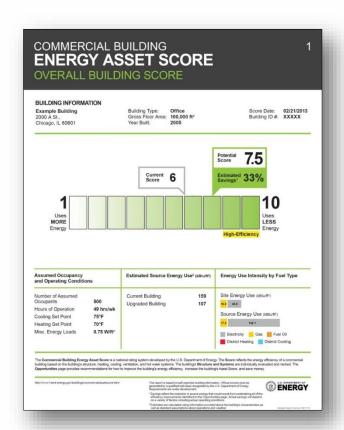
DOE Building Energy Asset Score

National, free software tool that diagnoses opportunities to improve EE

- Assesses the efficiency of structural, mechanical, and electrical building components
- Diagnostic tool, not an energy management tool

Demand is expanding

 Asset scores generated for more than 50 million square feet nationwide in more than 30 states





Overview

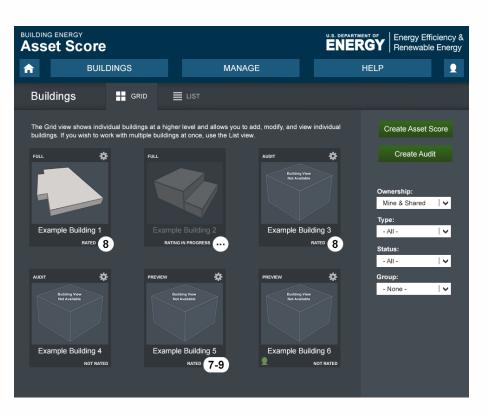
Asset Score runs a real-time, thermal dynamic energy simulation using EnergyPlus

- Normalizes for building operations, occupancy, and tenant behavior
- Users enter building information through a web interface

Assesses new and existing buildings:

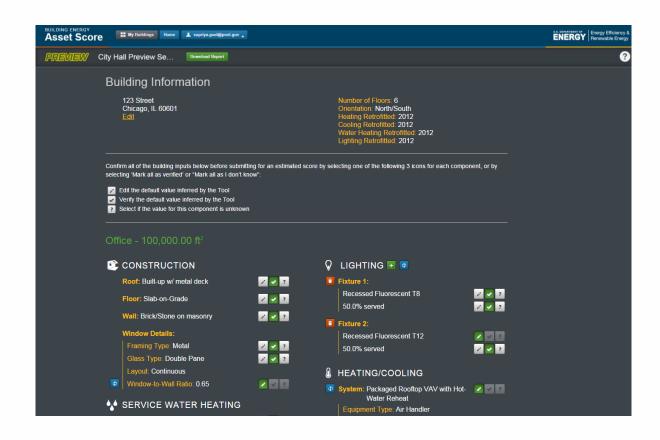
- Office, retail, warehouse, multifamily, educational, lodging
- Government facilities (police, library, city hall, etc.), parking garages, house of worship

