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Green Schools National Conference Attendees Learn about High Performance Buildings from Trane

West Palm Beach, Fla., Feb. 21, 2013 — The Environmental Protection Agency reports that high performance schools offer advantages that include: higher test scores, increased average daily attendance, reduced operating costs, increased teacher satisfaction and retention, and reduced environmental impacts and liability exposure ^[1].

Leaders from [Trane](#), a leading global provider of indoor comfort systems and solutions and a brand of [Ingersoll Rand](#), will educate attendees at the [Green Schools National conference](#) about high performance buildings and how they can reduce energy consumption and operational costs and improve the academic environment.

High performance buildings are designed and operated to deliver specific performance outcomes within acceptable tolerances. For example, operating standards are set, measured and continuously validated for occupant health and safety, energy consumption and water use. Unique to the high performance building approach is the fact that these standards are directly tied to a building's specific mission.

Rick Walker, the team leader for the high performance buildings program at Trane; Kyle Hightower, regional account manager at Trane; John Bozarth, director of facilities at Bay District Schools in Panama City, Fla.; and Bill Orr, executive director of the Collaborative for High Performance Schools, (CHPS); will discuss the CHPS Operations Report Card at the conference.

Earlier this year, Bay District Schools began using this metric-driven assessment of the learning environment which has enabled them to shift from a reactive building maintenance mode to truly improving the school building learning environment in an impactful, beneficial way. Walker, Bozarth and Orr will discuss how this tool has helped them improve the learning environment at Bay District Schools

Presentation Details:

Title: Increasing Student Achievement through an Improved Building Environment
Date: Saturday, Feb. 23, 10:15-11 a.m.
Location: Room 1L, Palm Beach Convention Center

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^[1]Source: The Environmental Protection Agency <http://www.epa.gov/iaq/schooldesign/highperformance.html>



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Steve Corson, energy services leader for Florida Trane, will participate in a Solutions Summit panel discussion that explores how schools and school districts can reduce energy consumption and operational costs by changing policy, practice and behavior at the school and district level. Corson will discuss project financing options and ways to implement energy conservation projects. Attendees will gain a clear understanding of the barriers and solutions to implementing energy-related projects.

About the Panel Discussion

Solution Summit: Reducing Cost and Greenhouse Gas Emissions via Renovation and Retrofits

Date: Sunday, Feb. 24, 8:30-11:15 a.m.

Location: Room 1F, Palm Beach County Convention Center

About the Green Schools National Conference

The third annual Green Schools National Conference will be held Feb. 22-24, 2013, in West Palm Beach, Fla. The conference focuses on solutions to develop healthy and sustainable schools across America. The event is organized by the Green Schools National Network, which advances the national green and healthy schools movement by connecting like-minded and passionate education, non-profit, corporate and public sector individuals and organizations. Conference website:

<http://www.greenschoolsnationalconference.org/>

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About the Speakers

Kyle Hightower is the regional account manager for Trane on the Florida Gulf Coast in Panama City, Fla. He has more than 15 years of experience serving as a heating, ventilation and air conditioning service consultant, energy manager and business owner, specializing in energy consumption mitigation, building automation and facilities systems integrations. He and his wife are the co-founder of Restoration Services, a non-profit organization for women in crisis. Hightower holds an Associate of Arts and Sciences degree in avionics from Alabama Tech and also studied at Florida State University.

Rick Walker is the team leader for the high performance buildings program at Trane. He has more than 30 years of experience leading design, implementation and commercialization of performance-based energy management programs, financial services, remote services offerings and environmental programs. Walker is currently a member of the board of directors for the Wisconsin Green Building Alliance. He is also a past board member of the National Association of Energy Services Companies and past member of the United States Green Building Council Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)-EB (existing buildings) Core Committee. His past work includes experience in cogeneration projects, energy information and service contracting for new construction. He has been a consultant to the Department of Energy, the State of Michigan, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the New York State Energy Research & Development Authority on various energy programs. He also served on the Association of School Business Officials Environmental Aspects Committee. Walker holds a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Wisconsin at Whitewater and a Bachelor of Science degree in architecture from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee.

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Steve Corson is the energy services leader for Florida Trane. He has more than two decades of experience developing energy management, energy savings performance contracting, and mechanical retrofit projects. Corson has experience in building projects in industries that include: hospitality, government K-12 education, commercial offices, performing arts centers, and universities throughout the United States and Caribbean. He is a LEED Accredited Professional and has consulted with building owners on the implementation of the LEED design process. At Trane, where he has worked for 18 years, Corson is responsible for project development, project planning, project financing, and contract negotiations on energy solutions projects in South Florida. Corson is a member of the Building Owners and managers Association and the Association of Energy Engineers. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in industrial and systems engineering from the University of Florida.

About the Collaborative for High Performance Schools

The Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS) created the nation's first green building rating program developed especially for school learning environments. The mission of CHPS is to make schools a better place to learn by facilitating the design, construction and operation of a new generation of high performance schools: places of learning that are environmentally sustainable, healthy and comfortable.

About Ingersoll Rand

Ingersoll Rand (NYSE:IR) advances the quality of life by creating and sustaining safe, comfortable and efficient environments. Our people and our family of brands—including [Club Car®](#), [Ingersoll Rand®](#), [Schlage®](#), [Thermo King®](#) and [Trane®](#)—work together to enhance the quality and comfort of air in homes and buildings; transport and protect food and perishables; secure homes and commercial properties; and increase industrial productivity and efficiency. 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 control. Ingersoll Rand is a \$14 billion global business committed to a world of sustainable progress and enduring results. For more information, visit ingersollrand.com or trane.com.