Press Release

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LEED SEMINAR AT THE BATTLEHOUSE

MOBILE, AL, JULY 24, 2009: The Mobile Chapter of the American Society of Refrigeration Heating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) is hosting the District VII Chapter Regional Conference (CRC) at the Battlehouse Hotel in Mobile, AL July 30th through August 1st. To kick off the conference the CRC will provide a professional development seminar open to the public on July 30th from 8:00 - 11:00 am. The seminar administered by Beth Manguso Brodbeck, AIA AP and Joseph Catrambone will provide general information regarding what constitutes a “green” building and discuss green advantages with technologies in heat pump chillers that provide significant C02 reduction and water conservation. The format welcomes newcomers to LEED, but should provide accredited professionals with some new information and a lively question and answer session with industry leaders. Three professional development hours will be awarded for continuing education. Registration is $100 online with paypal at ashraecrcmobile.org (under Ala Carte) or at the door with cash or check only.

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Why should buildings go “green”? According to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), buildings in the United States consume more than 30% of the country’s total energy and 60% of the electricity annually. Five billion gallons of potable water are used to flush toilets daily. A typical North American commercial construction project generates as much as 2.5 pounds of solid waste per square foot of floor space.

The LEED process through “green” building practices aim to substantially reduce these negative environmental impacts by improving the design, construction and operational practices. The LEED process also benefits building owners with reduced operating costs, enhanced building marketability, increased worker productivity and a reduction in potential liability resulting from poor indoor air quality.

Beth Manguso Brodbeck resides in Fairhope Alabama, and is a principal of Piedmont Green Building Solutions, LLC. She is a founding chair of the USGBC Alabama Chapter and has served on the USGBC National Chapter Steering Committee and the USGBC Southeast Regional Council. Beth speaks regionally on LEED, high-performance buildings, and green building issues. In addition to LEED Consulting she conducts professional education workshops and training seminars on Green Building and the LEED Rating System. She has experience with public and private higher education buildings, K-12 public schools, commercial buildings, athletic facilities, religious facilities, and civic buildings. Her work includes new construction, additions, and renovations. Beth holds both a Bachelor’s of Architecture and a Bachelor’s of Interior Architecture from Auburn University.

Joe Catrambone resides in Pennsylvania and has over thirty years’ experience in the HVAC industry, including the design, manufacture, application, and service of centrifugal and screw chillers. He has been with York - Johnson Controls for 7 years and is currently a Project Manager in the company’s Industrial Systems group. His responsibilities include global application management and marketing activities for electric and turbine driven centrifugal chillers, heat pumps, and other custom refrigeration equipment. Joe holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Drexel University, and is a member of the International District Energy Association.

The 2009 District VII ASHRAE CRC committee is an ad-hoc committee formed from members of the Mobile Chapter of ASHRAE to orchestrate the annual regional conference for District VII of ASHRAE, hosted in Mobile, Alabama for 2009.

USGBC, founded in 1993, is a community of leaders working to make green buildings available to everyone within a generation. The USGBC created a system known today as Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), a voluntary consensus-based, market-driven building rating system based on proven technology that evaluates environmental performance from a whole building perspective over a building's life cycle.

ASHRAE, founded in 1894, is an international organization of some 50,000 persons. ASHRAE fulfills its mission of advancing heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration to serve humanity and promote a sustainable world through research, standards writing, publishing and continuing education.

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