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Contact:

Joan Schimml
Trane, a brand of Ingersoll Rand
651.260.4983, joan.schimml@irco.com

Savannah-Chatham County Public School System Completes Upgrades Expected to Save More Than \$1.2 Million Annually

District receiving Trane Energy Efficiency Leader Award

Atlanta, Feb. 18, 2013 – Leaders at Savannah-Chatham County Public School System (SCCPSS) recently completed infrastructure upgrades anticipated to save more than \$1.2 million in annual utility and operational costs.

The upgrades were completed in July in more than 26 school buildings throughout the district. The improvements replaced aging systems to help create a healthy and comfortable learning environment for the district's students, and a comfortable and productive workplace for teachers and staff.

In recognition of the district's commitment to energy and operational efficiency and sustainability, [Trane](#), a leading global provider of indoor comfort solutions and services and a brand of [Ingersoll Rand](#), is presenting the district with the "Energy Efficiency Leader Award" at the second annual United States Green Building Council-Georgia (USGBC-GA) High Performance Healthy Schools Regional Summit. District and Trane leaders will also discuss how they achieved these results during a presentation at the show.

Details of the award and speaking presentations:

- SCCPSS will be recognized at an award presentation on Feb. 19 at 12 p.m. at the Georgia World Congress Center, Building A
- Mark Schnetzka, comprehensive solutions manager for Trane, will present the award to Mike Coon, senior director of maintenance and operations for SCCPSS
- Schnetzka and Coon will also share best practices for high performance school buildings, "Savannah Chatham Public School Systems Performance Contract Lessons Learned," at the show on Feb. 19 at 3:15pm in Building A, Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta.

SCCPSS leaders funded the upgrades with a performance contract which allowed the district to use future energy and operational savings to finance the infrastructure improvements up front. Performance contracting is a funding option that provides measurable business results to support strategic objectives.

"We're pleased that we could improve the learning and working environment throughout the district by increasing energy efficiency and sustainability, said Mike Coon, senior director of maintenance and operations for SCCPSS.

"It's even better that we could fund the improved learning and teaching environment through energy savings, allowing us to maximize funds in a way that is most supportive of the district's educational goals," said Coon.

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Savannah-Chatham County Public School System Completes Upgrades - 2

"We are proud of the accomplishments of Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools," said David Freedman, executive director of USGBC Georgia Chapter.

The upgrades represent a major step in transforming district facilities into high performance buildings that tie to its educational mission. High performance buildings take a whole building approach to performance while creating spaces that are reliable, safe, healthy, comfortable and efficient.

High performance buildings meet specific standards for energy and water consumption, system reliability and uptime, environmental compliance and occupant comfort. All standards are set to deliver established outcomes that help building owners and occupants achieve their business missions.

Prior to selecting improvements, SCCPSS leaders completed a detailed energy audit of district buildings to identify the infrastructure system upgrades that best met their energy conservation goals. Based on the results of this evaluation, SCCPSS chose to upgrade the heating, ventilation and air (HVAC) systems in 21 district buildings, lighting systems in 26 buildings, and building automation systems in 26 facilities.

The new HVAC and building automation systems upgrades enable the school district to provide a more productive learning environment by better controlling classroom temperature and humidity and indoor air quality. The energy efficient lighting upgrades significantly improve lighting throughout classrooms in the district.

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About the High Performance Healthy Schools Conference

The USGBC-GA will host the High Performance, Healthy Schools Regional Summit on Feb. 19 at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta. Bringing together up to 250 school leaders, teachers, and green building industry professionals, this event will offer presentations, panel discussions and educational workshops with local and national leaders in the green schools movement, including director of the USGBC's Center for Green Schools, Rachel Gutter; Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle, and Captain Planet Foundation chairperson, Laura Turner Seydel.

About Savannah-Chatham County Public School System

The Savannah-Chatham County Public School System operates a system of schools for grades pre-kindergarten through 12, serving more than 35,000 students throughout Savannah-Chatham County. Facility operations are maintained at 27 elementary schools, nine middle schools, seven kindergarten-eighth-grade schools, 10 high schools, central administrative offices, and additional educational centers such as the Massie Heritage Center, the Oatland Island Educational Center, and the Ombudsman Alternative Learning programs.

About Ingersoll Rand

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