Inside the Asset Score

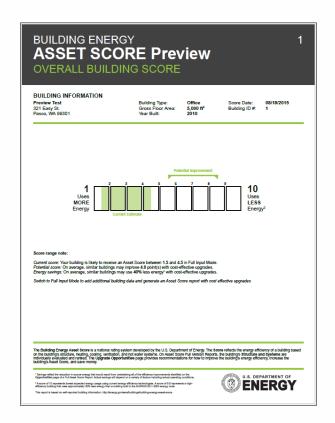


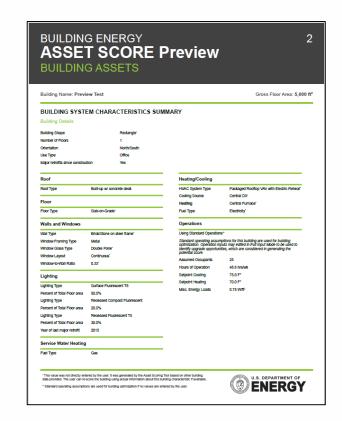


Asset Score Preview



Asset Score Preview



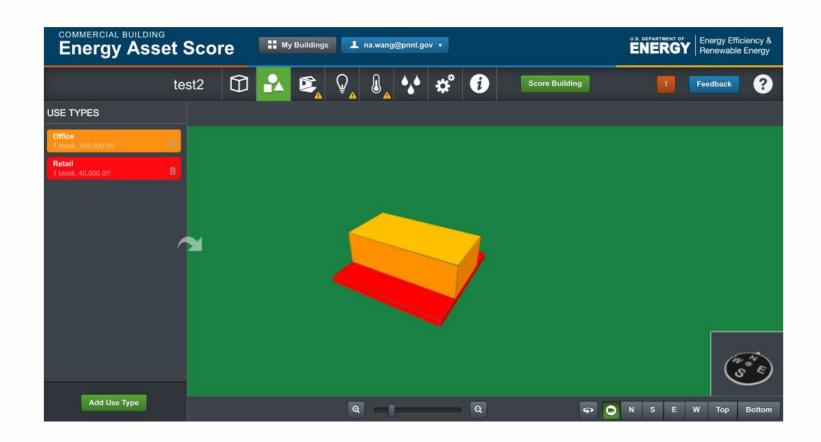




Asset Score Full Version

- General information: # of floors, footprint dimension, orientation, use type
- Envelope components: Roof, exterior wall, floor types, insulation levels
- Fenestration: Skylights, windows, shading
- <u>Lighting:</u> Fixture types, # of fixtures or % of served floor area, lighting controls
- Mechanical components: Cooling/heating types, controls, equipment efficiency
- Service water heating: Fuel type, distribution type, equipment efficiency

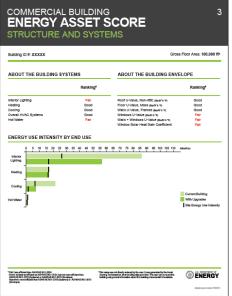
Asset Score Full Version



Asset Score Report

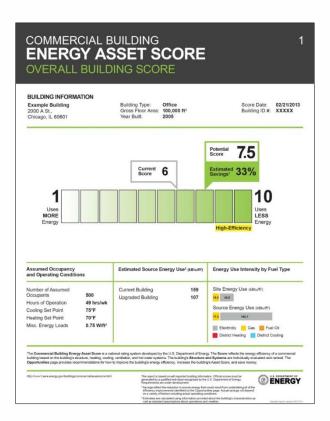








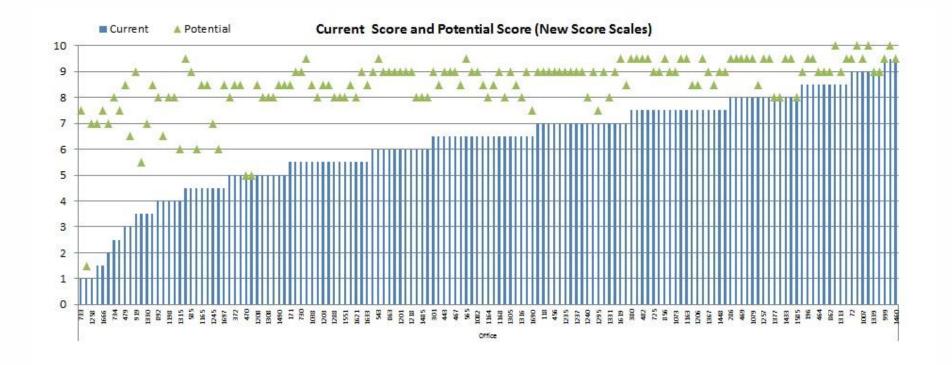
Asset Score Report



OST EFFECTIVE UPGRADE OPPORTUNITIES	Energy Savings ⁴	Cost ⁵
uilding Envelope		
Add roof insulation in Office Learn More	Medium	\$\$
Upgrade windows in Office with high performance double pane windows Leam More	Medium	\$\$
terior Lighting		
Upgrade Fluorescent T8 lighting system in Office to compact fluorescent lighting system Leam More	High	\$
VAC Systems		
Upgrade cooling system in Office with high efficiency electric DX cooling system	High	\$\$\$
Add supply air temperature reset to HVAC system in Office Learn More	Low	\$
ot Water Systems		
	Medium	SS



Analysis





Analysis





Asset Score Applications

Pre-audits

Property owners and operators can determine where audits make sense

Business development

 Energy services companies and engineers can communicate improvement opportunities to property owners

