

# Heat Pump Technology

*Capturing the HVAC Market in the Coming Decade*

Jake Marin  
HVAC Program Manager  
Efficiency Vermont

# Our Roadmap

- ❖ Brief technology overview
- ❖ Customer Economics
- ❖ Case Study
- ❖ Market potential
- ❖ Programs to accelerate progress
- ❖ Future State – even more compelling

# Benefits of Heat Pumps

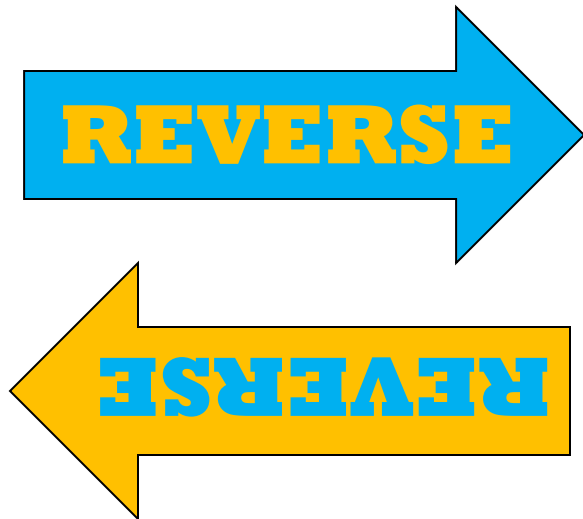
- Heating and cooling from same piece of equipment
- Cheaper heat than most conventional combustion and resistive heating systems
- Also efficient cooling with SEERs >25
- Ductless heat pumps are a quick and non-retrofit installation
- New construction - reduced need for heating and cooling infrastructure
- Can be completely sustainable if powered by renewables



