



## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Ceremony at Passavant Area Hospital to Launch Efficiency Improvements**

--Study Finds Upgrades Will Save Money and Improve Standard of Care --

**Jacksonville, Ill., June 15, 2009** — Passavant Area Hospital will soon undertake \$2.3 million in infrastructure improvements to address aging infrastructure and high energy and operating costs.

The improvements, which will be completed in February 2010, are estimated to save more than \$313,000 annually, which would pay for the project in 6.5 years. A formal audit conducted by the hospital also found that the improvements will positively impact the environment of care for patients and staff while decreasing power consumption by 19 percent.

The hospital will formally launch the infrastructure improvement project with a ceremony and reception on **Thursday, June 18 at 1:30 p.m.** in the main lobby of Passavant Area Hospital, 1600 West Walnut in Jacksonville, Ill.

Joining the ceremony will be officials from Passavant Area Hospital including: Chester Wynn, chief executive officer, Phillip Benz, director of plant engineering and environmental services and David Bolen, vice president and chief financial officer. Key partners attending will include Bradley A. Zeller, board member of the Illinois Finance Authority and chairman of the Morgan County Board of Commissioners; Richard Campbell, vice president for the central territory for Trane commercial systems business in the Americas. Local community leaders will also be invited.

The project is anticipated to be entirely funded by a performance contract, which is a package of products and services customized to building requirements to deliver significant energy and operating cost reductions.

### **Environment of Care Study Demonstrates Potential Benefits**

As part of its improvement process, the hospital completed a formal investment grade audit, including a study of the environment of care which evaluated the benefit of potential improvements. The study demonstrated that the improvements will conserve water and energy, save money and improve comfort for patients and staff while decreasing energy consumption.

The study identified three physical environment opportunities for improvement, including temperature control, noise level and aging plant systems and equipment. The study also demonstrated that these energy upgrades will improve the environment of care through better:

- Patient satisfaction
- Patient outcomes
- Staff satisfaction and performance
- Physician satisfaction and retention
- Financial performance

- more -

## **Passavant Area Hospital Improvements - 2**

Improvements at the hospital will include:

- Installing more energy-efficient lighting and electrical systems
- Optimizing the central chilled water and steam boiler systems for improved operation, efficiency and water conservation
- Upgrading the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems and controls
- Increasing the energy efficiency, effectiveness and throughput of laundry operations

“We’re excited to create an optimal environment of care for both our patients and staff,” said Wynn. “It’s ideal that we’re also serving as careful stewards of both our financial and environmental resources.”

“On behalf of both the Illinois Health Finance Authority and the Morgan County Board of Commissioners, I applaud Passavant Area Hospital administrators for this commitment to providing an optimal environment of care while being environmentally responsible,” said Zeller. “Even more remarkable, administrators are using a self-funding approach to generate guaranteed energy savings. It’s truly a win-win situation.”

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### **About Passavant Area Hospital**

Passavant Area Hospital is a not-for-profit community hospital serving a five-county area for over 134 years. Passavant’s state-of-the-facility includes a new Ambulatory Surgery addition, a Rehabilitation Center and Orthopaedic building, a Wound Center, and is currently in the middle of a \$16.7 million Emergency Department Expansion. Passavant recently achieved the Magnet designation for excellence in nursing services by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). Only 5 percent of hospitals nationwide achieve Magnet Recognition. For more information, visit [www.passavanthospital.com](http://www.passavanthospital.com).

### **About Trane**

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