



# 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

### Extended Daylight Saving Time Really Does Save Energy

WASHINGTON—Federal legislation that that extended Daylight Saving Time by three weeks in the spring and a week in the fall is saving an additional 1.3 billion kWh in energy each year. A report by the U.S. Department of Energy says the energy benefit for the four-week extension is 0.5% in savings each day.

### Consumers Want Energy Data But Don't Want to Pay for It

NEW YORK—Ninety-five percent of electricity consumers want detailed data about when and how they use power, but only 20% are willing to pay for real-time information, according to a new survey of U.S. consumers and utility managers by software manufacturer Oracle. Only 14% of responding consumers gave their utility an "A" for providing "detailed, useful" information about electricity consumption.

### Debating Air Conditioning in Cars Misses the Point, Says The Economist

LONDON—Is it better for the environment to use air conditioning or open the windows when driving? According to a commentary in The Economist, various tests have generated different conclusions. However, the article concludes "fretting about the issue is a distraction. Drivers who want to do their bit for the environment would do better to ask themselves how efficient their car is overall...." The debate "illustrate[s] the pitfalls of trying to micromanage your carbon footprint," says the article.

### Canadian Utility Says Compact Fluorescent Bulbs Have Downside

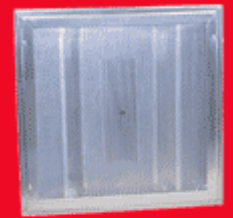
NEW YORK—The energy savings associated with compact fluorescent lightbulbs may be reduced because they produce less heat than incandescent bulbs, according to the third-largest utility in Canada. B.C. Hydro says the loss has to be made up by using fossil-fuel burning heaters more. The utility says that tighter lighting efficiency regulations "will increase GHG emissions in Hydro's service territory by 45,000 tons due to cross effects" of a switch to fluorescent bulbs.

### More U.S. Prisons Going 'Green'

WASHINGTON—Several states are rethinking the traditional design approach for prisons. Many recently built and underway prisons incorporate "green" upgrades. Washington state has 34 LEED®-certified prison facilities. California has announced 16 new green retrofitting projects. Other prison projects, using technologies such as wind turbines and biomass boilers, have been announced in Virginia, Nevada and Indiana.

### Engineers Rate High for Customer Service

When it has to be  
**Stainless**  
it has to be  
**AJ**



Trust the leader  
in stainless  
steel clean air  
systems for...

- Expertise in HEPA Diffusers
- Custom Stainless Steel Fabrication
- Fast Delivery
- Competitive Pricing

**A-J**  
Manufacturing

NEWTON, Mass.—Project owners rated engineering firms higher than architecture firms in terms of customer service, according to a recent survey. Respondents gave engineering firms a higher percentage of "A" grades in 12 out of 14 categories in the recently released *2009 A/E Industry Customer Service Report Card*. "The strengths of our engineering consultants are conscientiousness and professionalism," said one respondent. "They want to do a good job."

### **U.S. DOE Providing Funding for Energy Technologies**

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has funding available for projects related to specific energy technologies. DOE has released a grant solicitation seeking proposals for projects that increase the efficiency of data center and telecom equipment. DOE has also announced funding to support the development of enhanced geothermal systems, which would operate in geographic locations that are not good candidates for traditional geothermal systems.

[Click here](#) to read about the information and communications technology funding.

[Click here](#) to read about the enhanced geothermal energy funding.

## **ASHRAE News**

### **ASHRAE Position Document Outlines Commitment to Natural Refrigerants**

ASHRAE outlines its support for research into and expansion of the use of natural refrigerants in refrigeration systems and other technologies in a new position document. Natural refrigerants include ammonia, CO<sub>2</sub>, hydrocarbons, air and water. Because of their low global-warming potential, natural refrigerants offer the potential to improve the environmental performance of refrigeration systems.

## **Feature of the Week**

### **Retrocommissioning for a University Library**

**By Rishabh Kasliwal, P.E.**, Associate Member; and **Ed Spivey, P.E.**, Member ASHRAE

This article examines the identification and rectification of some of the mechanical system design and control flaws using retrocommissioning at a 248,000 ft<sup>2</sup> (23 000 m<sup>2</sup>) library. The building's energy management system has more than 500 points and controls most of the mechanical equipment including the building's chillers, hot water boilers, air-handling systems and some zone terminal units.

## **Product News**

### **Indirect Evaporative AC System From Munters**

SELMA, Texas—Munters offers the OASIS™ EPX indirect evaporative AC system, designed for hot, dry climates. It supplies 100% outdoor air to building spaces and uses a corrosion-resistant polymer heat exchanger to cool the air without adding moisture to the airstream.

### **BIM Software From Autodesk**

SAN RAFAEL, Calif.—Autodesk offers Revit® Architecture software for building information modeling (BIM) design. The software features bidirectional associativity, meaning all model information is stored in one place. As a result, any information that gets changed is changed throughout the model. The software also allows users to view and edit multiple design alternatives simultaneously.



### **Water Heaters From A.O. Smith**

ASHLAND CITY, Tenn.—A. O. Smith offers the Cyclone Xi™ line of commercial gas water heaters, designed to offer 96% efficiency. The water heaters feature the company's Dynamix Cyclonic Burner™, designed to deliver precise air/fuel mixing at the point of ignition, as well as four venting options.

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### **Subscription Management**

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