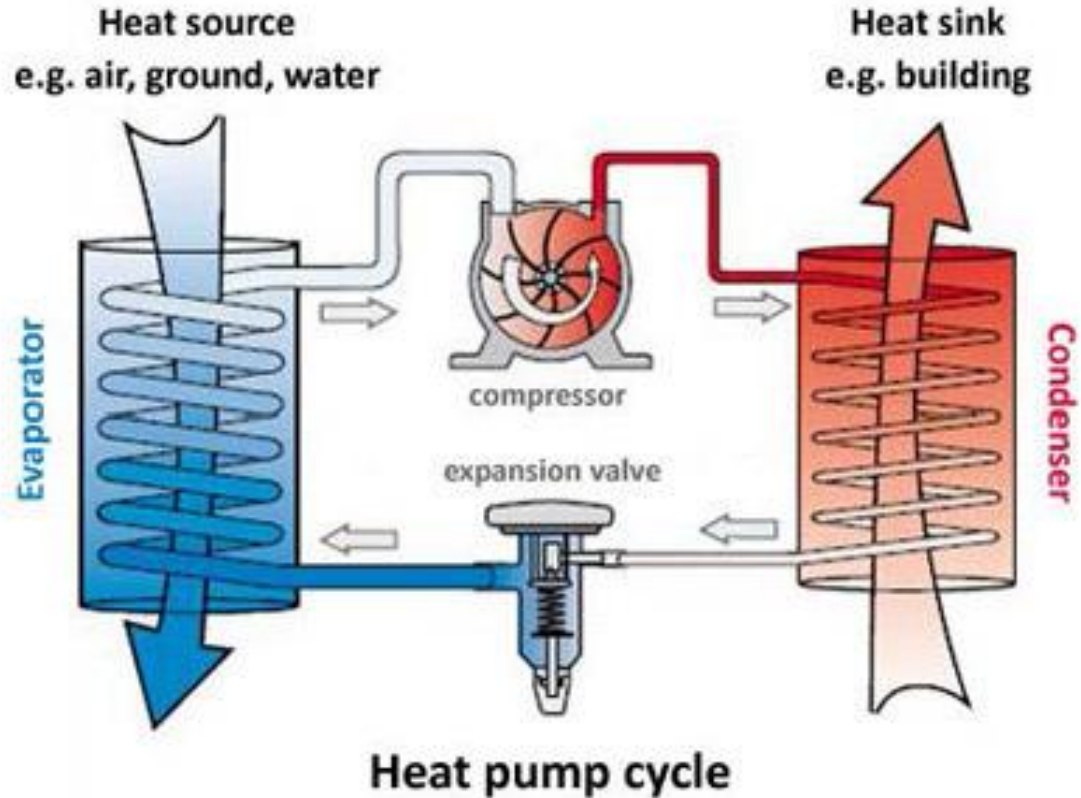
# A Quick Technology Primer

# What IS a heat pump, anyway?

An air conditioner in reverse

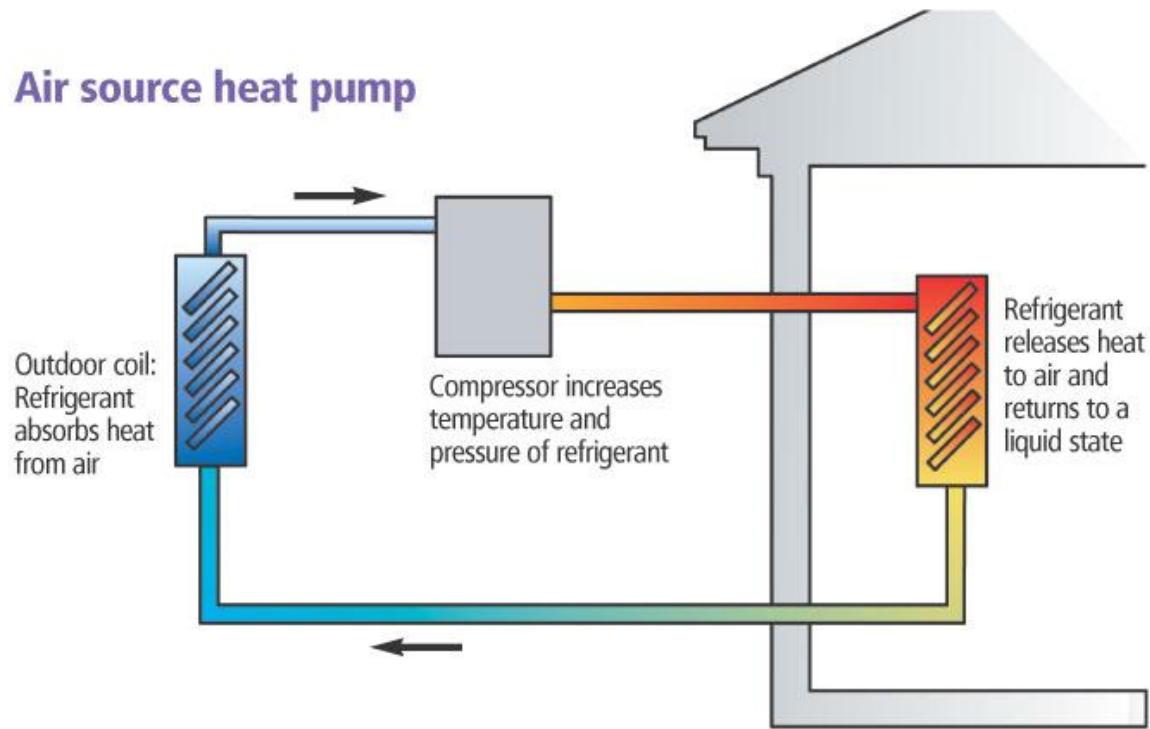


