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BS News

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bs news

building services news

**Bathrooms &
Accessories**



**Face to Face ...
Edith Blennerhassett**

CIBSE Conference Review

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IS...

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IN SPRING 2007

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GRUNDFOS 

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opinion

Be Informed & Enjoy!

This month's *bs news* offers a mixed bag of regular and new features, the varied content and broad spectrum of subjects covered reflecting the vast scope of building services in Ireland. As always, news is brimming with product, people and project information while *Installer Tips*, a new occasional series, deals with wireless installations.

The recent CIBSE Conference was a major success and our report is written by Tim Dwyer, Chairman CIBSE ASHRAE Group and Head of Department, Department of Engineering Systems, London South Bank University. His views reflect an outsider's opinion in a very honest and forthright manner.

Edith Blennerhassett is the subject of *Face to Face*. Among other things, she explains the link between cutting-edge design and "geek days". Mark Kiely of Gasco is the subject of *Another Side Of...* while *Down Your Way* caught up with Billy Wright of Irish Fan Distributors in Waterford.

Pipework and drainage and bathrooms and accessories are the featured product reviews.

While regular features include *Electrical Services Engineering* and *IPFMA News*.

There is also a special report on the two finalists now battling it out for the honour to represent Ireland in the refrigeration category at the World Skills Competition in Japan later this year.

Be informed and enjoy!

trade news + product information

rac sector national conference & trade exhibits

Refrigeration Skillnet, in association with The Institute of Refrigeration Ireland, will host a national conference and trade exhibit for the refrigeration and air conditioning sector in Dublin.

Venue is the Sheldon Park Hotel, Kylemore Road, Dublin 12, and the event will run from 8am to 430pm on Friday, 18 May, 2007.

The programme is bursting with presentations, panel discussions, and skills workshops on some of the most important issues facing the RAC industry. Find out more about energy in supermarkets, CO₂ refrigeration, and the Energy Performance in Buildings Directive (EPBD).

See what the experts have to say about best practice installation, commissioning and servicing. Expect some heated debates on hot topics such as the Ozone Depleting Substances Regulations and the F-Gas Regulations and you can also join in one of the many skills workshops taking place in the afternoon.

The parallel Trade Exhibit featuring some of the leading suppliers to the sector will provide a hands-on experience of the various products and systems on offer.

Details: www.refrigerationskillnet.ie or www.instituteofrefrigerationireland.ie

'lowara sales & orders strong'

Lowara sales in Ireland — and throughout the rest of the world — are up nearly 13% for the year end 2006 compared with those for the previous year. Lowara Ireland's Terry Murray says that this growth has been achieved on the back of the latest-generation products which offer performance excellence coupled with high energy efficiency.

Lowara expects to close 2006 with sales of just over €250 million, despite growing competition, price increases in some raw materials, and a slowdown in orders from some market sectors. However, the forecast for Europe, and Ireland in particular, is good.

Lowara is part of the giant ITT Corporation and a leader in the manufacture of hydraulic pumps and water handling and control systems. It supplies advanced technology products and services in key markets, including fluid and water management and water treatment.

Contact: Terry Murray, Lowara Ireland. Tel: 01 - 452 0266; email: terry.murray@itt.com

heat metering system for district heating

The new heat metering system from Eurotech Underfloor Heating is suitable to meter underfloor heating or radiators in buildings using central plant rooms or district heating. The heat usage of each apartment can be read separately through a compact heat meter with the information passed down a 4-core alarm cable on an MBUS network.

The equipment itself has 10 years battery back-up and comes complete with on site commissioning. Functions and features include:—

- Touch-screen display in various languages;
- Simple commissioning with on-site adjustment;
- Modules available for remote reading of data;
- Optional data logger with plug-in data memory.

Contact: Eurotech Underfloor Heating. Tel: 042 — 974 9479; email: info@eurotech-heating.com





● A world without restrictions. The GHP VRF system.