Iterative design

Architects can easily predict energy impact of design decisions

Due diligence

Buyers and renters can understand EE indicators that affect energy costs



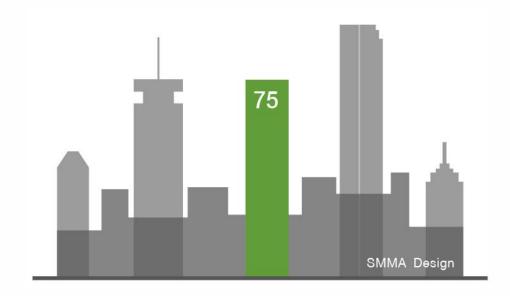
Polling Question 3

- Do you think a 'per capita' EUI would be substantially different from the current energy use per sq. ft metric?
 - Yes. Lower occupancy will correlate with lower energy use.
 - No. Occupancy is a fundamentally different variable than floor area.
 - -I have no idea. Please illuminate me.
 - —It depends. But I have a theory to explain why.

Raising the BAR

Preliminary findings of the 2012-2014

Massachusetts Building Asset Rating Pilot







Raising the BAR - Acknowledgements

nationalgrid



























BAR Goals

Goal 1

 Identify streamlined method for building energy audits

Goal 2

 Enable fair comparison between buildings

BAR Phases

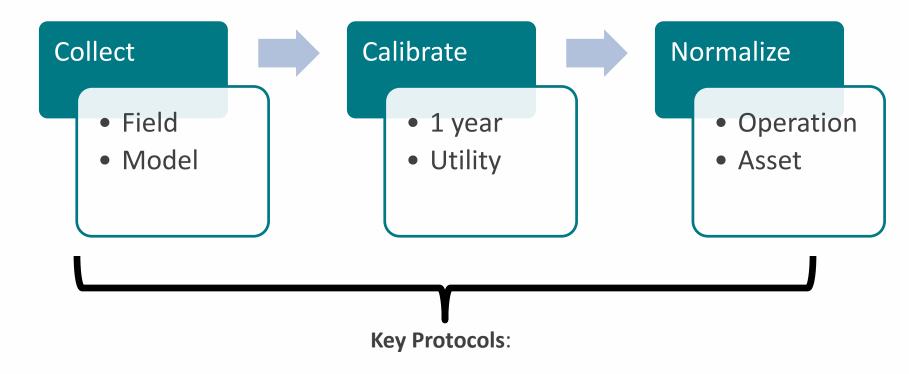
Phase 1: "Stress Test"

- 11 diverse buildings
- Compare traditional and innovative audits
- Key Findings
 - Protocols: Operation to Asset
 - Innovative Audit: compares well

Phase 2: Demonstration

- 32 diverse buildings
- Followed protocols
- Key findings presented herein

Process



- -Measurement of square footage
- -Inputs used to convert operational to asset
- -Normalize for variance in occupancy and use



Utility Data Access – 3/50% rule

Goal: simple criteria to protect tenant confidentiality while mitigating data collection as a cost barrier.

Result: DOER & National Grid [1] developed a MOU for required tenant data release:

Three criteria

- Interval (15minute) electric meter data.
- More than 50% of the electric or gas load.
- Aggregate when 3 or more tenants in the building.

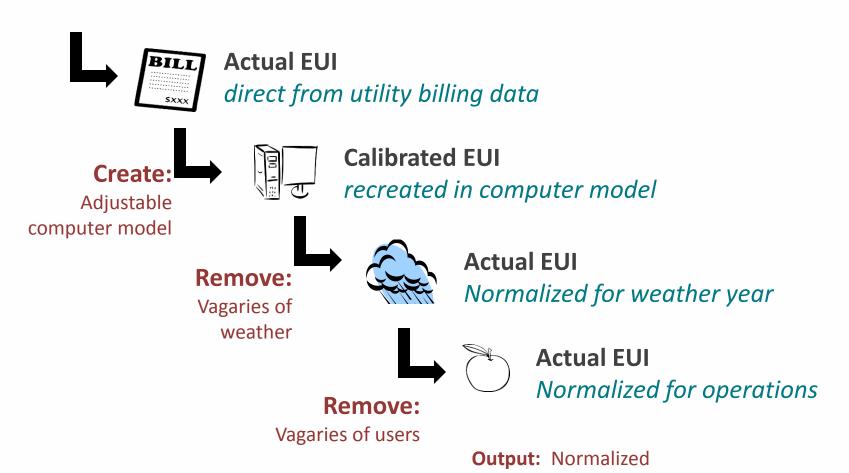
[1] Eversource (then NStar) provided data under the same 3/50% criteria without signing a formal MOU.