# Heat Source → Heat Sink



# Heat Source

## Air (Air Source Heat Pump)

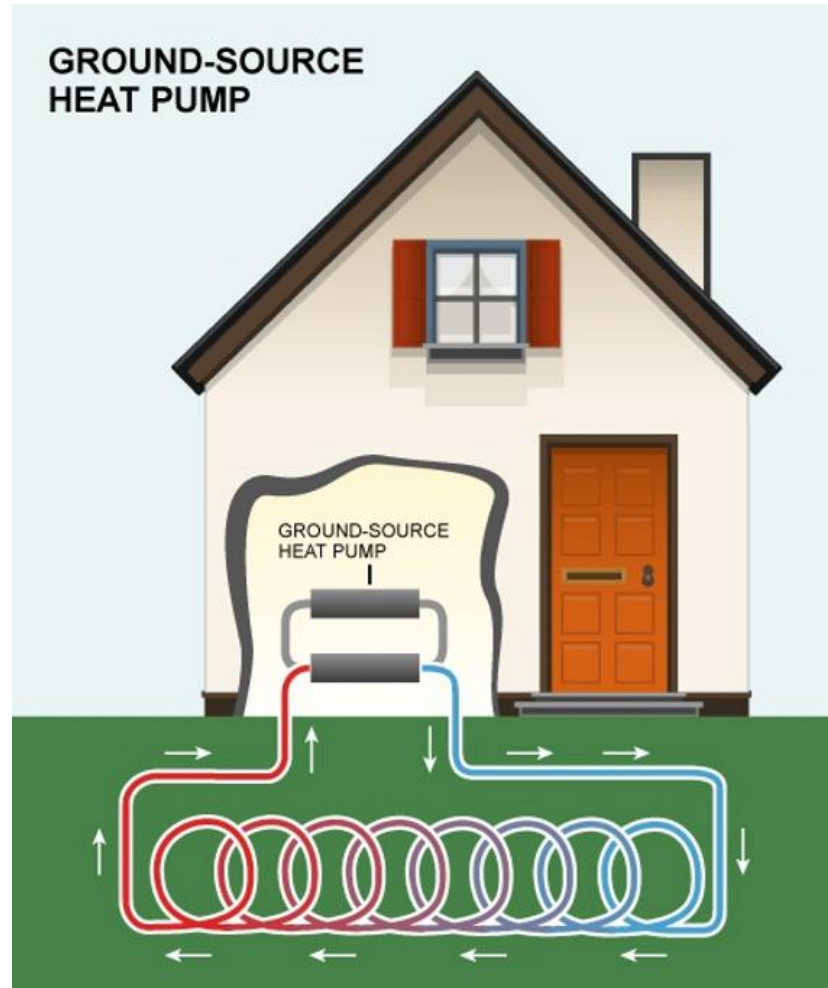






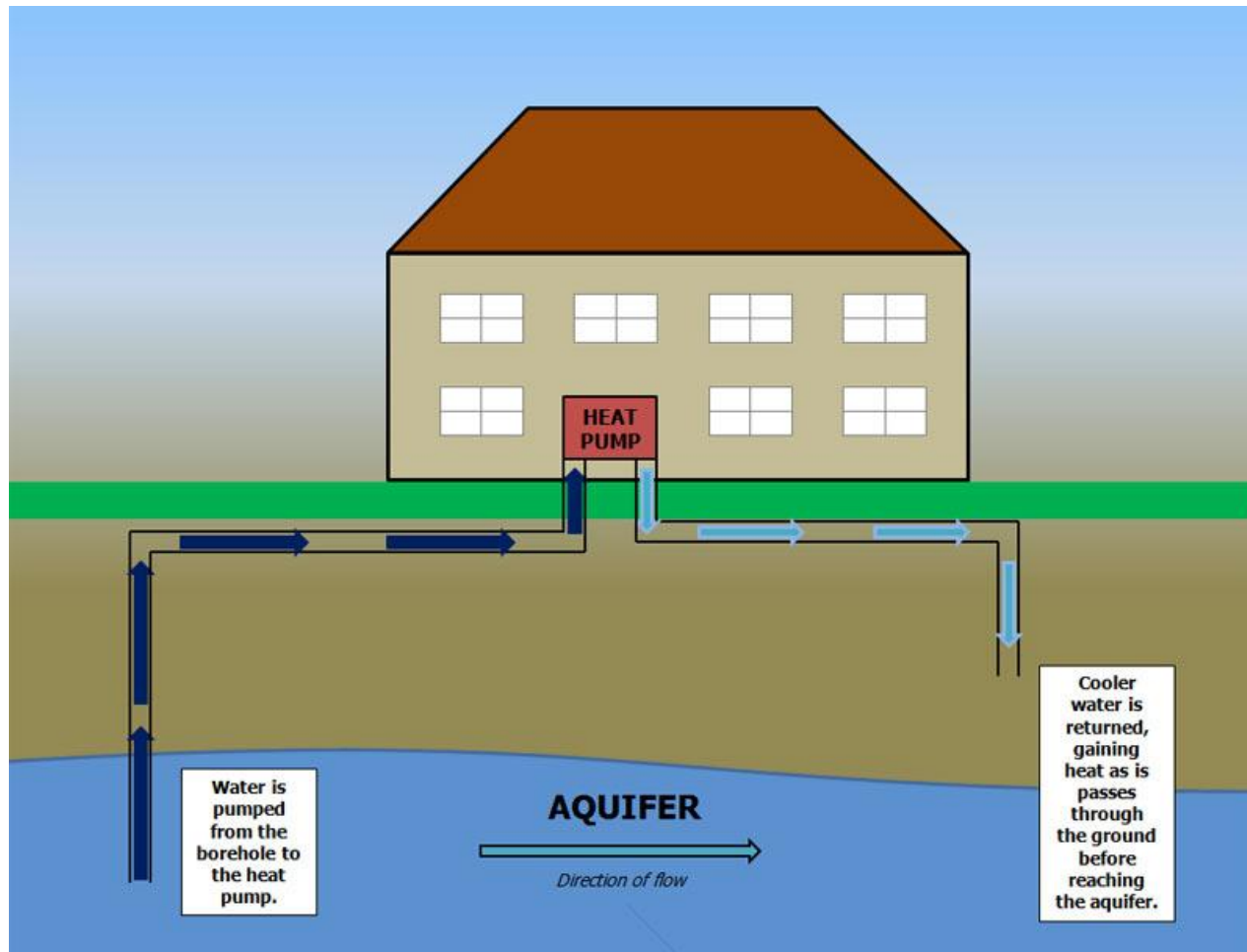
# Ground (Ground Source or Geothermal Heat Pump)

