



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

Cost of Solar Photovoltaic Systems Declining

BERKELEY, Calif.—Average installed costs of solar photovoltaic (PV) power systems in the U.S. declined sharply in 2010, according to researchers at the U.S. Department of Energy's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. According to the study, solar costs were unchanged from 2008 to 2009, before beginning a steep decline due to a drop in wholesale module prices that made its way to customers in 2010. Modules typically represent about half the installed cost of a PV system. The study examined 78,000 grid-connected PV systems installed between 1998 and 2009 in 16 states. It found that average installed costs declined by 30% from 1998 to 2009. Costs in the first six to ten months of 2010 in the two largest solar markets dropped an additional 14% and 16%, respectively, compared to 2009.

European Union Mandates 20% Energy Efficiency Increase by 2020

STRASBOURG, France—The European Parliament (EP), the legislative branch of the European Union, has adopted a binding agreement mandating a 20% increase in energy efficiency by 2020, to be achieved by implementing policies in all economic sectors. The resolution also urges the proper implementation of existing energy efficiency legislation and using the public sector to set an example. The EP also wants the European Commission, the executive branch, to include an assessment of how existing legislation, like sustainable design and energy labeling, is being implemented in the Commission's Energy Efficiency Action Plan.

Dupont Agrees to Pay \$3.3 Million for EPA Violations

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) today announced that DuPont has agreed to pay a penalty of \$3.3 million to resolve 57 Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) violations. DuPont failed to immediately notify EPA of research indicating substantial risk found during testing chemicals for possible use as surface protection, masonry protection, water repellants, sealants and paints. The Toxic Substances Control Act requires companies to inform EPA when they have research demonstrating that a chemical could pose a substantial risk to human health and the environment.

2011 AHR Expo Largest Ever in West

WESTPORT, Conn.—The 2011 AHR Expo in Las Vegas will be the largest in the western U.S. and possibly the largest outside Chicago. Nearly 1,900 exhibiting companies have already reserved more than 374,000 ft² (34,700 m²) of booth space. Exhibitors include nearly 400 international companies from 31 countries. In addition, visitor preregistration is running ahead of last year's AHR Expo in Orlando, which attracted around 45,000 attendees and exhibitor personnel. The 2011 AHR Expo will be held Jan. 31 – Feb. 2.

Lennox Acquires Kysor/Warren

RICHARDSON, Texas—Lennox International has agreed to acquire The Manitowoc Company's Kysor/Warren business, a manufacturer of refrigerated systems and display cases for North American retail applications, for \$138 million. The acquisition is expected to close in the first quarter of next year. Lennox International's refrigeration segment, Heatcraft Worldwide Refrigeration and its concomitant brands, accounts for 18% of company revenue.

Commercial Office Tenants Want Sustainable Features

NORWALK, Conn.—Green building practices are a key influencer when tenants decide to sign a commercial real estate lease, according to a survey by GE Capital Real Estate. The survey, conducted over the past year, included more than 2,220 office tenants in the U.S., Canada, France, Germany, Sweden, the UK, Spain and Japan. Fifty percent of those polled say green building initiatives are a high priority. Only 43% of U.S. respondents said "green" building practices are highly important, the lowest of the countries surveyed. In contrast, nearly 60% of Japanese respondents assigned high value to sustainable features. Energy efficiency, the survey said, is the top priority for tenants in most countries, followed by waste reduction programs.

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Standard 189.1 Adopted as Part of Army Sustainability Policy

ASHRAE leaders recently met with U.S. Army officials regarding a new sustainable design and development policy that incorporates requirements of ASHRAE/USGBC/IES Standard 189.1-2009, *Standard for the Design of High-Performance, Green Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings*. The Army's policy sets a new approach to the design and construction of military construction projects and major renovations by requiring that projects follow specified requirements and guidance in the standard. The requirements address siting, energy efficiency, cool roofs, metering, storm water management and indoor and outdoor water consumption.

Call for Papers for ISHVAC Conference

SHANGHAI, China—The 7th International Symposium on Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning, ISHVAC2011, will be held in Shanghai, China Nov. 6 – 9, 2011. The conference focuses on issues such as sustainable building, indoor environmental quality, HVAC&R, modeling and simulation, building information management, and renewable and recycled energy use. A call for papers is under way. The deadline for abstract submissions is Jan. 1, 2011. Draft papers are due April 1, 2011.

Feature of the Week

Connecting Buildings to Central Chilled Water Plants

By **James B. (Burt) Rishel, P.E.**, Fellow/Life Member ASHRAE

The proper connection of buildings to central chilled water plants is essential to ensure that the previous design parameters are maintained with a minimum of energy required by the pumps to move water through the chilled water system. This article covers basic design parameters and evaluates building connection technologies.

Product News

Fume Hood From HEMCO

INDEPENDENCE, Mo.—The UniFlow SE Fume Hood from HEMCO is constructed with a unitized composite fiberglass superstructure that is fire retardant and resistant to chemicals. It features an aerodynamic face opening with airfoil that provides uniform airflow into the fume chamber. A constant volume low flow hood with the company's VaraFlow baffle system efficiently directs the airflow through the fume chamber to the exhaust outlet with minimal turbulence.

Field Services Software From Pedigree Technologies

FARGO, N.D.—OneView for Field Service software from Pedigree Technologies monitors, tracks and reports conditions for multiple pieces of company and customer machinery and equipment to identify problems before they occur. It provides real-time data and alarms on specified conditions for temperatures, pressures, humidity, electric current flow, voltages, water flow, fluid levels, switch/valve states, building system controllers, etc. It also provides enterprise and individual equipment reporting and trending via the Web and Microsoft Excel reports.

Steam Humidifier From DRI-STEEM

MINNEAPOLIS—DRI-STEEM offers the redesigned XT electrode steam humidifier. The new design enhances performance and adds functionality via the company's Vapor-logic4 controller. The controller features a menu-based setup with intuitive user interface via keypad or remotely through a network or the web. The humidifier has a capacity range from 5 to 200 lbs/h (2 to 90 kg/h).

Subscription Management

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