



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

Western States, Provinces Outline Climate Change Plan

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—The Western Climate Initiative, a group of seven Western states and Canadian provinces, have released design recommendations for the creation of a regional cap-and-trade program to cut emissions by 15% of 2005 levels by 2020. The program will require polluting companies to obtain a permit for each ton of carbon dioxide they release into the atmosphere. Over time, the pool of available permits would shrink, making it more expensive to pollute. Participating states and provinces include Arizona, California, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, British Columbia, Manitoba, Quebec and Ontario.

[Click here](#) to read more and to download a copy of the plan.

Physicists Group Calls for Increased Energy Efficiency

WASHINGTON—Improving energy efficiency is a relatively easy and inexpensive way to significantly reduce the United States' demand for imported oil and its greenhouse gas emissions without causing a loss of comfort or convenience, concluded a recent report by the American Physical Society (APS). The report, Energy Future: Think Efficiency, found that many technologies exist to increase the efficiency of vehicles and buildings in ways that could save consumers money, and that greater increases in energy efficiency will be available in the future. However, realizing these potential gains will require a larger and better-focused federal research and development program on energy efficiency than exists today. The APS represents 46,000 physicists in academia, industry and national laboratories.

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Unfavorable Conditions for Nonresidential Construction, Says AIA

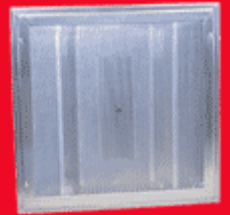
WASHINGTON—While conditions have improved somewhat, the American Institute of Architects' (AIA) Architecture Billings Index (ABI) continues to point to unfavorable conditions for the nonresidential construction market. The ABI has increased for three consecutive months. However, the August ABI rating remains below the threshold that indicates an overall increase in billings. "The recent figures over the last quarter are no real surprise given the overall state of the economy," said AIA chief economist Kermit Baker.

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Organizations Create 'Pledge' for More Efficient Homes

ARLINGTON, Va.—A group of organizations, including the Air-Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI), the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers, the Edison Electric Institute, the U.S. Energy Association and the North American Technician

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Excellence, has launched an initiative to promote residential energy conservation. The "2 Degree Pledge" offers simple steps, such as installing programmable thermostats, ensuring proper maintenance and a quality installation of heating and air-conditioning equipment, and adjusting thermostats, to help homeowners achieve lower energy bills through greater energy efficiency. The group has created a Web site that includes tools and calculators. It also includes an area for consumers to pledge their commitment and receive a free copy of "A Greener Planet Begins at Home."

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[Microsoft Experiments With Data Centers In Tents](#)

SEATTLE—Microsoft engineers have run tests in which racks of servers were housed in a tent in the fuel yard for one of the company's data centers and had no service interruptions. The experimental installation has survived water dripping onto the rack, a leaf being sucked into the server fascia, and even a windblown section of fence impacting the rack. "While I am not suggesting that this is what the data center of the future should look like... I think this experiment illustrates the opportunities that a less conservative approach to environmental standards might generate," says researcher Christian Belady, P.E.

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[ASHRAE News](#)

[Changes Proposed for ASHRAE Standards, Guidelines](#)

ASHRAE is accepting public input on more than 35 proposed addenda to standards as well as a proposal to withdraw Standard 52.1. Addenda to various standards, including Standards 15 (refrigerant safety), 34 (classification of refrigerants), 55 (thermal comfort), 90.1 (energy efficiency), 62.1 (ventilation), 62.2 (residential ventilation), and 135 (BACnet®) are open for review, as are seven standards and one guideline.

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[Feature of the Week](#)

[Natural and Hybrid Ventilation](#)

By Kurt Roth, Ph.D., Associate Member ASHRAE; **John Dieckmann, P.E.**, Member ASHRAE; and **James Brodrick, Ph.D.**, Member ASHRAE

According to the authors, natural and hybrid ventilation systems actually can increase energy consumption if poorly designed or implemented. This article provides guidance on factors in choosing such systems, as well as proper use.

This article was originally published in June 2006. [Click here](#) to download the article. It will be available here through Oct 8.

After Oct. 8, 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](#)

[HVAC Monitoring Kits From Onset Computer Corp.](#)

BOURNE, Mass.—Onset Computer Corp. introduces three HOB0 LEED® Monitoring Kits. A

boiler monitoring kit, a rooftop HVAC system monitoring kit, and an indoor environmental quality monitoring kit are available. Each kit includes data logger hardware, graphing and analysis software, and associated sensors. The kits provide continuously recorded baseline data for users to understand how HVAC equipment is performing over time in order to make energy improvements.

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[Damper From Greenheck](#)

SCHOFIELD, Wis.—Greenheck introduces the HBTR-451 bubble-tight damper, designed for two-position, shut-off applications requiring zero leakage, including medical facilities, laboratories and cleanrooms. It features a silicone blade seal and a double-gland axle seal designed to ensure a bubble-tight seal at 30 in. w.g. (7.5 kPa).

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[Heat Pump Water Heaters From Colmac Coil](#)

COLVILLE, Wash.—Colmac Coil introduces the "Third Generation" line of water source heat pump water heaters for commercial and industrial potable hot water applications. Depending on the temperature of the heat source supplied to the heat pump, water can be heated using one-third to one-fourth of the energy typically required by electric resistance or gas.

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Subscription Management

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