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Contact:

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

Monty Tech Leaders Expect Energy Saving Infrastructure Solutions to Save Nearly \$11 Million Over 20 Years

Trane providing efficient systems for the school

Fitchburg, Mass., June 24, 2013 – Administrators at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School (Monty Tech) expect infrastructure upgrades currently being implemented at the school to save more than \$10.9 million in energy costs over the next two decades. The school will generate additional maintenance savings and avoid significant capital expenses by taking a comprehensive approach to facility needs.

The upgrades were needed to create a healthier, more comfortable learning environment, and reduce energy costs at the 280,000-square-foot facility. School administrators plan to use the savings generated to fund capital improvement projects.

Monty Tech leaders are funding the upgrades through a performance contract with Trane, a leading global provider of indoor comfort solutions and services and a brand of Ingersoll Rand. Trane also is providing the new energy saving systems being implemented at the school.

The performance contract allows the district to use future energy and operational savings to pay for the infrastructure improvements without the need to request additional funding from the 18 member communities that support Monty Tech. Performance contracting is a funding option that provides measurable results to support educational objectives.

The upgrades, which were launched in May 2013, are scheduled for completion by year-end 2013. In addition to the operational and budgetary benefits over the 20-year term, energy savings from the project will reduce emissions equivalent to removing 6,943 passenger cars from the road.

“These upgrades will help us meet our most important goal, educating students, by creating a better learning environment for students and a better teaching environment for faculty and staff,” said Steven C. Sharek, superintendent-director at Monty Tech.

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The improvements represent a major step in transforming Monty Tech into a high performance facility that reflects the school's educational mission. High performance buildings take a whole building approach to performance, while creating spaces that are reliable, safe, healthy, comfortable and efficient.

Prior to implementing the improvements, the school worked with Trane to undertake a comprehensive energy audit, which identified ways to save money on utility costs. Based on the results of the audit, school leaders selected the infrastructure systems that would best meet their needs.

Selected upgrades include installing an energy management system which provides round-the-clock remote monitoring to ensure that systems perform at optimal levels. The school replaced more than 40 rooftop heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) units with more energy-efficient systems which will provide optimal indoor environments while consuming substantially less energy.

School leaders also selected a more energy-efficient central heating plant to make and distribute hot water for heating needs throughout the facility. The school implemented more energy-efficient lighting, added better insulation to the building and added a new dust collector in one of the career and technical education program areas.

Other energy-saving improvements included a new condensing style natural gas heater for the greenhouse, new controls to improve operations of walk-in food storage, upgraded kitchen exhaust hood controls and a new roof for the entire facility.

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About Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School

Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School, also known as Monty Tech, is a vocational school in Fitchburg, Mass., which teaches 20 different trades. The school includes a child care center and features a performing arts center named after former Superintendent-Director Stratos G. Dukakis. The Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District, which is made up of 18 nearby towns, operates Monty Tech. These towns include: Ashburnham, Ashby, Athol, Barre, Fitchburg, Gardner, Harvard, Holden, Hubbardston, Lunenburg, Petersham, Phillipston, Princeton, Royalston, Sterling, Templeton, Westminster, and Winchendon.

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