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AHAM TO LAUNCH ENERGY VERIFICATION PROGRAM FOR REFRIGERATORS AND FREEZERS IN 2010

WASHINGTON, DC (January 4, 2010)— The Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM) will launch a third party industry verification program to verify manufacturer energy ratings for refrigerators and freezers. This program will validate the energy ratings made by manufacturers through random third party testing conducted by an independent laboratory. The program will be open to AHAM members and non-members alike.

While this program will be voluntary, AHAM has received preliminary commitments from the vast majority of refrigerator and freezer manufacturers eligible for participation in the program, which is expected to begin in mid-2010.

AHAM has been working closely with the US Department of Energy (DOE) to put in place a credible third-party verification program that is consistent with DOE test procedures, which are the basis for measuring appliance energy use for both DOE appliance standards and ENERGYSTAR.

Joseph M. McGuire, AHAM president, stated that “While manufacturers already test and self-certify all models to DOE, the industry’s interest is to strengthen confidence among the public and government in refrigerators and freezer energy claims through random third party verification tests. AHAM’s long history of administering third party verification services will add assurances that products have been independently tested and will match the energy claims by the manufacturer.”

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The Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM) is a not-for-profit trade association representing manufacturers of major, portable and floor care home appliances, and suppliers to the industry and is headquartered in Washington, DC. You can visit the AHAM web site at <http://www.aham.org>