From:	no-reply@vrmailer3.com on behalf of cbecc-res
Sent:	Wednesday, January 20, 2016 6:23 PM
To:	
Subject:	CBECC-Res 2013 Version 4b now available

Dear CBECC-Res user:

Version 4b of the CBECC-Res 2013 residential compliance software is now available for download from the project website. Version 4b was approved by the California Energy Commission on January 20, 2016 as a minor change to Version 4.

All residential permit applications made on or after August 1, 2015 must use either CBECC-Res 2013 Version 4 or 4b. Please note that Version 4b can read Version 4 input files (backward compatible), but Version 4 cannot read Version 4b input files (not forward compatible). We recommend that you copy and rename Version 4 input files that will be used with Version 4b.

New modeling capabilities and corrections in Version 4b include:

- Revised example files (named Example19.RIBD), the use of which are strongly encouraged when creating new projects.
- Water heating:
  - Restores the ability to model verified existing conditions on an altered water heater,
  - Allows modeling a propane water heating device in a combined hydronic system,
  - Allows modeling a combined hydronic system with an electric water heating device (other than a heat pump-type water heater which does not have enough recovery capacity for space and water heating),
  - Corrects a calculation error for altered propane water heating, and
  - Adjusts the user input's default efficiency of storage water heaters based on tank size (although consultants are encourage to check the Energy Commission's equipment database because the Standards recently changed).
- Eliminates reporting a cathedral ceiling as a special feature (whether the cathedral ceiling is modeled to accommodate a skylight or is feature of the building, the ACM Reference Manual does not require reporting this as a special feature).
- Restricts the maximum duct R-value to R-8.
- Limits the R-value of ducts in a heating only system to the default Package A value for the specified climate zone (for example, climate zone 16 must model R-8 ducts).
- Sets the user input's default airflow to 150 cfm/ton (an energy penalty) when the proposed system is a single speed zonal system that may have a bypass duct. Section 150.0(m)15 provides an exception to the 350 cfm/ton airflow requirement under these conditions. Using this default value increases the likelihood that the system can meet the specified airflow requirements (see also Section 8.2.2.8). If the user is aware that airflow will be higher, the user can increase it to the design airflow rate.
- Allows whole house fan ventilation to be modeled with a smaller area of roof venting. The standard design for climate zones that include cooling ventilation is 1 ft2 for every 375 of rated fan capacity. If selected, this reduced area option uses 1 ft2 for every 750 cfm of rated fan capacity (see Section 4.9) and imposes a slight penalty.
- For an addition alone calculation, input requires the existing conditioned floor area (Analysis tab) and number of existing and new bedrooms (Building tab). Although

primarily for additions greater than 1,000 ft2 where the indoor air quality requirements apply to the entire dwelling unit (see Section 150.2(a)1C), these inputs also adjust appliance loads and internal gains (see Sections 4.4.1.9-4.4.1.11 and 4.6.1.7).
- Adds "small duct high velocity" cooling system and heat pump space conditioning system types.
- Includes a range check that alerts the user when inputting a cooling system efficiency that is lower than Federal requirements (a new Federal regulation requires certain equipment to meet the required efficiency at the time of installation rather than at the date of manufacture). (See Section 8.3.1.3 or Frequently Asked Questions, November 30, 2015, #7).

If you need general help with the software, please check the CBECC-Res FAQs and User Manual, which can be downloaded from the project website. The Quick Start Guide and User Manual can also be accessed by clicking on the program's Help menu.

If you need additional technical assistance with the software, please email CBECC-Res Support at cbecc.res@gmail.com (if you send an .ribd file, please mention the CBECC-Res version number).

Best Regards,

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