➤ Earth





## ➤ Water

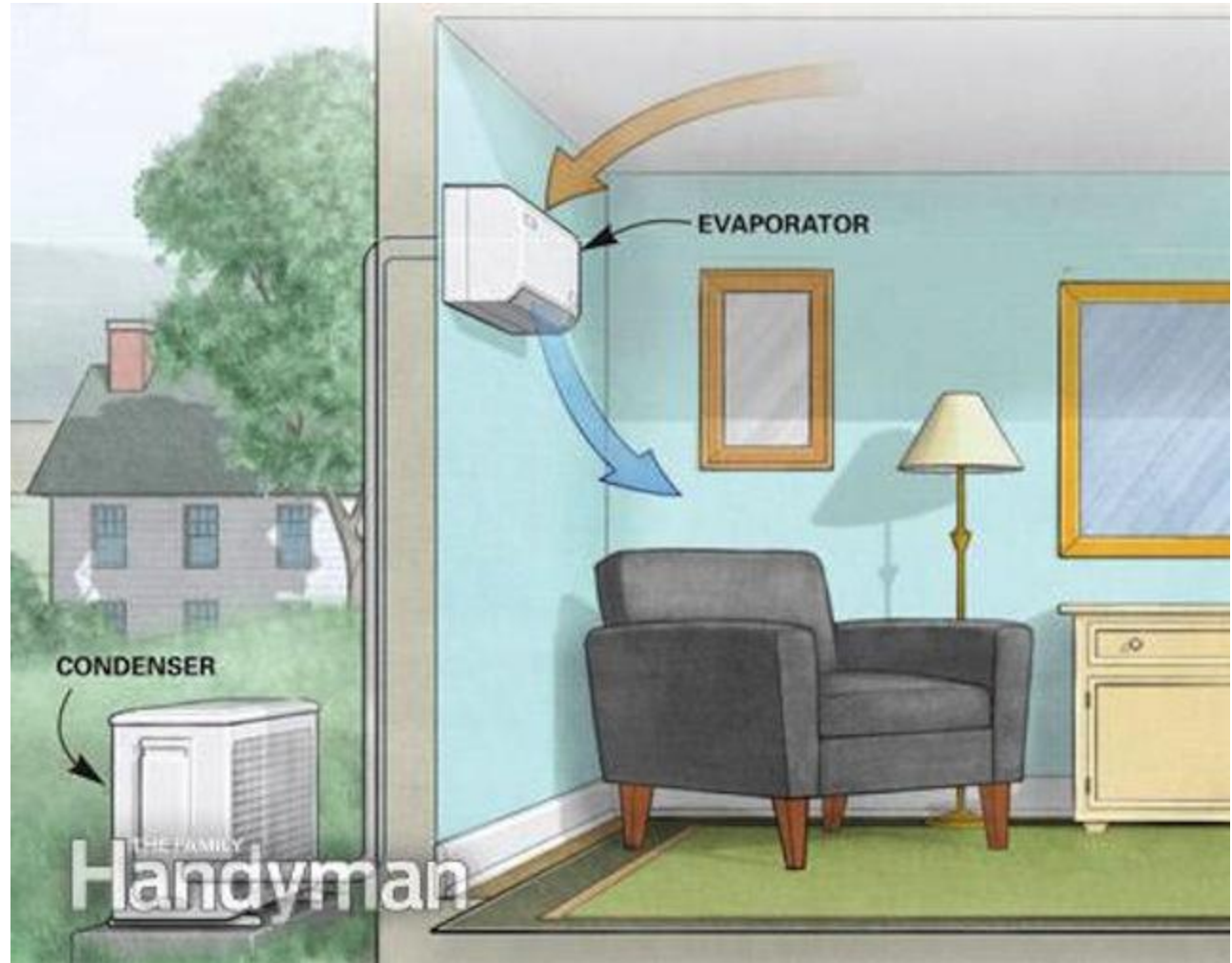






# Heat Sink – Space Heat

Air Delivered



# Heat Sink – Space Heat

Water Delivered



# Heat Sink – Domestic Hot Water Heat Pump Water Heaters

- Air → Water
- 1/3-1/2 the electricity as a standard electric water tank (saves 50-66%)
- Incentive programs in 28+ states
- New federal standards in 2015 will require electric DHW > 55 gal to be a heat pump water heater



# Source/Sink Variations

Air – Air

- Example is ductless mini-splits

Air – Water

- Daikin Altherma or heat pump water heaters

Water – Water

- “Geothermal” or ground source feeding hydronic distribution

Water – Air

- Ground (water) source feeding into ducted air handler



# World of Heat Pumps

## Many Applications and Forms

- Space Heat
- Water Heat
- Cooling
- Dryers
- More?

