

The Challenges of Climate Change

Residential buildings in the United States are the largest single energy-consuming group worldwide, according to a recent McKinsey Global Institute report. Given the urgency of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, it is time to achieve dramatically greater levels of energy efficiency in homes. As leaders in the building science approach to improving home performance, **ACI (Affordable Comfort, Inc.)** and **Home Energy magazine** are working together to develop a road map for minimizing carbon emissions in North American homes.

To begin this process, ACI will host a two-day summit of leaders and stakeholders: **Moving Existing Homes Towards Carbon Neutrality**, July 11–13, at the Pacific Energy Center in San Francisco, CA. (visit www.affordablecomfort.org for details). The goal is to assemble a group of people with the appropriate background, skills, and interests to collectively and creatively identify priorities, barriers, and opportunities in reducing the carbon footprints of U.S. homes. Only by pooling our resources can we begin to develop the strategies, implement the solutions, and generate the momentum needed to catalyze this transformation. **Home Energy magazine** will be publishing a **Climate Solutions** special issue devoted to showing how leaders in the home building, remodeling, home energy auditing, and energy efficiency fields are changing the way they do business in order to sharply reduce the levels of greenhouse gas emissions from the building sector. **Home Energy's Climate Solutions** special issue will cover strategies and lessons learned both from **ACI's** Summit and from home performance professionals who are rising to the climate change challenge by

- Retrofitting homes to radically cut energy use and greenhouse gas emissions;
- Building carbon-neutral homes;
- Advising homeowners on best overall practices to reduce carbon emissions;
- Selling carbon credits for home efficiency retrofits;
- Expanding roles for HERS raters in carbon markets;
- Calculating post-retrofit carbon footprints;
- Building zero-peak homes;
- Offering combined services to homeowners of both efficiency retrofits and installations of renewable energy sources; and much more.

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For more information about the **ACI Summit**, contact ACI's Program and Development Manager **Linda Wigington** at lwigington@affordablecomfort.org or 724-852-3085.

For more information about **sponsorship opportunities** or to purchase advance copies, please contact Home Energy's Special Issue Manager **Ann Hutcheson-Wilcox** at annhw@homeenergy.org or 510-206-3063.

For **advertising questions**, please contact Marketing Manager **Carol Markell** at camarkell@homeenergy.org, 510-207-2420 or 510-931-5455.

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