The SANYO 3 Way ECO G Gas Heat Pump uses natural gas or LPG as the main source of power providing 56.0kW of cooling, 67.0kW of heating and no restrictions on power supply.

As well as being the only GHPVRF system to simultaneously provide heating and cooling, it also helps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by an average of 5 tonnes per operational year. It's no wonder the SANYO 3 Way ECO G Gas Heat Pump is the natural choice.

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trade news + product information

bridging the natural ventilation & hvac gap

Cylon Controls has released a new open standard solution based on KNX technology that bridges the gap between natural ventilation and HVAC. The new Cylon KNX gateway allows the Cylon BEMS control the complete building including blinds, window opening, traditional mechanical plant and lighting.

The Cylon KNX Gateway provides an interface between Unitron BEMS networks and KNX/ EIB networks, allowing Unitron to control KNX/EIB equipment and read KNX/EIB data. The gateway is seen by the Unitron Command Centre as a virtual UC32.NetK communications controller and a number of virtual UC32.24 field controllers.

The Gateway can view and change points from the Unitron Command Centre facilitating complete and simple building control. All information is transferred to the Cylon database and data logging of KNX points can be viewed in the Unitron datalog manager program.

Contact: Stiofán O' Flannabhra, Cylon Controls. Tel: 01 245 0500; email: stiofan@cylon.com

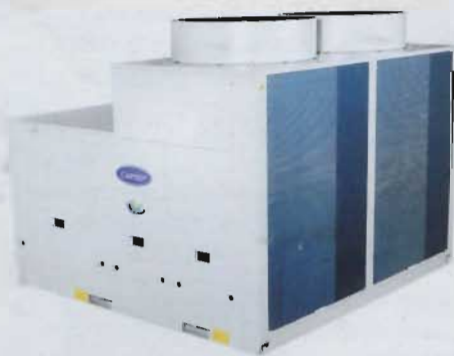


easycool move

Easycool Air Conditioning has moved to new premises in Dublin 15 to accommodate further expansion of the business.

Contracts Manager Peter Murray told *bs news* as we went to press that the company is now located at Unit 238, Block B, Blanchardstown Corporate Park, Ballycoolin, Dublin 15.

Contact: Peter Murray, Easycool Air Conditioning. Tel: 01 - 822 8477; email: easycool@eircom.net



carrier rooftop cooling only heat pumps

The new range of Carrier 50AZ/UZ packaged rooftops from Core Air Conditioning are designed to operate using HFC-407C which is chlorine-free and not harmful to the ozone layer. This refrigerant is fully researched and has been used by Carrier for several years in liquid chillers.

These new cooling only/heat pumps are ideal for air conditioning supermarkets, warehouses and small office buildings. Installation flexibility is a key advantage as all models are easily adaptable to suit virtually any application configuration.

There is also a fixed chassis roof curb for both vertical and horizontal discharge, and a tilting chassis with longitudinal or traverse slope control from two to 10. These ensure a perfect seal between the air conditioner and the roof with ducts prefabricated before the installation of the unit.

An Economiser can also be fitted to control the air quality in the building by supplying the required amount of outside fresh air. This also makes for significant energy savings as fresh air is used during intermediate seasons and morning warm-up periods (similar to the free-cooling principle).

Other features include the ultra-quiet "Flying Bird" fan, 3-way proportional valve controlled coils and Pro-Dialog Plus which provides clear and user-friendly operator interface.

Contact: Austin McDermott, Core Air Conditioning. Tel: 01 - 409 8912; email: info@coreac.com; Ray McCormack, ACMSL. Tel: 086 - 262 0097

Super Compact



Smallest, most compact and lightest
13kW outdoor unit on the market

Toshiba's Digital Inverter systems deliver precise cooling and heating utilising inverter technology. The set-point temperature is achieved quickly and maintained stable to deliver occupants the perfect level of comfort through the seasons. The 14 kW condensing unit is the smallest on the market.

