

FOR RELEASE:

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

**Robert Boteler
(314) 553-1179**

**Kyle Pitsor
(703) 841-3274
kyl_pitsor@nema.org**

**NATIONAL ELECTRICAL MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION
ANNOUNCES ENERGY EFFICIENT MOTOR PROGRAM**

ROSSLYN, Va., October 10, 2000 The Motor and Generator Section of the National Electrical Manufacturers Association today announced it will establish a Premium Motor energy efficiency program.

Traditionally, there has been no industry consensus specification defining high efficiency or premium efficiency motors. Recent power supply issues and utility deregulation have brought attention to the need to help motor users optimize motor systems efficiency. The Energy Policy Act of 1992 imposed energy efficiency standards on many classes of motors. Since then, many users and motor repair shops have become confused over the lack of consistency in terms describing integral motor premium efficiency performance.

By agreeing on a North American Premium Motor program, NEMA motor manufacturers expect this confusion to be greatly reduced. They anticipate demand for NEMA premium efficient motors will one day exceed demand for the current energy efficient product required by the Energy Policy Act. Integral horsepower motors became an efficiency-regulated product under the act; minimum efficiency

levels known as energy efficient were established for 1 horsepower to 200 horsepower, general purpose motors. The Premium Motor program will go beyond the EPA program to include motors up to 450 horsepower.

Experts believe NEMA Premium Motors will be specified by utility motor programs as replacements for older, failed motors because of an accompanying reduction in electrical energy consumption and improved reliability.

Praising the proposed program, NEMA President Malcolm O'Hagan said, "A NEMA Premium Motor should be a welcome addition to the marketplace, setting a clear, voluntary energy efficiency specification for the industry, one that will be good for consumers, manufacturers, and the environment."

NEMA members are determined to provide the most innovative and efficient motor products possible, according to Boteler. "In fact, we have elected to broaden the new NEMA Premium program to include motors outside the range now regulated by the federal government."

Using Department of Energy industrial motor research data, Boteler estimates that the NEMA Premium Motor program, including commercial and agricultural applications, would save 5.8 gigawatts of electricity and prevent the release of nearly 80 million metric tons of carbon into the atmosphere over the next ten years. "It would be the equivalent of keeping 16 million cars off the road in the next decade," he says.

Member companies in the NEMA Motor and Generator Section include Emerson Electric, General Electric Company, Marathon/Lincoln, Siemens Energy and Automation, Toshiba International, Rockwell Automation, Sterling Electric, WEG Electric, Leeson Electric, Brook Crompton NA, ElectraGear, Ametek, Howell, Imperial Electric, Peerless WinSmith, SEW-Eurodrive, and Onan Corporation.

NEMA is the leading trade association in the United States representing the interests of electroindustry manufacturers. Founded in 1926 and headquartered near Washington, D.C., its 500

member companies manufacture products used in the generation, transmission and distribution, control, and end-use of electricity. Annual shipments of these products total \$100 billion.

###