Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S0360-1323(17)30306-2

DOI: 10.1016/j.buildenv.2017.07.020

Reference: BAE 4999

To appear in: Building and Environment

Received Date: 25 April 2017

Revised Date: 11 July 2017

Accepted Date: 12 July 2017

Please cite this article as: Ford R, Pritoni M, Sanguinetti A, Karlin B, Categories and functionality of smart home technology for energy management, *Building and Environment* (2017), doi: 10.1016/j.buildenv.2017.07.020.

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Categories and Functionality of Smart Home Technology for Energy Management

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10 Abstract

11 Technologies providing opportunities for home energy management have been on the rise in recent years, however, it's not clear how well the technology - as it's currently being developed - will be able 12 13 to deliver energy saving or demand shifting benefits. The current study undertakes an analysis of 308 14 home energy management (HEM) products to identify key differences in terms of functionality and 15 quality. Findings identified opportunities for energy savings (both behavioural and operational) as well 16 as load shifting across most product categories, however, in many instances other potential benefits 17 related to convenience, comfort, or security may limit the realisation of savings. This is due to lack of information related to energy being collected and presented to users, as well as lack of understanding 18 19 of how users may interact with the additional information and control provided. While the current study 20 goes some way to identify the technical capabilities and potential for HEM products to deliver savings, 21 it is recommended that further work expand on this to identify how users interact with these 22 technologies in their home, in both a standalone and fully integrated smart home environment to 23 deliver benefits to both homes and the grid.

24 Keywords

25 Home Energy Management; Energy Efficiency; Smart Home; Home Automation; Internet of Things

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