



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

Johnson Controls to Air Condition Mecca Mosque

MILWAUKEE—Johnson Controls has won a contract for what it says is the largest air-conditioning project in the world: cooling the Holy Mosque in Mecca, Saudi Arabia. The mosque complex is nearly 1.2 million ft² (111 500 m²) and has as many as 1 million occupants during peak times. The project includes the installation of 27 multistage centrifugal chillers with variable-speed drives, as well as a building-management system. The Johnson Controls project is part of an ongoing major expansion that began in 1982

GSA To Require LEED Gold for All New Federal Buildings

WASHINGTON—The U.S. General Services Administration is requiring LEED Gold certification as a minimum in all new federal building construction and substantial renovation projects. As the U.S. government's workplace solutions provider and asset manager, the GSA maintains more than 361 million ft² (33 million m²) of space in 9,600 federally owned and leased facilities. For projects funded prior to FY 2010 that are in design, GSA is requiring that LEED Gold be incorporated where possible, with full implementation by the end of 2010.

Residential Refrigerator Still Working After 74 Years

COLWYN BAY, UK—A Welsh homeowner's refrigerator has been running continuously for 74 years. It was custom-fitted into the kitchen wall when the house was built in 1936; the present owner purchased the house in 1972. The refrigerator is powered by an external free-standing motor that has never failed. In 1990, the refrigerator required a new fan belt. That is the only time that anyone can recall anything going wrong with the appliance.

Next Update of LEED Open for Public Comment

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) opened the proposed update to the LEED green building rating system for its first public comment. The proposed update builds on LEED 2009. It includes the alignment and weighting of credits and further advances the "bookshelf" framework where credits are applied to specific building types. Also, the proposed update places increased emphasis on integrated process and building performance. The public comment period will close on Dec. 31.

Shift in Congressional Power Could Stymie Energy Legislation

WASHINGTON—Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives plan to oppose the Obama administration's environmental policies, as well as the efforts of scientists who link greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to climate change. The GOP's position was publicized even before the party won control of the House in the Nov. 2 elections. The opposition will be concentrated on the administration's efforts to use the Environmental Protection Agency's authority to tighten emissions controls on coal, oil and other carbon fuels. Republicans have said they will emphasize traditional energy sources during the



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next two years.

Man Survives Being Hit by AC Unit Falling From High Rise

WEST NEW YORK, N.J.—A man miraculously survived when a 40 lb (88 kg) air conditioner fell 150 ft (46 m) from a high-rise building onto his head Tuesday. The man had some facial reconstruction performed and needed stitches. It is not known whether the AC unit fell from the window on its own or slipped out when a resident attempted to remove it. The town has no statutes that mandate support brackets on air-conditioning units in multistory buildings.

ASHRAE News

ICC Revisions Rely on ASHRAE Standards

The International Code Council (ICC) will incorporate requirements of ASHRAE standards under several recent proposals recently approved by the ICC membership. One revision rewrites the majority of the commercial chapter of the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). The proposal maintains the reference to the prescriptive requirements of Standard 90.1, and makes several requirements consistent with 90.1-2010. Under a proposal to the International Mechanical Code (IMC), inspection and maintenance of HVAC systems will be required to meet ANSI/ASHRAE/ACCA Standard 180-2009, *Standard Practice for Inspection and Maintenance of Commercial Building HVAC Systems*. Also approved were changes regarding energy stringency based on requirements in Standard 90.1-2010.

Feature of the Week

Energy Savings From Pump Impeller Trimming

By Gurvinder Singh, P.E., Member ASHRAE; and **John W. Mitchell, Ph.D., P.E.,** Fellow ASHRAE

According to the authors, pumps in large commercial office buildings are generally oversized and substantial savings can be realized if the pump impeller is trimmed to the proper size. In addition to having a short payback period, pump impeller trimming is easy to implement, and the work can be carried out without disruption to the building's normal operation. This article was the winner of the 1999 ASHRAE Journal Paper Award.

Product News

Insulating Glass System From Southwall Technologies and Dow Corning

PALO ALTO, Calif.—Southwall Technologies and Dow Corning jointly announce Heat Mirror "S" film and 982FS two-part structural silicone sealant for large, glass-intensive commercial building applications. The product consists of one or more energy-saving Heat Mirror films inside an insulating glass unit to create two or more super-insulating cavities. The combined solution is designed to increase energy savings by up to 30%, block over 99% of UV radiation and reduce sound transmission by up to 20% compared to conventional dual-pane glass.

BIM Software From Trimble

LAS VEGAS—Trimble introduces Trimble Design Link software for mechanical, HVAC and sheet metal applications. The software extends the functionality of designs created in AutoCAD MEP used in virtual design and construction (VDC) processes by adding standards-driven detail. This detail facilitates the exchange of data between the finished design for estimating, collision avoidance and collaboration applications, as well as fabrication and field layout. Therefore, it acts as a "BIM conduit," allowing for easy implementation and management of data, project specifications, and fabrication standards.

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CALGARY, Alberta—The DJ Series of furnaces from Engineered Air offers 90% operating efficiency. The indirect gas-fired heating products incorporate independent proportional control of combustion air and gas flow. Available in a variety of layouts, models feature high-turndown temperature control, all stainless steel heat exchangers, electronic ignition, and a variety of control options. Combined mechanical cooling and energy recovery packages also are available.

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