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Mexico Adopts New Energy Efficiency Standards for Certain Split Air Conditioners

Mexico's Ministry of Energy has established new minimum energy efficiency standards for ductless mini-split inverter air conditioners with variable refrigerant flow and free discharge, with a nominal cooling capacity of 1 Wt to 19,050 Wt. Excluded from these standards are water heat pumps, units designed to be used with additional ducts, portable units (other than window units) having an exhaust duct condenser, multi-split units with a frequency condenser and/or variable refrigerant flow, and products covered by other mandatory Mexican energy efficiency standards.

The new standard (NOM-026-ENER-2015) establishes minimum seasonal energy efficiency ratios of 4.10 Wt/We (14 BTU/h/W) for air conditioners with a cooling capacity from 10,600 to 19,050 BTU/hr, 4.39 Wt/We (15 BTU/h/W) for air conditioners with a cooling capacity from 5,859 to 10,600 BTU/hr, and 4.68 Wt/We (16 BTU/h/W) for air conditioners with a cooling capacity up to 5,859 BTU/h. Slated to enter into force on 7 August, the regulation also sets definitions, sampling, acceptance, test methods, labelling and conformity evaluation requirements for these products.

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