

## **Superior Energy Performance® Policy Interpretation providing a certification pathway for Commercial Buildings**

**May 7, 2015**

**Question:** As a hotel or university campus, can I use the supporting standards and protocols developed for SEP- Industry to apply for SEP certification?

**Response:** The SEP Administrator is providing this interpretation regarding the types of facilities that can be certified to Superior Energy Performance (SEP).

**Background:** A number of owners/operators of buildings and complex buildings that have energy uses similar to light industry have approached the SEP Administrator asking to be certified to SEP. Historically, only Industrial Facilities (ISO 50003 Industry – light to medium and Industry – Heavy) have a clearly defined pathway to SEP certification.

**Interpretation:** Starting May 7, 2015 the SEP Administrator is allowing Commercial Buildings (ISO 50003 - Buildings and Building Complexes) to request certification through the existing SEP program. The SEP Administrator's response to this request means that the current SEP program, including associated standards, protocols, and application may be used by Commercial Buildings as a pathway for certification to SEP. The rationale for this interpretation is that although the current SEP program was developed for industry, it was determined to be applicable to commercial buildings. The intent is to demonstrate wider program applicability, while also including opportunities for stakeholder input to improve these program documents.