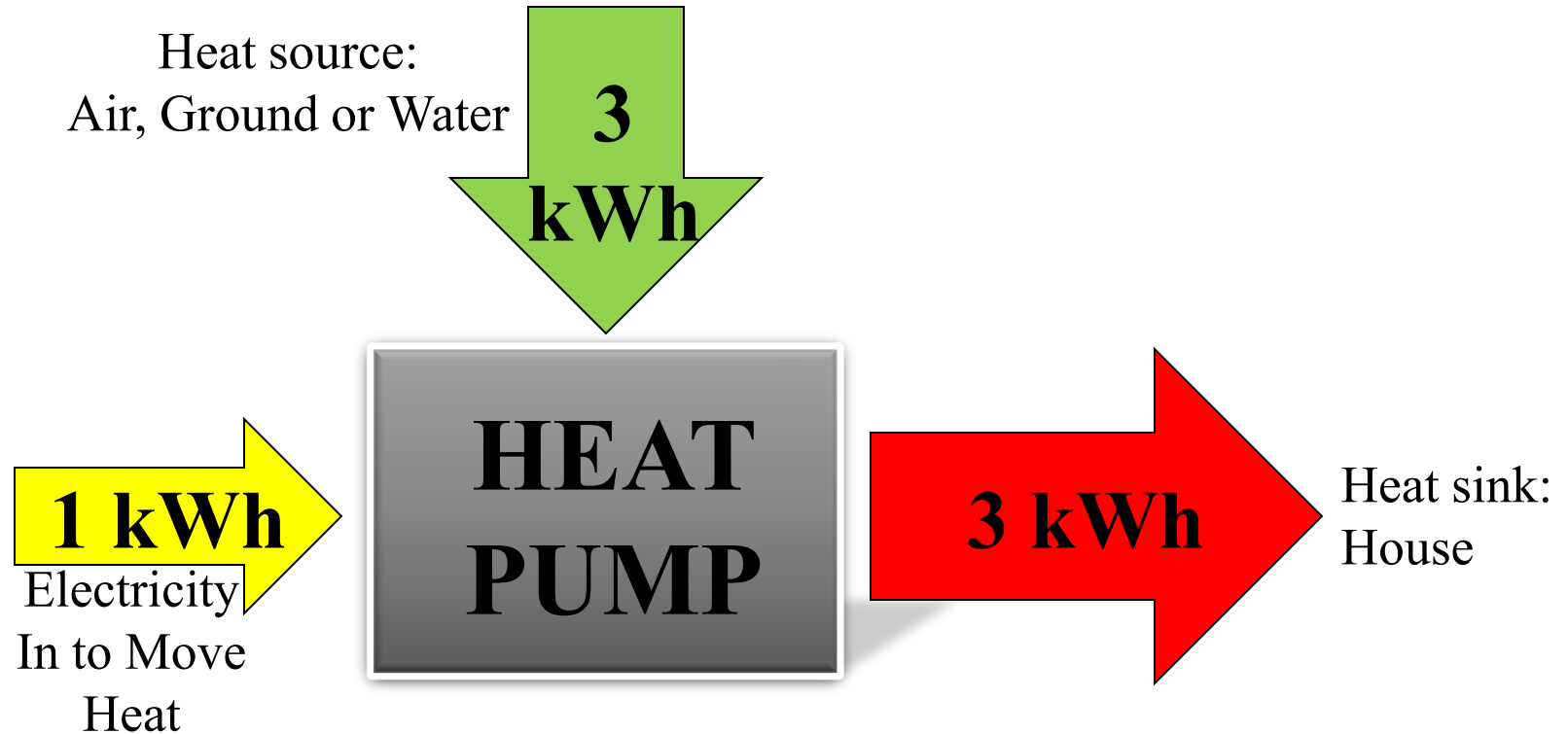


# Are they efficient?

- They *Move* Heat, rather than *Generate* Heat
- Leverage heat existing in the environment rather than burn fuel to release energy
- COPs of 2.0-4.0+
  - What is COP?
  - COP (Coefficient Of Performance) = Energy Out/Energy In
- High SEER (Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio) – Cooling
- High HSPF (Heating Season Performance Factor) - Heating

So... A COP of 2-4 is equivalent to 200-400% efficiency!

# More Out than In (COP of 3)?



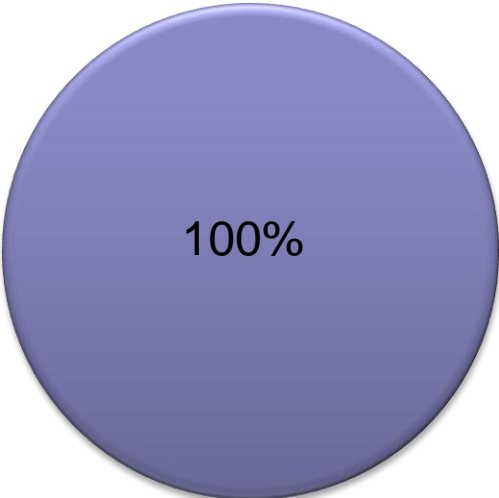
# Customer Economics

# Ductless Mini Splits



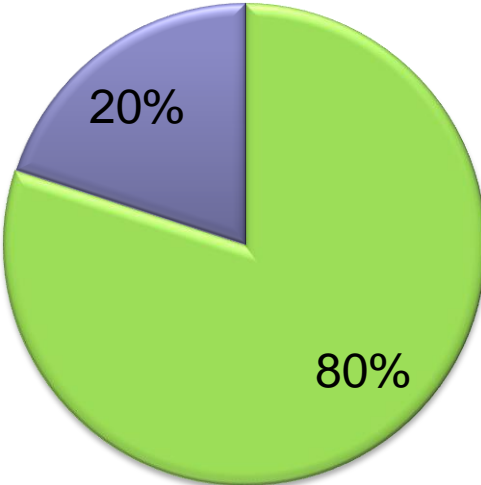
# The Displacement Model

**Before**



■ Central System

**After**



■ Heat Pump  
■ Central System

# Play with Numbers

House before:


- 850 gallons fuel oil (\$4/gal)
- \$3400/yr for heat (117 MMBtu)

House after:

- 170 gallons oil + 7300 kWh electricity (\$0.15/kWh)
- \$680 (oil) + \$1100 (electric) = \$1780/yr for heat (48 MMBtu)
- **Net Savings - \$1620/yr (69 MMBtu – 59% Reduction)**

# A Comparison of Heating Fuels

| Fuel Type   | Unit   | Btu/Unit   | Efficiency | \$/Unit | \$/MMBtu |
|-------------|--------|------------|------------|---------|----------|
| Wood        | Cord   | 22,000,000 | 60%        | \$193   | \$14.62  |
| Natural Gas | Therm  | 100,000    | 90%        | \$1.55  | \$17.22  |
| Pellets     | Ton    | 16,400,000 | 80%        | \$247   | \$18.83  |
| Fuel Oil    | Gallon | 138,200    | 85%        | \$3.72  | \$29.91  |
| Kerosene    | Gallon | 136,600    | 85%        | \$4.19  | \$34.08  |
| Propane     | Gallon | 91,600     | 90%        | \$2.96  | \$35.90  |
| Electricity | kWh    | 3,412      | 300%       | \$0.15  | \$14.65  |





