



# The HVAC&R Industry

A weekly eNewsletter from ASHRAE



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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

### Wisconsin Requires BIM for State Construction Projects

MADISON, Wis.—The Wisconsin Division of State Facilities is requiring most state construction projects to include building information modeling (BIM). According to the state's announcement, about 23 state projects will be affected.

### Hacker Attempts To Take Over Hospital's HVAC System

DALLAS—A former security guard at a Dallas hospital has been arrested for allegedly hacking into the facility's HVAC system. The man is allegedly the leader of a group of hackers who planned a mass denial-of-service attack scheduled for the Independence Day holiday. The man was discovered after he posted screenshots showing he had complete control of computers that administered HVAC systems at The Carrell Clinic.

### One-Sixth of Homes Built in 2008 Earn ENERGY STAR Label

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced that nearly 17% of all single-family homes built nationally in 2008 earned EPA's ENERGY STAR label, up from 12% in 2007. Market share for ENERGY STAR-qualified homes was 20% or more in 15 states in 2008. Nearly 940,000 ENERGY STAR-qualified homes have been built. More than 100,000 were constructed in 2008.

### Chinese Drywall Blamed for Odor, Corrosion

WUHAN, China—Drywall from China is blamed for foul odors seeping from walls in hundreds of U.S. homes, mostly in Florida. Homeowners also have reported corrosion to their air conditioners and other property. U.S. authorities haven't determined the causes of the complaints. Some Chinese experts suspect a radioactive phosphorus substance, phosphogypsum, that is banned for construction use in the U.S. Phosphogypsum contains radium, which is believed to lead to a higher risk of lung cancer.

### TAC To Assume Schneider Electric Name in October

DALLAS—TAC will change its name and logo and become Schneider Electric in October. Schneider Electric has been the parent company of TAC since 2003. The company now known as TAC will become a unit within Schneider Electric that focuses on energy management and security for buildings.

### Billionaire Stops World's Largest Wind Farm Project

NEW YORK—Billionaire T. Boone Pickens is shelving his plans to build the world's largest wind farm. The chairman of BP Capital Management announced Tuesday that plans are on hold for the Pampa Wind Project, designed to generate 4,000 MW of electricity using

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thousands of wind turbines. Pickens said he faced hurdles in routing the power from Texas to a distribution system. He also cited reductions in natural gas prices and a tightening credit market.

## ASHRAE News

### **BACnet Technologies Being Positioned for Smart Grid Initiatives**

At the 2009 ASHRAE Annual Conference, the BACnet® committee and its working groups considered how BACnet technologies can be used to aid development of standards to promote "smart grids." The BACnet committee's Utilities Integration Working Group has been engaging utilities and working with national labs on grid-related technologies for many years. The group is being rechartered as the Smart Grid Working Group (SG-WG). It will collaborate closely with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). Already, the network security specifications for the BACnet protocol are being updated, which will help serve the high security needs of smart grid initiatives.

## Feature of the Week

### **University Laboratory System**

**By Ronald W. Henning, P.E.**, Associate Member ASHRAE

This article presents a case study of the building of a new \$96 million Life Sciences Institute at the University of Michigan. Several design considerations, including existing and new systems, were involved. The author won an honorable mention for the 2007 ASHRAE Technology Awards for the project.

## Product News

### **BACnet® Web Server Software From Reliable Controls**

VICTORIA, British Columbia—Reliable Controls offers RC-WebView™ 2.0 BACnet® Web server software that provides a graphical browser interface to Internet-connected BACnet systems. The software features support for BACnet objects. It enables users to view and manually override points; adjust weekly and annual schedules; view, graph, and print trend and runtime logs; and view and print current alarms.

### **Cooling Tower Control System From Baldor Electric**

FORT SMITH, Ark.—Baldor Electric announces a cooling tower control system featuring direct-drive technology. The system combines a laminated finned-frame motor with a permanent magnet salient pole rotor. It is designed to drop directly into existing gearbox mounting patterns. Permanent magnet control increases operating efficiencies even under lightly loaded conditions typical in fan applications at low speeds.

### **Server Enclosures From APC**

WEST KINGSTON, R.I.—APC offers the NetShelter CX line of server enclosures, designed to reduce the need for dedicated IT space and allow users to install a network closet or server room in any office location. The enclosures feature high thermal capacity and noise reduction.

## Subscription Management

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