Energy-efficient, advanced inverter technology, improved indoor air quality and comfort:

- High efficiency twin rotary compressors
- Superior energy-efficiency ratio
- Energy-efficient R410A refrigerant
- Increased pipe runs for enhanced installation flexibility
- Single, twin, triple and quad capability
- Extended operating range down to -15°C
- Wide choice of indoor and outdoor models
- Cooling capacity range 5 to 12.5 kW
- Heating capacity range 5 to 14 kW
- NEW outdoor unit dimensions and weights significantly reduced
- Single fan configuration for 4 & 5 HP units
- Smallest 5 HP unit on the market: 795 x 900 x 320 mm



trade news + product information

industrial cooling water chillers

European Industrial Chillers (EICL) now offer the latest range of HLA air-cooled water chillers with capacities ranging from from 3kW to 180kW. A key benefit of these units is ease of installation which saves a great deal of time, effort and additional cost during commissioning. These chillers are also fitted with quick-release couplings.

The latest HLA range incorporates a combined evaporator and large-volume S/S buffer tank with integral S/S water pump. Other standard features include coated condenser coils, 100% non-ferrous water circuit, isolating valves on pump/s and hot gas bypass.

EICL is also the distributor for the Thermocold range which includes water chillers, DX condensing units, heat pumps, dry air coolers (for free cooling) and multifunctional units, with capacities ranging from 5kW to 1,500kW.

Contact: Peter McMahon, EICL. Tel: 01 - 825 5155; email: chillers@eicl.ie



safe pass training course

A series of Safe Pass courses by FÁS-approved tutors with many years of training and experience is now on offer to individuals and companies.

Covering all aspects of the Safe Pass Programme — and catering for first time and renewals — the courses are held at convenient Dublin city centre locations and run Monday through to Friday. In-company training can also be provided while non-national groups are catered for with qualified translators.

Contact: Safe Pass Courses. Tel: 087 235 9947.



the national college of heating, ventilating, refrigeration and fan engineering at london south bank university is celebrating!

The National College of Heating, Ventilating, Refrigeration and Fan Engineering is 60 years old this year. On 18 June 2007 London South Bank University, home to the National College, is holding an event to celebrate the birthday of the National College and its close links with the industry.

Everyone that attended the National College (in all of its incarnations including FEST, IEST, IoEE and FESBE) and its many friends, especially in Ireland, are invited to join in the celebrations on the day. For free registration log on to www.60years.co.uk

There will be an early evening reception at 5pm, some brief keynote speeches, the opportunity to tour the buildings that house the National College Laboratories and of course, ample opportunity to meet up with other past students, staff, former colleagues and friends.

There will be keynote speeches by LSBU's Vice Chancellor Professor Deian Hopkin, visiting fellow Professor Mike Farrell and Terry Wyatt, Partner of Hoare Lea Consulting Engineers.

Contact: Tim Dwyer, email: timdwyer@lsbu.ac.uk if you require further information



et al.: BS News

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trade news + product information



treasury holdings appointments

Treasury Holdings has appointed Derek Nolan (left) Director of Development where he will be responsible for a large portfolio of projects, including the high-profile Central Park. Nolan brings over 25 years experience to the post with particular expertise in major mixed use developments.

The company has also appointed Brian Kehoe (right) as Development Manager. In his new role, Kehoe will be responsible for managing aspects of specific developmental projects, sourcing new leads and securing new purchases. He will play a central role in Spencer Dock, Ireland's largest and most ambitious urban regenerations project.



pipelife acquires quality plastics

Pipelife, one of the world leaders in plastic pipes and fittings, has acquired Quality Plastics Ltd, the Cork-based specialist in hot and cold water solutions, underfloor heating, and the utility and civils markets.