# Typical Residential Heating Fuel Costs (75 MMBtu/Yr)

| Fuel        | Volume | Unit    | \$/Unit | \$/Year |
|-------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Wood        | 5.7    | Cords   | \$193   | \$1,100 |
| Natural Gas | 833    | Therms  | \$1.55  | \$1,291 |
| Pellets     | 5.7    | Tons    | \$247   | \$1,407 |
| Fuel Oil    | 603    | Gallons | \$3.72  | \$2,243 |
| Kerosene    | 610    | Gallons | \$4.19  | \$2,556 |
| Propane     | 910    | Gallons | \$2.96  | \$2,694 |
| Electricity | 21,981 | kWh     | \$0.15  | \$3,297 |

- Without Natural Gas (or biomass), heating costs run \$2000-\$3000+ per year

# Heating Fuel Cost Savings with an ASHP (COP 3.0)

| Fuel        | Unit    | 50<br>MMBtu/Yr | 75<br>MMBtu/Yr | 100<br>MMBtu/Yr |
|-------------|---------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Wood        | Cords   | \$28           | \$41           | \$55            |
| Natural Gas | Therms  | \$(136)        | \$(204)        | \$(272)         |
| Pellets     | Tons    | \$(194)        | \$(291)        | \$(388)         |
| Fuel Oil    | Gallons | \$(800)        | \$(1200)       | \$(1601)        |
| Kerosene    | Gallons | \$(985)        | \$(1478)       | \$(1970)        |
| Propane     | Gallons | \$(1218)       | \$(1827)       | \$(2435)        |
| Electricity | kWh     | \$(1744)       | \$(2616)       | \$(3488)        |

- Savings ~\$1,000-\$2000/yr+
- Assuming 90% heating fuel offset and no cooling effects

# Case Study

## Building Description

- 2 Story, 3 Bedroom home in Burlington, VT
- 2280 ft<sup>2</sup> CFA
- Some weatherization (primarily in the attic)
- Modeled design heat load ~54,000 btu/h
- Existing oil boiler – 680 gallons/yr (\$2600)



# Case Study - Heat Pump Installation

- 2 Mini-splits installed in November, 2012
- One Mitsubishi FE18 in dining/kitchen and one FE12 in master bedroom



# Case Study - Fuel Use Data

|                | Pre-Installation Use | Adjusted Pre-Use (for DHW) | Post-Installation Use (adj) | Difference | Savings (\$/year) |
|----------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Oil (gal)      | 684                  | 584                        | 188                         | -396       | \$1,464           |
| Electric (kWh) | 6910                 | NA                         | 12,056                      | +6200      | \$(870)           |

**Net Savings = \$594**

## Some considerations

- 73% displacement
- All things equal, COP = 2.2 (assumes all added electric went to heat)
- Annual increase in kWh is not necessarily heating-only

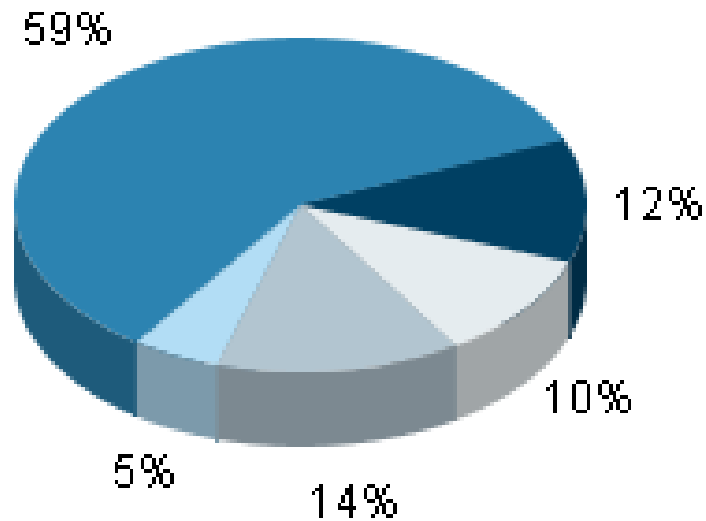
# Lessons Learned, Next Steps

- DHW disaggregation a wild card
- Accurate billing analysis difficult with unregulated bulk fuel deliveries
- Sub-metered data necessary for accurate evaluation
  
- 13 Homes where sub-metering is installed
- 9 of these have an experimental COP metering
- Beginning to gather data, analysis in late spring/early summer
- Developing better tools for calculating bulk fuel use

# Economics for Vermont and Beyond

# Heating Fuels for Vermont Homes

- Natural Gas
- Fuel Oil
- Electricity
- Propane
- Other/None



Source: US DOE, 2000 Census



# Potential Savings for Vermont

| Fuel Displacement % | Space Heating (Gal Oil + LP) | Water Heating (Gal Oil + LP) | Cost Savings (\$/Year) |
|---------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 10%                 | 9,250,000                    | 1,850,000                    | \$20,000,000           |
| 20%                 | 18,500,000                   | 3,700,000                    | \$40,000,000           |
| 30%                 | 27,750,000                   | 5,550,000                    | \$60,000,000           |
| 40%                 | 37,000,000                   | 7,400,000                    | \$80,000,000           |
| 50%                 | 46,250,000                   | 9,250,000                    | \$100,000,000          |

