

### Open Category Scope

Manufacturers are encouraged to submit connected products with primary applicability in the residential sector, or in residential-style applications such as hospitality and assisted living environments. Please contact Kim Katz at [competition@cee1.org](mailto:competition@cee1.org) to discuss further before submitting entries. Without prior agreement, there is no guarantee that submissions will be fully evaluated.

Possible entries include, but are not limited to:

- Home energy management or smart home automation systems
- HVAC integrated controls
- Micro combined heat and power (MCHP) systems
- Security devices with proven energy savings
- Appliances or other plug loads
- Product retrofits, such as add-on modules or controllers
- Electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE)

This category is intended to highlight connected devices and systems that are available for purchase in 2021. As such, products available or planned for introduction to the market between January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2021 are eligible to participate in the competition.

### Desired Capabilities

The Integrated Home Competition is seeking connected devices and systems that demonstrate energy savings. Some qualities and capabilities that are desired are listed; these may not apply to all product types.

- Meet applicable CEE or ENERGY STAR® efficiency criteria
- Energy management, which encompasses features that reduce the product's overall energy consumption levels either through core product functionality or influencing customer behavior.
  - Energy consumption information for users, including remote access via an app, website, or home energy management system.
  - Programmable settings, such as vacation, away, or nighttime modes that reduce energy use.
- The ability to receive and respond to a utility or third-party signal (i.e. pricing signal or curtailment signal).
  - Demand response (DR) capabilities, defined as the ability to delay, curtail, or increase operation to enable load shifting from peak use or low supply periods to low use or high supply periods.

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- Data sharing with consumer-authorized third parties, including operational status and energy consumption reporting.
- Sensing capabilities to optimize product or system operation based on external inputs, such as temperature, light levels, and occupancy, likely achieved through temperature sensors, photosensor, geofencing, motion sensing, or infrared signal sensing.
- Customization, such as:
  - The ability for consumers to input preferences and parameters related to product operation.
  - Consumer notifications for events like system failures, power surges, planned device shutdowns, or upcoming DR events.
- Ability to operate seamlessly with other connected devices, systems, and platforms within the home.
- Continued functionality when cloud connectivity is lost.
- Ongoing, active management of settings through features like automatic scheduling or learning-based schedule creation based on customer preferences and habits.
- Ability to collect, aggregate, and analyze performance data that enables ongoing energy savings measurement and verification, while being mindful of consumer personal privacy concerns.

**It is not expected that entries will include all of the above capabilities; rather, products should include measures that save energy and provide a positive consumer experience.** Additional capabilities beyond this list will also be considered in the judging process. Products with greater functionality generally receive more points.