



# 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

### GM To Install Largest Solar Rooftop System

ROCHESTER HILLS, Mich.—General Motors announced this week it is installing a rooftop solar photovoltaic system at its assembly plant in Figueruelas, Zaragoza, Spain. When the project is completed this fall, the installation will include about 85,000 solar panels, covering about 2 million ft<sup>2</sup> (190,000 m<sup>2</sup>). It reportedly will be the largest rooftop solar installation in the world.

[Read more](#)

### Hawaii Enacts Laws Promoting Renewable Energy

HONOLULU—Hawaii has enacted a law that requires solar water heaters in most new homes, effective Jan. 1, 2010. The state in recent months also has approved a bill that makes it easier for biofuel producers to lease state land, and others that authorize bonds to help finance a 2.7 MW wave energy facility, a solar energy facility, and hydrogen generation and conversion facilities.

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### Greenbuild Recycling Program Honored

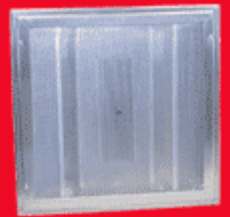
CHICAGO—The Greenbuild 2007 conference in Chicago generated 44 tons (40 Mg) of waste. However, the event was able to get rid of the waste in a sustainable fashion due to the work of about 300 volunteers. The volunteer committee sorted the waste so it could be recycled or composted. Their efforts led to 40 tons (36 Mg), or 91%, of the waste being diverted from landfills, it was reported this week. The organizer of the committee recently was named the winner of the Illinois Recycling Association's Outstanding Large Event Recycling Award.

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### BACnet® Is a Puzzle

MANCHESTER, N.H.—BACnet® is mysterious and confusing to people who are not intimately involved in BACnet, writes Andy McMillan, president and CEO of Teletrol Systems and president of BACnet International, in an automatedbuildings.com column. In the column, he says the sense of mystery and the potential for confusion are not intentional, but they are obstacles to accelerating the pace of BACnet adoption.

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2009  
CHICAGO

[Click here](#) to read McMillan's column.

### 'Green' Report Cards for U.S. Colleges

BOSTON—A "green rating" is debuting this summer in several of The Princeton Review's popular college guides. Six hundred college profiles will include a score reflecting factors such as building and transportation policies, food sources, recycling, and availability of environmental courses. In addition, the College Sustainability Report Card, published by the Sustainable Endowments Institute, gives letter grades to the schools with the largest endowments. In addition to campus sustainability features, it grades how well a school uses its investment leverage to advocate for the environment.

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## ASHRAE News

### High Performance Buildings Assessment Released

WASHINGTON—Promoting high performance buildings in the U.S. will require reexamining fundamental organizational, procurement, scientific, and technical possibilities. This is one of the conclusions of the recently published *Assessment to the U.S. Congress and U.S. Department of Energy on High Performance Buildings*. The report says that to support high performance technology, it is essential to appropriately educate design, construction, installation and service professionals, as well as building occupants. In some cases, this means "unlearning" commonly accepted practices such as first cost, simple payback and short-term investment. William J. Coad, Presidential Member ASHRAE, chaired the committee that wrote the report.

[Click here](#) to read the report.

## Feature of the Week

### Infection Control in Hospitals

**By Bill Drake, CPEng**

This article covers guidelines developed in Australia to reduce transmission of infections in hospitals. The article highlights guidance on infection control during construction, as well as areas of particular concern in a built facility, such as isolation and operating rooms.

This article was originally published in June 2006. [Click here](#) to download the article. It will be available here through July 23.

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After July 23, access to the article from this eNewsletter will no longer be available. It will remain available for free download by Members [here](#) and for purchase by nonmembers in the [ashrae.org bookstore](#).

## Product News

### Solar Rooftop Air Heating System From Conserval Engineering

TORONTO—Conserval Engineering introduces the SolarDuct™ rooftop solar air heating

and PV/thermal system for commercial, industrial, and institutional facilities. It is a solar heating system that heats ventilation air before it enters the air-handling units. The system uses all-metal collector panels. Perforations in the panels allow the heat that normally collects on a dark surface to be uniformly drawn through the panel and then ducted into a conventional HVAC system.

### [Read more](#)

#### [Networked Energy Management System From Telkonet](#)

GERMANTOWN, Md.—Telkonet introduces the Networked Telkonet Smart Energy (NTSE) platform. The energy monitoring system polls data from the devices on the network every 15 minutes to gather data on parameters such as room occupancy and operational effectiveness of HVAC equipment. Its management and reporting tools are accessible via a Web browser.

### [Read more](#)

#### [Energy Recovery Unit With Heating and Cooling From Greenheck](#)

SCHOFIELD, Wis.—Greenheck introduces the VersiVent Model VER energy recovery unit. Features include a high-performance total energy wheel, a high-efficiency centrifugal plenum supply fan, two-inch double-wall construction, and hinged access doors. It can be specified with chilled water, direct expansion (DX)/split system or integral condensing cooling options, as well as hot water, indirect gas or electric heating options.

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American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc.  
1791 Tullie Circle, NE, Atlanta, GA 30329-2305.