The company produces and sells PEX, PEX multi-layer pipes, PE and PB pipes, including a wide range of fittings and accessories. It operates two factories at White's Cross in Cork, is present in the UK through its own distribution and sales organisation, and exports to several countries in Europe. It has 174 employees and a turnover of €42 million.

Gary Horgan, Managing Director of Quality Plastics said: "From our company's point of view it is the perfect time to become part of the Pipelife Group. With Pipelife, we have found a partner that will be able to accelerate our growth and give us a real international dimension". Both Gary and Commercial Director Karen Horgan will remain in their management positions.

Contact: Gary Horgan/Karen Horgan, Quality Plastics. Tel: 021 - 488 4700; email: qp@qpl.ie

€26 Million For Renewable Heat Deployment Programme

Sustainable Energy Ireland (SEI) has announced details of a €26 million renewable heat deployment programme for commercial, industrial, public and community premises. The initiative will provide assistance to organisations wishing to install a new renewable energy heating system for buildings.

It is expected that the ReHeat Programme will disburse funding to between 500-600 new projects in its four-year lifetime, resulting in a total capacity of approximately 200 MW thermal which will contribute to annual CO₂ savings of around 160,000 tonnes.

The programme will provide capital investment support of 30% towards the eligible cost of installing automatic boilers designed to consume wood chips and/or wood pellets, solar thermal and heat pumps systems up to maximum specified capital cost. Grants of up to 40% or €5,000 per technology (whichever is lesser) will also be provided for feasibility studies, on a limited basis.

Contact: www.sei.ie/reheat



David Taylor, Chief Executive, SEI and Minister for Communications, Marine and Natural Resources, Mr Noel Dempsey TD, at the launch of the €26 million renewable heat deployment programme (ReHeat) in Dublin

trade news + product information

from this ... to this!



Single fan

Ever since Toshiba introduced its single fan, high-capacity, digital inverter outdoor unit, contractors and end-users have benefited from the many advantages it offers. Producing up to 13kW cooling and 16kW heating – all from a single fan outdoor unit – it is one of the smallest, lightest and most compact outdoor units on the market.

The advantages of this unit are significant, according to Rodney Phelan of GT Phelan (Toshiba distributors in Ireland). Where wall space is at a premium, a lot more of these outdoor units can be installed; where outdoor units are located on a roof, behind a parapet, the end-user no longer has to look at the twin fan outdoor unit jutting up over the parapet. The outdoor unit is 795mm high and sits comfortably on a roof behind most parapets.

The new system is also contractor-friendly ... why install a bulky, heavy, outdoor unit weighing 95kg when you can install a lighter, compact, outdoor unit weighing just 77kg? The largest output Digital Inverter outdoor unit, model RAV-SM1402, is "B" rated and allows a separation distance of up to 50M.

Contact: Rodney Phelan, GT Phelan. Tel: 01 - 286 4377; email: rodney@gtphelelan.ie



Twin fan



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The Lowara range of FC-FCT single and twin circulating pumps is the perfect solution for air-conditioning and heating systems. Specifically designed for the circulation of heating and cooling water, it combines advanced technology, high efficiency and reliability making the ideal for water handling systems in civil, industrial and agricultural applications. Excellence in water technology.

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Jobs Corner Jobs Corner

Dervan Engineering Consultants

Dervan Engineering Consultants Ltd (DEC) was established in 1999 and provides consultancy services in the design of mechanical and electrical installations for various buildings including office developments, apartments, shopping centres, schools, manufacturing facilities, sporting facilities, places of workshop, prisons etc. The company has 12 employees at present and, due to continued expansion, now has a requirement for the following additional staff:—

Senior Building Services Engineer/Associate

The successful candidate will work with the Managing Director at associate level and will be responsible for complete project management of a number of building services projects. Candidates should ideally be chartered and have a degree in mechanical building services or equivalent, and typically 10 years post graduate experience in the building services consultancy sector;

Mechanical Building Services Engineer

The successful candidate will work under an associate or the MD and will be responsible for the design and supervision of heating, ventilation, air conditioning and related mechanical building services. Candidates should have a degree or diploma in building services and a minimum of two years post graduate experience in a building services consultancy;

Electrical Building Services Engineer

The successful candidate will work under an associate or the MD and will be responsible for the design and supervision of electrical building services projects. The ideal candidate would be a time-served electrician with a degree or diploma in electrical building services.