*Source: Hyper-Efficient Devices: Assessing the Fuel Displacement Potential in VT of Plug in Vehicles and Heat Pump Technology, Letendre 2013*

- Assuming fuel oil at \$3.99/gal, LP at \$2.99/gal, electricity at \$0.14615/kWh

# Theoretical Maximum Efficiency (COP)

|                         | Technology |           |           |
|-------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
|                         | Combustion | Resistive | Heat Pump |
| Present Peak Efficiency | 0.95       | 1.0       | 2.0-4.0   |
| Theoretical Maximum     | 1.0        | 1.0       | 6.0-17.0  |

- Combustion Technology is near maximum
- Heat Pumps still present huge potential

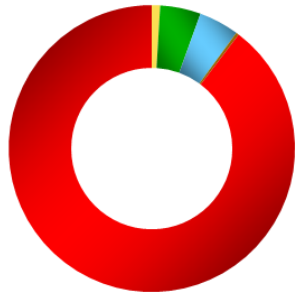
# National Sales – Ductless Heat Pumps

## Ductless History and Forecast (U.S.)

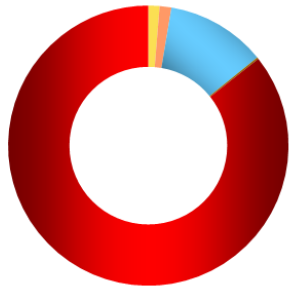


Mitsubishi Electric “Market Data”

# Worldwide Adoption



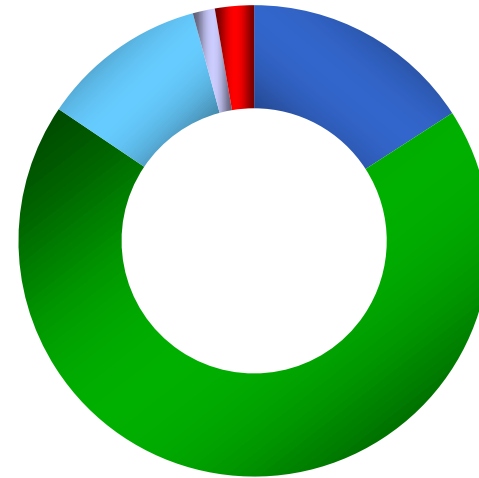
*Japan*  
90%  
7.2M Systems



*China*  
86%  
16.7M Systems



*Europe*  
81%  
7.6M Systems



*USA*  
4%  
0.4M Systems

*Ductless is a small percent of the U.S. HVAC market but current building and energy usage trends indicate a large growth opportunity*

Mitsubishi Electric “Market Data”

- Window
- Unitary
- Chillers
- Moveable
- Ductless

# Vermont Market – Residential Splits

## 2011-2012 Sales:

- Close to 35% growth over previous year
- ~1720 Units

## 2012-2013 Sales:

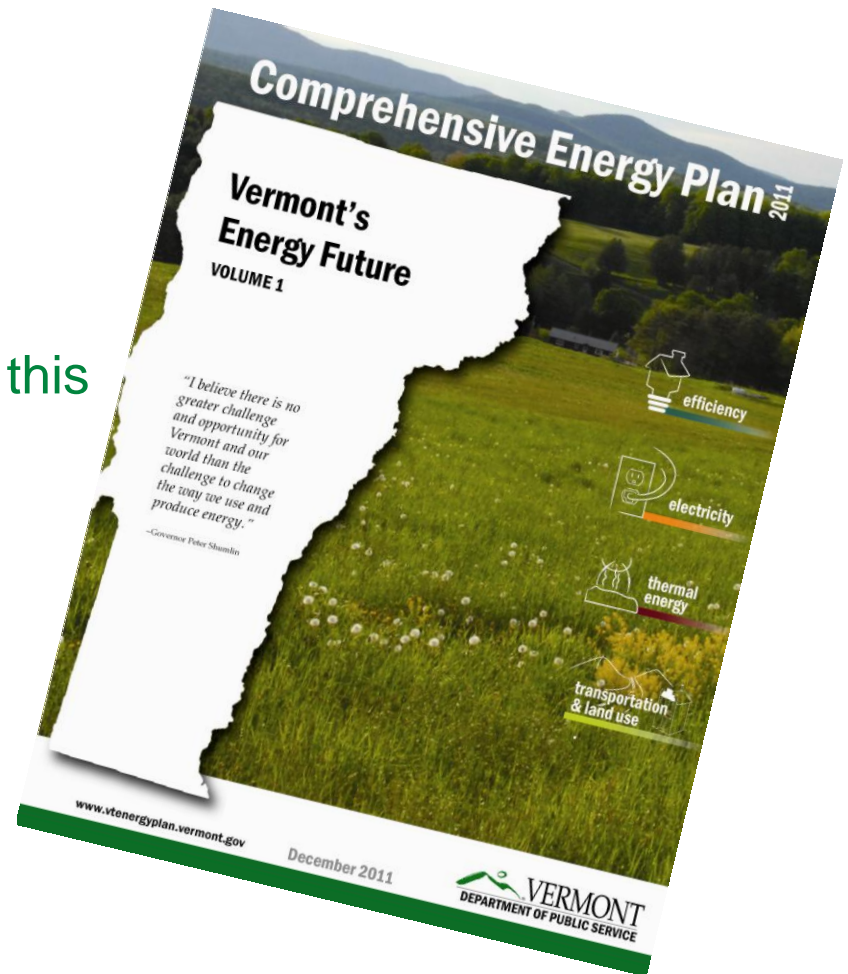
- Major manufacturers saw over 40% growth
- ~2400 Units

See a trend?

