

# Very High Efficiency HVAC—NYSERDA Pilot Program

## Opportunity to Participate

NYSERDA has created a program to demonstrate extremely advanced HVAC systems in 15 existing small and medium commercial buildings in New York State. Administered by the Institute for Market Transformation, the program is actively seeking participants for 2021. NYSERDA funds HVAC demonstration programs to find practical solutions for building owners that will help New York meet its climate commitments.

## Why Participate?

Right now, tenants, staff, and customers are demanding increased ventilation to feel safer in buildings. In most HVAC systems, this means a tradeoff between fresh air and operating costs. With Very High Efficiency HVAC (VHE HVAC), the system provides 100% highly filtered outside air, improving air quality while also dramatically reducing energy bills.

## How Does It Work?

VHE HVAC is a systems approach that combines high-efficiency equipment with heat recovery, a dedicated outdoor air system, advanced filtration, and airflow segregation that limits the spread of contaminants. Developed by the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance, VHE HVAC was tested between 2015 and 2018 in eight, [rigorously-documented](#) demonstration sites in the Pacific Northwest. The resulting HVAC savings ranged from 48%–89%.

Building Type	Energy Savings
Airport terminal office	89%
Government district office	73%
Government dorms	77%
Law office	75%
Pizza restaurant	51%
Restaurant	77%
Seattle office	69%
Utility district office	48%

"There was definitely a noticeable difference—this was a much more comfortable environment. Other people in areas that hadn't yet been converted kept asking 'When are we getting our air fixed?'"

Ryan McCormick  
Chief Engineer  
Oregon Department of  
Fish & Wildlife

## What Buildings Are Eligible?

VHE HVAC is a total system replacement. The pilot is open to commercial buildings six stories or less with heating and cooling provided by packaged rooftop or small unitary systems that are at the end of their service life and planning to be replaced. Excellent applications are office, retail, lodging, and educational buildings.

## What Do Participants Receive?

Participants will receive applicable utility incentives, 15% discounts on equipment, technical assistance from start to finish, detailed monitoring data, increased net operating revenue, and brand and media recognition. VHE HVAC also helps ensure compliance with current and planned building regulation, such as New York City's Local Law 97.

## What Are Participants Obligated to Do?

- Meet all VHE HVAC specifications
- Provide access to design and installation teams
- Allow installation of NYSERDA-provided monitoring equipment
- Provide pre- and post-installation utility bills, the cost of installation and alternate bids, and access to facility maintenance staff and selected tenants for interviews

## Partners

The Institute for Market Transformation is partnering with manufacturers Fujitsu and Ventacity Systems to procure the equipment for this pilot program.

For details on the pilot program and how to participate, contact [vhehvac@imt.org](mailto:vhehvac@imt.org).

Learn more at [www.imt.org/very-high-efficiency-hvac/](http://www.imt.org/very-high-efficiency-hvac/).