



## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Indiana Lengthens School Finance Contracts to Enhance School Buildings**

*--More comprehensive school renovations now possible with lengthened Guaranteed Energy Savings contract under enhanced bill.— (Indiana Code 36-1-12.5)*

**Indianapolis, May 4, 2009** – To allow political subdivisions (k-12 schools, local municipalities, higher education, and public libraries) the opportunity to complete more wide-ranging infrastructure improvements and renovations, the Indiana state legislature last week approved both a 20 year payback period for building improvements as well as water conservation measures.

With this lengthened repayment time under the new legislation, a school district can address larger problems, which require significant investment, and then use the energy savings created to fund these improvements.

By creating a Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract, the school can make changes that realize on average 15 to 25 percent in reduced energy cost to repay the expense. Additionally, such energy contracts allow a school to make necessary changes to school buildings, so that limited school funds can continue to support other important basic educational tools such as textbooks and teacher payroll.

When replacing worn-out, inefficient equipment, many of the upgrades not only reduce energy use, but also provide improved acoustics, indoor air quality and humidity.

Trane, a leader in comfort systems, fully supports this bill and others around the country that seek to provide schools with a solution to keeping aging school buildings safe and comfortable.

A classroom's indoor environment – temperature, humidity, air quality and noise level – plays a critical role in a student's ability to concentrate and learn. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reports that poor indoor air quality is believed to be linked to a variety of health effects and symptoms, including allergic reactions and asthma.

These changes are also timely, with the increased focus on building sustainability and energy efficiency. High performance classrooms and sustainable school buildings are fiscally and environmentally responsible, and significantly improve the quality and delivery of education.

And according to the Sustainable Buildings Industry Council (SBIC), school administrators can save 20 to 30 percent on utility costs each year by applying sustainable design and construction concepts.

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**About Trane**

Trane, a business of Ingersoll Rand, improves the performance of homes and buildings around the world. Trane solutions optimize indoor environments with a broad portfolio of energy-efficient heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems, building and contracting services, parts support and advanced controls for homes and commercial buildings. For more information, visit [www.trane.com](http://www.trane.com).

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