EUI Classes – Normalization Process

Input:

Consumption

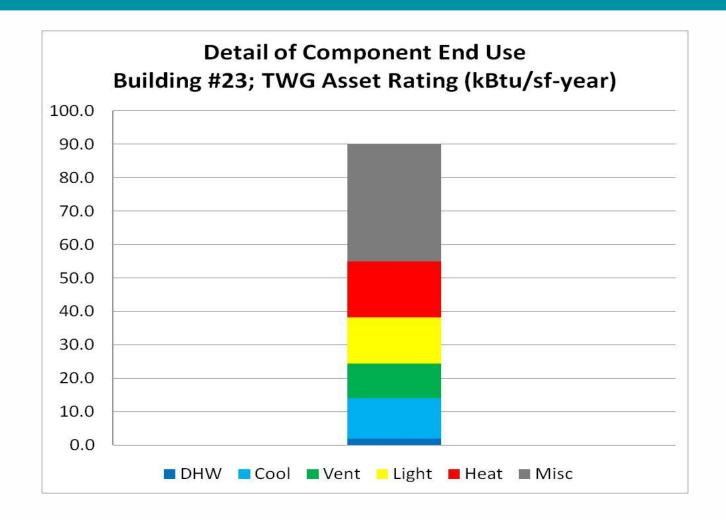


GREENBUILD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND EXPO

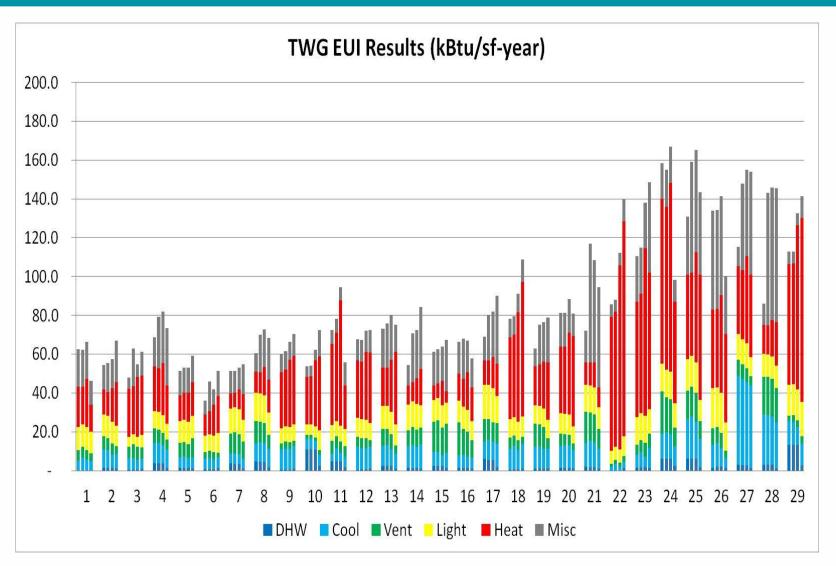
EUI

MONUMENTAL GREEN

End Uses