The positions are permanent. Salary and conditions will be discussed at interview stage. Curriculum vitas should be sent by email to aileen@dervanengineering.ie

Please state the position being applied for and make reference to *bs news*.

oventrop gain edge at cork international airport

Good service and back-up, combined with quick delivery, were the reasons Oventrop was awarded the mechanical services valves supply contract for Cork's new international airport terminal building which recently opened.

The terminal is equipped with LPHW and chilled systems feeding air handling units which predominantly serve all areas of the building with warm and cool air. Consulting engineers for the project were Jacobs Engineering, Dublin.

There are 18 AHUs in the main building providing a mix of displacement, ventilation, VAV and return air systems. The units are provided with hot and chilled water controlled by 2-port valves on the main coils with all the commissioning sets, hydronic balancing and isolating valves supplied by Oventrop.



Contact: Donny Bourke, Oventrop. Tel: 087 - 239 7078;
email: donnybourke@oventrop.ie

Professional LED & Architectural Lighting Solutions

With lighting accounting for an incredible 20% of national electricity use, more and more specifiers and clients are turning to Enlighten to solve their lighting requirements. Enlighten takes a holistic view of every application and devises the most appropriate, cost-effective, bespoke solutions.

In addition to light performance functions, Enlighten considers and analyses critical issues such as:—

- Energy usage
- Regulation compliance
- Environmental impact
- Life-cycle costs
- Heat gain
- Health and safety

Enlighten provides engineering-led, professional LED and architectural lighting solutions across all industry sectors, including:—

- In-store retail display
- Exterior signage
- Safety lighting
- Promotional/advertising displays
- Fountain displays
- Art gallery displays
- Showcase lighting of corporate premises, public buildings, and national monuments

As engineering-based service providers Enlighten provides site surveys, problem analyses, system design and installation guidance.

It carries a comprehensive range of specialist LED fittings and fixtures from leading international suppliers, but also provides customised fittings and fixtures which it designs specifically — and manufactures — to suit each particular application.

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trade news + product information

nsai code of plumbing & heating

The NSAI initiative to devise a Code of Practice for the Design, Installation and Commissioning of Plumbing & Heating Systems has advanced considerably following a further meeting of one of the key working groups earlier this month.

This group has now prepared a checklist for the main sections and subject headings of the proposed Code of Practice and this paves the way for the various other sub-committees to move forward and develop their respective sections.

Anyone looking for information on this work — or who wishes to contribute to the process — can contact Peter O'Reilly, NSAI Standards Officer, who is responsible for the project.

Contact: Peter O'Reilly, NSAI. Tel: 01 - 807 3804; email: peter.oreilly@nsai.ie



Heating and plumbing Code of Practice working group members pictured at NSAI recently were Justin Tallon, NSAI; Kevin Collins, Bord Gáis; Kevin Farrelly, REGII; John Smartt, DIT; John Riordan, Dublin City Council; and Peter O'Reilly, NSAI.

new cibse guides available

A new edition of *CIBSE Guide C: Reference* data will shortly be available. The changes to this edition reflect the refinement of measurement and calculation techniques that become essential as research progresses.

The new edition also incorporates the latest European research on the flow of fluids in pipes and ducts. The tables providing pre-calculated pressure drops through pipes are now felt to be out-moded and a spreadsheet to calculate accurate pressure drops is included.

