DON'T FORGET
YOUR DUCTS!

YOUR COOLING AND HEATING EQUIPMENT IS ONLY AS GOOD AS THE DUCTS THAT CIRCULATE AIR IN YOUR HOME. LEAKY, UNINSULATED DUCTS IN ATTICS AND CRAWL SPACES CAN REDUCE YOUR SYSTEM'S OVERALL EFFICIENCY BY 20 PERCENT.

To get the maximum benefit from your system and to maintain comfort and good indoor air quality, you need the proper balance between the air being supplied to each room and the air returning to your heating and cooling equipment. Leaky ducts can cause an unbalanced system and waste energy.

Sealing and insulating ducts in attics and crawl spaces improves your system's efficiency and ability to consistently cool and heat every room in your home. A typical homeowner could save up to 10 percent on energy costs every year.

Whether you are having new equipment installed or want to improve the performance of your existing heating and cooling system, you should have your duct system checked.

To improve your ducts, make sure to have your contractor:

> Use diagnostic equipment to identify any leaks.

> Seal your ducts with mastic, metal-backed tape, or aerosol sealant. Do not use duct tape because it cannot withstand high temperatures and will not last.

> Insulate your ducts located in unconditioned spaces such as attics and crawl spaces. Your contractor should use duct insulation material rated at R-6 to insulate ducts.

> Test airflow out of the registers after ducts are sealed.

> Conduct a combustion safety test after ducts are sealed to be sure all gas or oil-burning appliances are working properly.