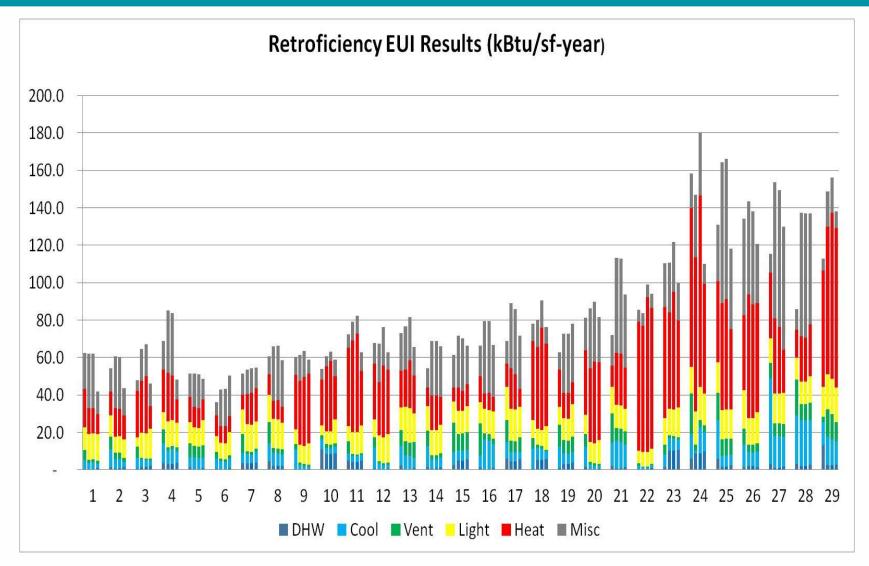


Results – The Weidt Group



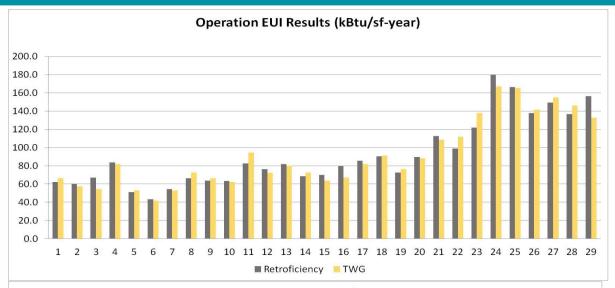


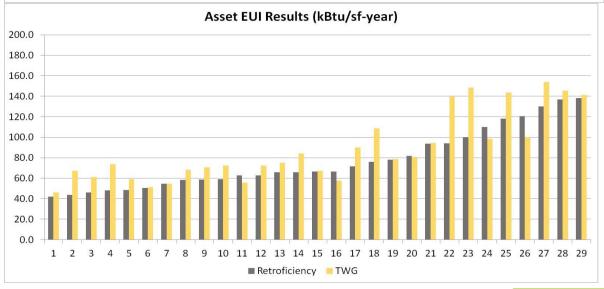
Results – Retroficiency





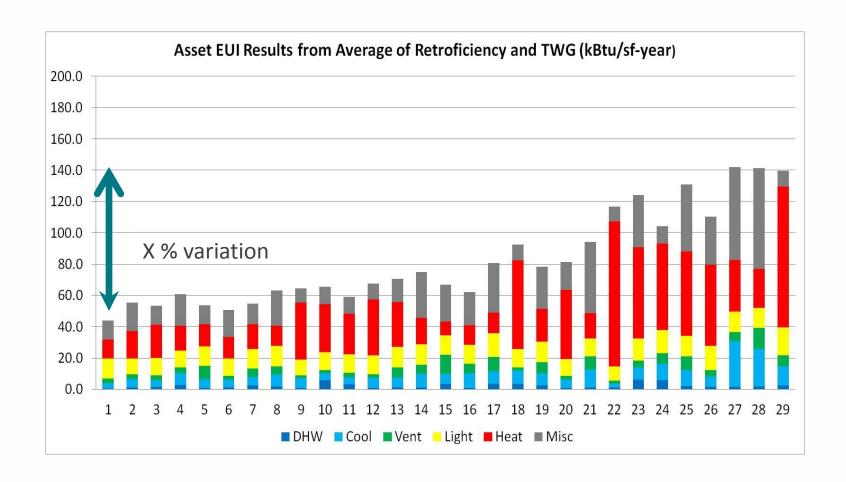
How did they compare?