# Programs

# VT Comprehensive Energy Plan

- 90% Renewable by 2050
- Renewable thermal energy?
- Biomass and electrical
- Heat pumps are a big piece of this energy puzzle
- Programs being put in place to support this ambitious goal



# Programs – CEED Cold Climate Heat Pump Program

What is it?

- Collaboration between Efficiency Vermont, Green Mountain Power, and Neighborworks of Western Vermont
- Incentive program for installing heat pumps in residential and commercial buildings
- Both ductless and central systems – All air source
- Fossil fuel displacement

**COLD-CLIMATE**  
**HEAT PUMP**



# Programs – CEED Cold Climate Heat Pumps Eligible Equipment

The world's first cold climate heat pump standard:

|                    | DUCTLESS   | CENTRAL   |
|--------------------|--|---|
| Definition         | A split-system heat pump unit that heats (or cools) directly into the room without ducts | A split-system heat pump unit connected to whole house distribution systems |
| Capacity           | 100% of Nominal Capacity at 5°F  | Maximum heating capacity at 5°F >50% rated capacity                         |
| Heating Efficiency | COP >1.75 @5°F maximum capacity rating; HSPF > 9   | COP >1.75 @5°F maximum capacity rating                                      |
| Cooling Efficiency | >20 SEER   | >SEER 13  |

# Programs – CEED Cold Climate Heat Pumps Customer Eligibility

- Must be Legacy CVPS customer
- Must use fossil fuels
  - 300 gallons of fuel oil/kero
  - 450 gallons of LP
- Building must be weatherized
  - Avoid putting heat pumps in “leaky old farmhouses”

# Programs – CEED Cold Climate Heat Pumps Customer Incentives

|                       | DUCTLESS* | CENTRAL   |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| First Indoor Unit     | \$750     | \$500/ton |
| Second Indoor Unit    | \$500     |           |
| Integrated Controls   | \$250     | \$250     |
| Integrated DHW System |           | \$500     |

# Programs – Cold Climate Heat Pump Electric Heat Retrofit

What is it?

- EVT program directed at electric resistance displacement
- NOT a fuel switch program
- Targeting residential customers with primary electric heat



# Programs – Cold Climate Heat Pump Electric Heat Retrofit

- Equipment Eligibility- Same as CEED CCHP (ductless only)
- Customer Eligibility- State-wide residential electric customers who use primarily electric resistance heat
- Incentives- \$1,000 for each home
- Official rollout...Today!

# Lease Programs – GMP

- August 1, 2013 Rollout
- Only for GMP customers
- 600+ calls in the first few days
- So successful, had to stop taking new calls
- 447 homes have been visited
- Around 100 ductless units installed
- Plans to go State-wide



# Lease Programs – Glow

([www.glowheat.com](http://www.glowheat.com))



- Monthly costs \$52-\$57, no money down
- Private 15 yr. lease arrangement
- Installing similar equipment to CEED/HiPER

## Three unit sizes are available

| Size (btu)    | 12,000  | 15,000  | 18,000  |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Monthly Cost* | \$51.95 | \$53.95 | \$56.95 |
| Net Savings** | \$517   | \$751   | \$985   |

\* Cost estimate for Mitsubishi FE Series heat pump lease (taxes not included)

\*\*Estimating annual savings for an average 2500 sq ft home currently using 850 gallons of oil per year for heating

# Programs- Other States

## Maine

- \$600 unit, optional on-bill financing (7.75%)
- 1350 homes – low income
- 660 homes – open market

## Connecticut

- 3576 heat pumps – low income
- 490 heat pumps – open market

## Other Programs

- Massachusetts, New York, New Hampshire, Pacific Northwest



# A Look Forward

# Technology to Look Out For

## Near Term

- 30+ SEER ductless
- Multi-zone cold climate optimized ductless
- Integrated water heating
- More customer options all around

## Long Term

- Constantly improving efficiencies
- CO2 Refrigerant Systems
- No need for back-up systems (true replacement)

# Other Upcoming Factors

- Most models forecast significant natural gas cost increases over the next decade
- Increased adoption of renewable generation is constantly improving the source factor (decrease in CO<sub>2</sub>)
- Demand response as AMI (smart grid) improves, possible time of use rates provide added support for electrification

# Not Without Challenges

- Program support is challenging for fossil fuel displacement.  
Concerns about load/peak building
- Current source factors make carbon reduction minimal for much of the US
- Added strain on an aging electrical infrastructure
- Creates even more need for efficiency and renewables
- Installation and service contractor training
- Supply chain disruptions

# Take Away

Challenges do exist, however...

- Technology is currently very economically compelling
- Future developments and technology potential make this even more compelling
- Opportunity for market growth is tremendous
- Provides important strategy for carbon reduction solution
- Programs being put in place are accelerating adoption

# Let's Talk