



The HVAC&R Industry

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Advancing HVAC&R to Serve Humanity
And Promote a Sustainable World

The HVAC&R Industry, ASHRAE's free weekly eNewsletter for HVAC&R professionals, provides relevant, timely information about industry and technology for people who create healthy, comfortable indoor environments.

Industry News

'Cloud' Computing Changing Data Center Design

NEW YORK—A new wave of giant data centers with tens of thousands of servers are being built. An article in the February issue of *IEEE Spectrum* says these warehouse-sized centers are part of what Internet companies are calling cloud computing. Cloud computing involves collections of equipment that will run applications and store data remotely. The larger data centers are adopting advanced power management hardware, water-based cooling systems, and denser server configurations. This makes designing such facilities much different from conventional air-conditioned server rooms.

U.S. EPA Lists Most Energy-Efficient U.S. Cities

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has released a list of U.S. metropolitan areas with the largest number of energy efficient buildings, based upon how many have earned EPA's ENERGY STAR® rating. The top 10 cities on the list are Los Angeles, San Francisco, Houston, Washington, D.C., Dallas-Fort Worth, Chicago, Denver, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Atlanta and Seattle. There are 6,205 ENERGY STAR-rated buildings in the U.S. More than half received the rating in 2008.

Trane Opens LEED® Silver Building

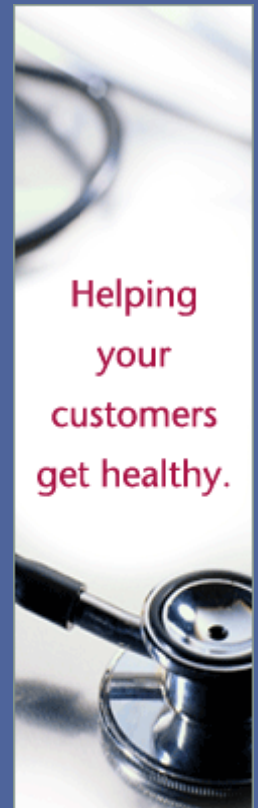
SAN ANTONIO—A new Trane commercial office building has earned the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED® Silver certification for commercial interiors. In the facility, one-third of building materials used were recycled. Compared to typical office buildings, the building uses 32% less water, its mechanical systems consume nearly 50% less energy, and its lighting systems have 15% less power density. The 32,000 ft² (3000 m²) building accommodates more than 75 employees.

Compressor Companies Targeted in Global Antitrust Investigation

ATLANTA—The U.S. Justice Department and authorities in Europe and South America have opened an antitrust investigation of the compressor industry focusing on possible price fixing and other anticompetitive practices. Compressor manufacturers Whirlpool Corp. and Tecumseh Products Co. say they have been subpoenaed by the Justice Department, and Brazilian authorities have requested information from local subsidiaries. "The initial investigation shows that companies involved had agreed, through their managers, to fix price increases and also exchanged commercially sensitive information, harming free competition and consumers," Brazil police said in a statement.

Water Is Important Part of 'Energy Equation'

GENEVA, Switzerland—The energy sector uses about 8% of all freshwater withdrawn worldwide and as much as 40% of freshwater withdrawn in developed countries, according to a recent report. However, the report by the World Economic Forum says that only 3% of the world's water is available for human use. It concludes that pressure on freshwater resources will require more efficient use of water and that energy companies



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LENNOX

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will increasingly need to help manage the world's water resources.

ASHRAE News

BACnet® Standard Expanding

ASHRAE published the newest version of the BACnet® standard, 135-2008, in January. Already, the BACnet committee has 11 additional addenda in process. Also, at ASHRAE's recent 2009 Winter Conference, the committee heard updates on projects outside of the U.S. that incorporate BACnet and educate future users of the building automation protocol.

Feature of the Week

Overhead Heating: Revisiting a Lost Art

By Daniel Int-Hout III, P.E., Member ASHRAE

Overhead heating has been the primary method of offsetting perimeter winter loads with VAV systems for 30 years. This article provides advice on producing overhead heating that complies with ASHRAE standards and guidance on energy efficiency, indoor air quality and comfort.

Product News

Water-Source Heat Pump From Rittling

BUFFALO, N.Y.—Rittling introduces the Vertical Stack Water Source Heat Pump in seven unit sizes. Because it is manufactured in only two cabinet sizes, the unit saves on space and reduces the footprint necessary for installation. Product features include low sound levels, insulated refrigeration/water piping for low temperature applications, and an electronic condensate overflow sensor.

Daylighting Controller From Watt Stopper/Legrand

SANTA CLARA, Calif.—The new Lightsaver® LS-102 daylighting controller from Watt Stopper/Legrand provides closed-loop, single-zone, on-off switching of lighting in response to daylight contributions. The LS-102 continuously and automatically calibrates itself, eliminating the need for repeated manual calibrations to capture changing light levels as room reflectance levels change.

Water Heater From Bosch

WAITSFIELD, Vt.—Bosch introduces the ProTankless™ GWH C 920 ES/ESC high-output condensing tankless water heater. It offers a high flow rate and low NO_x emissions, and uses modulating and condensing technology to deliver water at 94% thermal efficiency.

Subscription Management

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