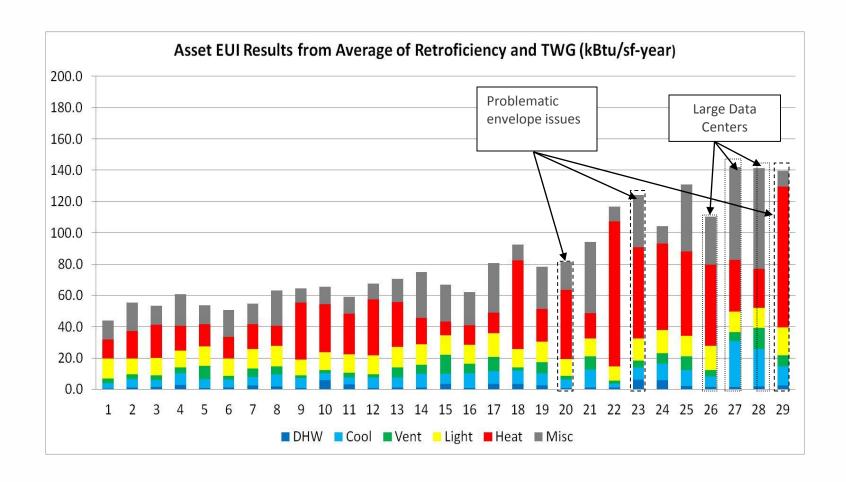


What can we learn from large variation

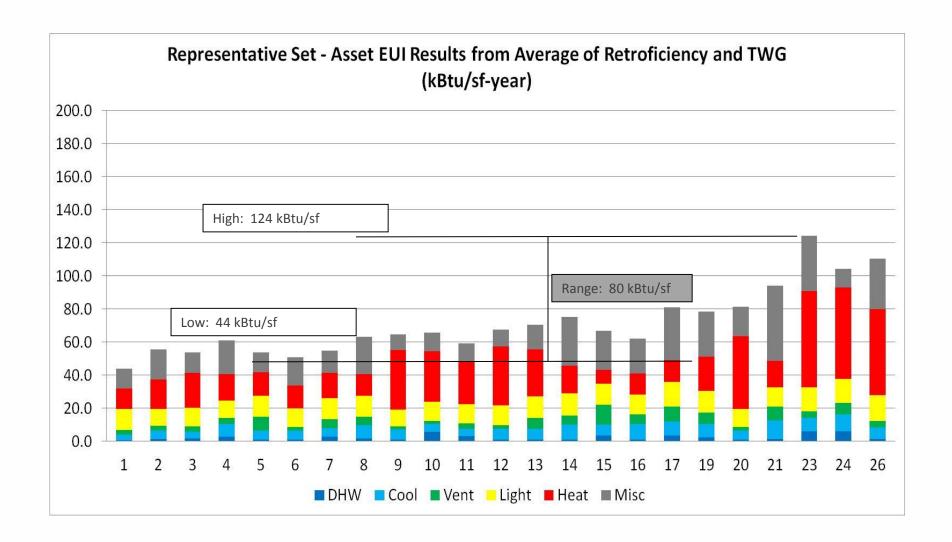




Referring to on site audits

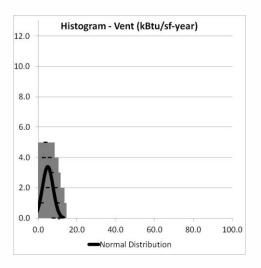


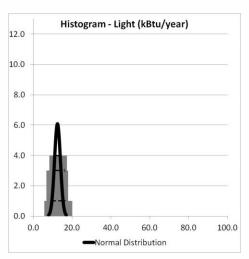
Still large variation remains

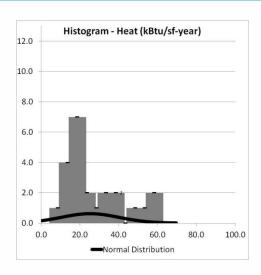


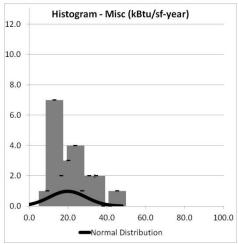


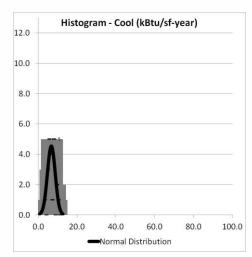
End uses reveal the variation

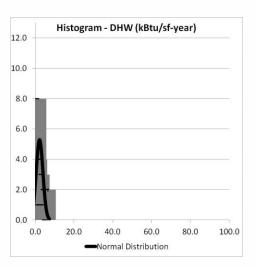






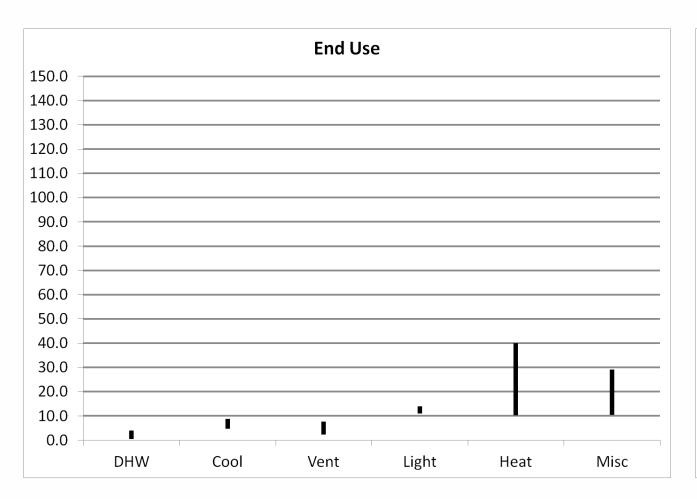


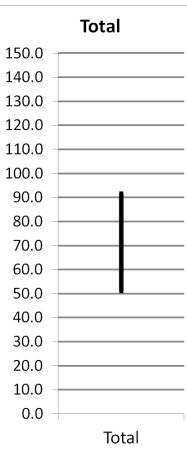




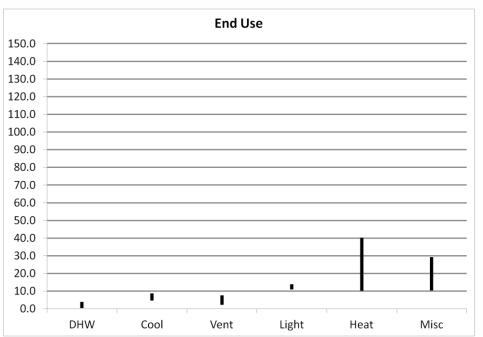


