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Argentina Government Targets Efficiency of Air Conditioners

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A new resolution made by the Secretary of Energy has set minimum requirements of efficiency for air conditioners in Argentina in an attempt to target energy problems. All air conditioning systems will have to be adjusted in the next two years.

Details of the plan, called 'Resolution 814/2013', were published today in the government's Official Bulletin. The plan aims to raise the efficiency of all air conditioning systems.

According to the classing system established by Daniel Cameron, Secretary of Energy, air conditioning equipment of class A efficiency uses 12% less energy than class C equipment. That of class B uses roughly 6% less than that of class C. That of class C uses about 6% less than that of class D.

Air conditioning systems use up the vast majority of energy in residential buildings, often working at 7kW. Of units offered, in cooling mode, about 30% work at class A efficiency and about 60% at class B efficiency. In heating mode, about 27% work at class D efficiency, with the rest varying in efficiency.

Currently, almost 49% of air conditioning systems in Argentina are class C efficiency. Of all air conditioning models sold in 2012, about 38% came with a heating mode, and of those, 40% were of efficiency class D or E.

By 2014, all will have to be adjusted to class B efficiency in cooling and class C efficiency in heating. By 2015, they will have to be class A efficiency in cooling.