



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

U.S. President's Executive Order Mandates Sustainability Goals

WASHINGTON—President Barack Obama signed an executive order Tuesday that sets sustainability goals for federal agencies. The executive order requires agencies to reduce their vehicle fleet petroleum use by 30% by 2020; design all new federal buildings to achieve net zero energy use by 2030, beginning in 2020; improve water efficiency by 26% by 2020; recycle or divert 50% of their waste by 2015; and meet sustainability requirements in 95% of all applicable contracts.

Dow Develops Solar Roof Shingles

MIDLAND, Mich.—Dow Chemical has introduced solar roof shingles designed to be woven into a roofing system that uses standard asphalt shingles. The shingles incorporate a thin-film photovoltaic cell device to capture solar energy. The shingles are designed to provide 60% of a home's power. The company says roofing contractors do not need specialized skills to install the shingles. They will be available in limited quantity by the middle of next year with plans for wider distribution in 2011.

U.S. Heating Costs Predicted To Be 8% Lower This Winter

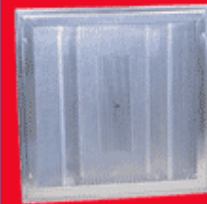
WASHINGTON—The average U.S. household will spend 8% less for space heating during this winter's heating season, according to the Energy Information Administration (EIA) of the U.S. Department of Energy. The EIA's "Short-Term Energy Outlook," released on Tuesday, attributes most of the savings to lower fuel prices, particularly for natural gas, which is experiencing a price slump due to a growing supply that exceeds demand.

2010 AHR Expo Expects Full Program, Large Crowd

WESTPORT, Conn.—The 2010 AHR Expo, the world's largest HVAC&R exposition, will be held at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Fla., from Jan. 25–27. The Expo will include more than 100 educational sessions, workshops and product presentations. "It is critical that the AHR Expo keep its attendees on the cutting edge of the latest 'green' products and issues," said Clay Stevens, president of International Exposition Company, which manages AHR Expo. Registration for the Show and housing are open. Some 45,000 attendees and exhibitor personnel are expected. ASHRAE is a cosponsor of AHR Expo.

18th Century Ships' Logs Could Help Climate Analysis

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2010

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SUNDERLAND, UK—Scientists will use weather data from 18th century ships' logbooks to help understand how the world's climate has changed in the past 200 years. A new UK project involves digitizing nearly 300 Royal Navy captains' logs from voyages dating back to the 1760s. The logs include detailed daily and even hourly measurements of wind speed and direction, as well as temperature and pressure recordings. The researchers are cross-referencing the data with historical records for crop failures, droughts and storms and will compare it with data from the modern era to help predict similar events in the future.

Students Competing in Solar Decathlon

WASHINGTON—More than 800 students from the United States, Canada, Spain and Germany are competing in the 2009 Solar Decathlon. The international competition is being held on the National Mall from today until Oct. 18. For the event, 20 student teams have designed high-efficiency, solar-powered homes that include features designed to conserve energy and save money. Judging will be held in 10 categories. The solar homes will be open to the public beginning Oct. 9.

U.S. Government Promotes 'Virtual' Green Trade Mission

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Commercial Service of the Department of Commerce will launch a "Virtual" Green Trade Mission to Italy this fall. The goal is to offer U.S. firms a cost-effective way to gain market exposure and identify potential agents and distributors. The registration deadline is Oct. 30.

ASHRAE News

Proposed High-Performance Building Standard Nearing Publication

Proposed BSR/ASHRAE/USGBC/IES Standard 189.1P, *Standard for the Design of High Performance, Green Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings*, is expected to be published in early 2010. Its fourth public review is open until Nov. 2. "The standard, once published, provides a 'total building sustainability package' for those who strive to design, build and operate green buildings," said Kent Peterson, chair of the committee writing the standard. The proposed standard is being developed by ASHRAE in conjunction with the Illuminating Engineering Society (IES) and the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC).

Feature of the Week

Design Considerations for Active Chilled Beams

By Darren Alexander, P.Eng.; and **Mike O'Rourke**

According to the authors, active chilled beams are becoming popular with design consultants as a means of managing large sensible cooling loads with excellent energy performance and low acoustic signatures. The difficulty of meeting comfort requirements with a mechanical system that is exceedingly transparent is becoming easier due to decoupled ventilation systems and active chilled beams.

Product News

Ball Valves From Schneider Electric

ROCKFORD, Ill.—TAC DuraDrive VBB/VBS series proportional two-way

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and three-way ball valves from Schneider Electric combine a low-force valve design with a compact actuator to create an assembly designed to be easy to install. The valves accept floating and proportional control signals from a DDC system, controller, or thermostat for control of hot or chilled water, or solutions of up to 60% glycol.

Unit Coolers From Heatcraft Refrigeration Products

STONE MOUNTAIN, Ga.—Heatcraft Refrigeration Products introduces Bohn carbon dioxide unit coolers, available in various configurations for supermarket applications. The 62 models in the line are designed for low temperature DX or medium temperature liquid overfeed/recirculation.

Remote-Controlled Damper From Ruskin

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—The ZPD25 damper from Ruskin is powered by a 9 volt dc, hand-held remote control, and requires no continuous power source. Its Zone Pulse design eliminates the need for cable in typical cable-drive installations.

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