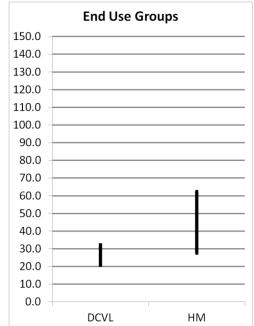
Projecting +/- 1 standard deviation

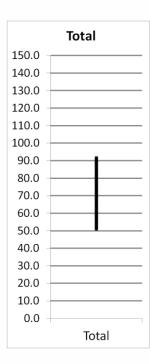


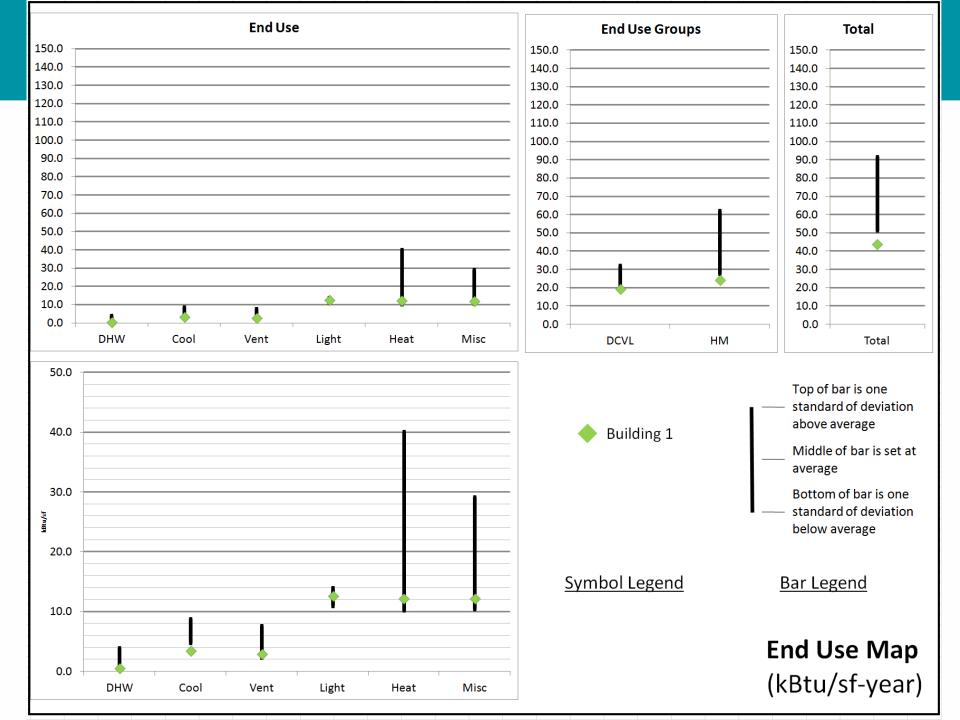


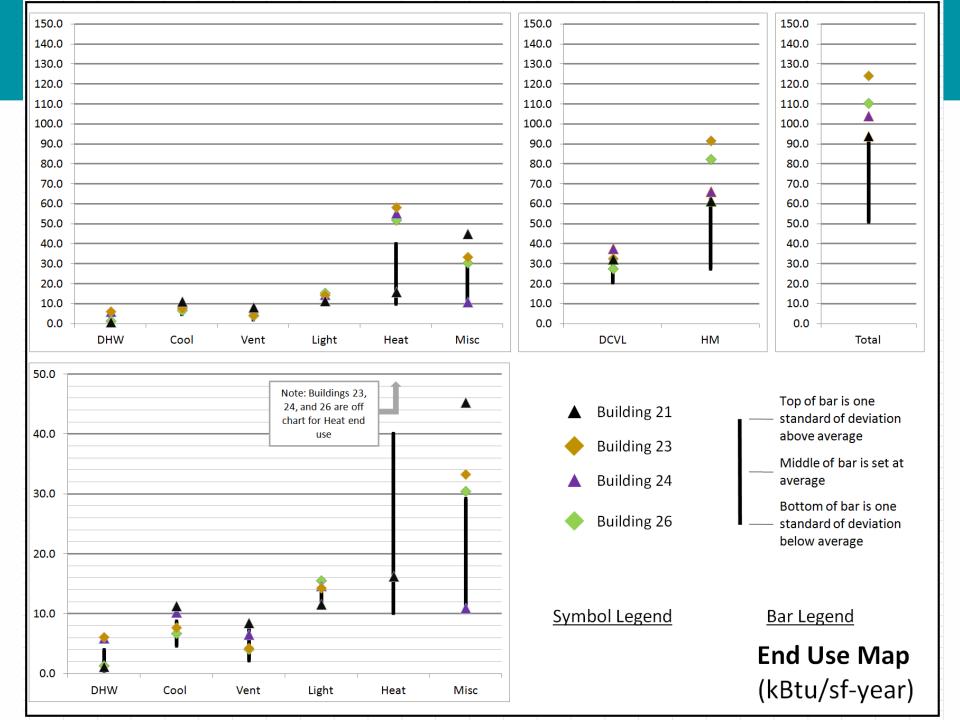
End Use Groupings can be Added



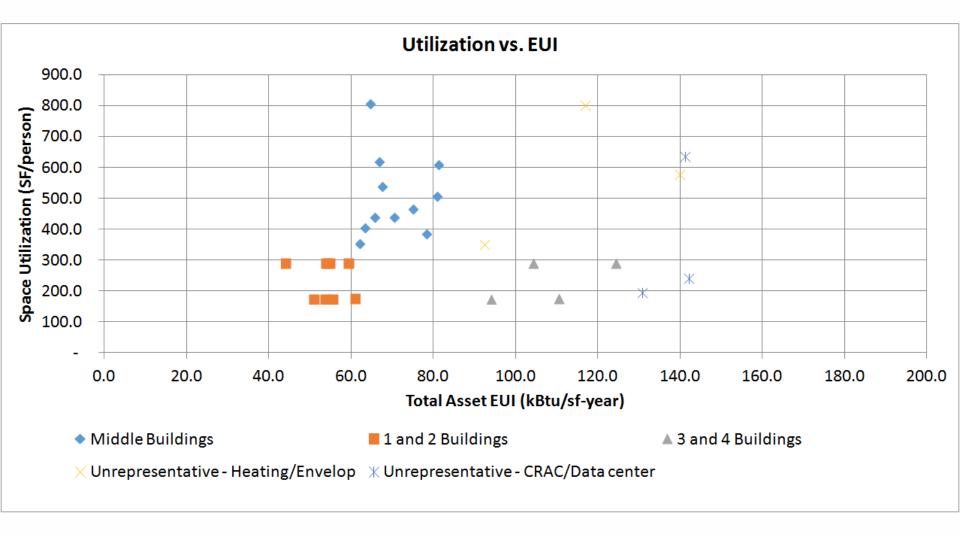








Energy load vs Occupant load





MA Conclusions — Audits

Streamlined audits brought down costs while improving resolution

Protocols have come a long way

- Further refinements can be made
- Engineer doing on-site visit matters

Many buildings completed energy efficiency upgrades within a year of the audit

- Your third bullet
- Your fourth bullet



MA Conclusions – Building Data

End uses matter

Heating and plug loads matter most

Models assume buildings work

Some do, but many don't

Occupancy doesn't determine energy use

HVAC + controls & envelope maybe do





Polling Question 4

- Do you anticipate incorporating building asset rating into your work?
 - Yes, I will start (or continue)
 - Maybe, now that I know about them
 - No, still not interested

Conclusions and Audience Questions

Kevin Rose

krose@neep.org



andrew.burr@ee.doe.gov

Ian Finlayson

ian.finlayson@state.ma.us









