



Australian Government
**Department of Climate Change
and Energy Efficiency**

“Getting the Rating right”

Enhancing the Nationwide House Energy Rating Scheme (NatHERS)

What is NatHERS

Where does it operate

**What are its component elements and what’s
being enhanced to make it stronger**

thinkchange



The Nationwide House Energy Rating Scheme (NatHERS)

- A scheme of the Commonwealth, state and territory governments which:
 - Provides accredited tools
 - Has qualified assessors
 - Produces assessment reports for regulatory approvals
 - Has a governance system
- In order to support the *energy efficiency* provisions in the National Construction Code (Building Code of Australia)



Slide 2

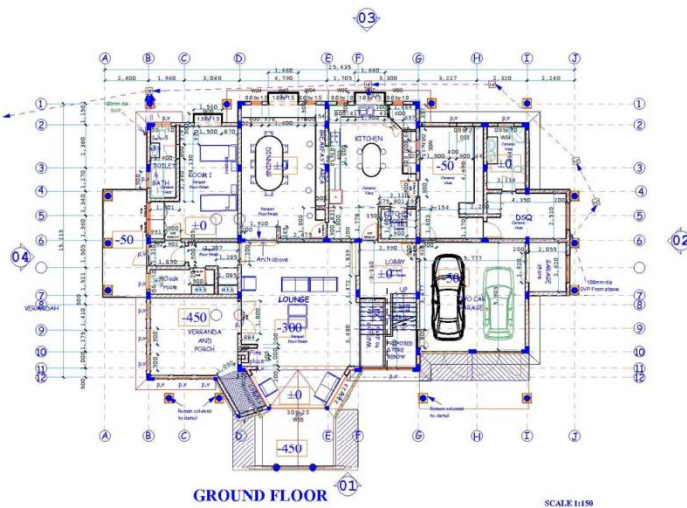
H2

MIGHT be good here David to talk about the minimum STANDARD setting of the Scheme. (this is almost like THE strategy of the Scheme to make it effective and efficient) Ie rating tool, climate zones, qualification, accreditation, star bands, procedures/systems/protocols, AAO's etc

Matthews, Tanya, 15/01/2013

Residential construction – where NatHERS supports effective outcomes

- Residential construction is a significant part of the economy
- The sector is a significant energy user
- And thus a significant greenhouse gas producer



NaTHERS – an integrated system

- CheNath - the (physics) calculation engine
- Software tools
- Qualified and competent workforce
- Quality assurance
- Governance and administration

The calculation engine (CheNath)

- Improved air flow model capable of permanent opening simulations
- Improved eave and wing wall modeling
- Improved subfloor and roof space modeling
- improved glazing modeling
- Improved ground modeling
- *Want to know more? buildings@climatechange.gov.au*

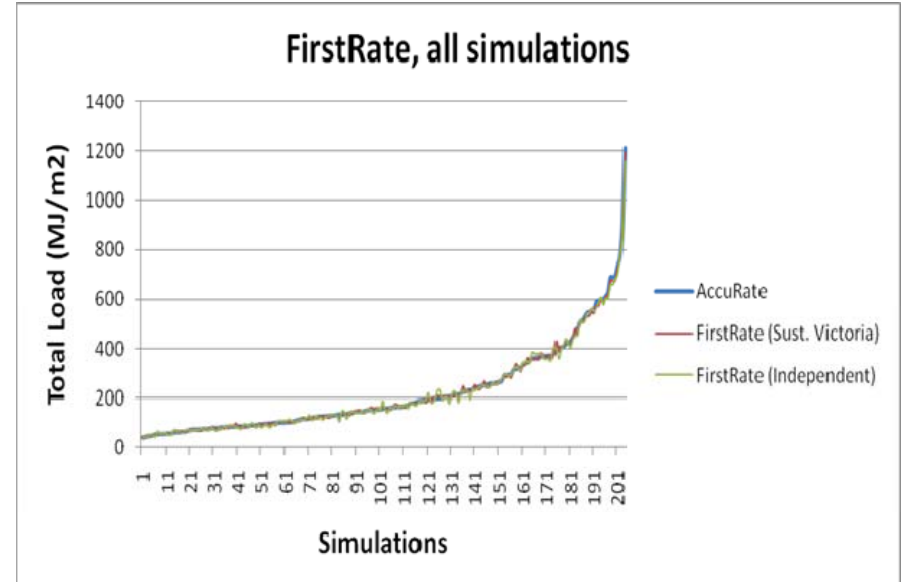
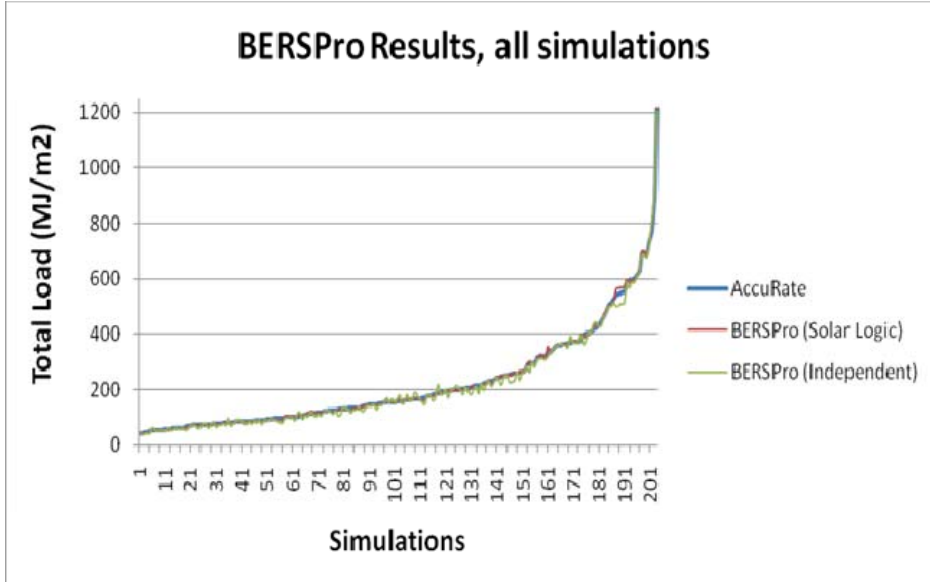


The tools (AccuRate, FirstRate, BERS)



FirstRate5
house energy rating software

Alignment of the tools



The NatHERS workforce

- About 2000 assessors
- About 140-160,000 new builds each year
 - 60-80% of these have NatHERS assessments (others use the DTS method)
- Accreditation, licencing
- Certificate IV in NatHERS Assessment

Assessor Skills and Training

- New minimum qualification standard (Certificate IV in NatHERS Assessment)
- Training materials development



Governance and Administration

- NatHERS Steering Committee
- National Administrator
- NatHERS Working Group / Buildings Implementation Committee
- NatHERS Technical Advisory Committee

Improvements - Governance and Administration

- Strengthened the software accreditation rules
 - Full accreditation of all three tools in 2012
- Improved protocols
 - MOU with Australian Building Codes Board
 - Evaluating the protocol for assessor accrediting organisations
- Strengthened interactions with industry
 - Technical advisory panel
 - New materials inclusion pathway
 - Publication of research reports on website

The Future

Further improvements to NatHERS will include:

- Climate zone map
- Improved simulation for houses in tropical areas
- Upgrades to the Chenath engine
- Improve skills of NatHERS assessors
- New protocols (eg AAO)