With increasing pressure on building services engineers to understand how engineering decisions can contribute to a more sustainable built environment, the highly-anticipated *Guide L: Sustainability* is now available. This invaluable Guide is in three parts:—

- The introduction to sustainability booklet that explains the origins and meaning of sustainability;
- The fundamental principles which will help building services engineers deliver more sustainable buildings;
- The online database of sustainable engineering good practice which allows users to search for specific measures that they can implement in their projects.

Contact: CIBSE Publications. Tel: 0044 20 8675 5211; www.cibse.org

small but feature packed from systemair

The new Systemair VR 400 EV/EC ventilation units incorporate energy-saving EC-motors for extremely low power consumption, balance-control for balanced air volumes, and a rotary heat exchanger.

Because the exhaust air is transferred to the supply air through the rotation of the rotor, the units don't freeze and so no frost protection is required. This makes for additional energy savings.

Due to the "recycling" of the condensate the unit does not need a connection to a sewer and is therefore extremely flexible in positioning. The leakage between exhaust air and supply air is restricted to 0.1% .

Contact: Niall Horgan or Mark Russell, Systemair. Tel: 01 - 862 4544; email: sales@systemair.ie



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York ACR,
Unit 19, University Hall Industrial Park, Sarsfield Road, Wilton, Cork
Tel: 021 - 434 6580 Fax: 021 - 434 6586

Website: www.york.com



trade news + product information

racgs.com for cool golfers

The RACGS programme for 2007 has now been finalised and details of the planned outings are as follows:—

Carlow Golf Club — Thursday 26 April. Sponsor: MSS Building Services;

Fota Island, Cork — Friday 18 May. Sponsor: RDL;

European GC Brittas Bay, Wicklow — Friday 15 June. Sponsor: Danfoss Ireland;

Mount Juliet, Kilkenny (Captain's Prize) — Thursday 9 August. Sponsor: Dean & Wood Ireland;

Carton House (O'Meara course) Maynooth (President's Prize) — Friday 21 September. Sponsor: Fujitsu General UK;

The course for the outing on Friday 30 November has yet to be decided.

Full details are also featured on the new RACGS.com website.

Contact: Mark Kiely. Tel: 086 - 850 8482; email mark@racgs.com

combustible & refrigerant leak detector

The new model CLD20 combustion leak detector from Manotherm provides accurate detection of methane, butane, ammonia, ethylene oxide, alcohols, industrial solvents and other combustible or toxic gases.

The adjustable tick rate accelerates as the sensor-tip approaches a leak and can be re-zeroed to pinpoint the exact location of the source. Model CLD20 offers visual LED indication of the leak level and automatically recalibrates when turned off and on.

Meanwhile Model RLD1, also from Manotherm, can detect and pinpoint even small leaks or refrigerant such as HFC, HCFC, CFC, SF6, R134a and R123. Unit features thumbwheel operation to increase sensitivity and audio and visual indication. An increasing tick rate sounds as a leak is pinpointed and the red indication light flashes more rapidly.

The flexible gooseneck makes both models ideal for hard-to-reach places.

Contact: Bob Gilbert, Robert Gilbert or Noel Walsh, Manotherm.
Tel: 01 - 452 2355; email: info@manotherm.ie

socomec changes its logo

Socomec, the specialist manufacturer of industrial switchgear and UPS systems distributed in Ireland by PSE Power Systems, has changed its logo to reflect a new, more dynamic, marketing strategy.

The company continues to focus on its core industrial business but has invested substantial sums in developing new products and the necessary support mechanisms to bring them to the marketplace.

Socomec UPS has been represented in Ireland by PSE Power Systems since the early 1990s and is now regarded as one of the market-leading brands in the sector. Recent projects completed include Guidant Ireland (Clonmel) with four 800 kVA UPS in parallel and Abbott (Galway) with two 500 kVA UPS, and three x 300 kVA UPS, in parallel.

Contact: Padraig Smith, PSE Power Systems. Tel: 01 4600596;
email: padraig.smith@pse.ie



Installer Tips

Wireless controls are quick and easy to install, with no control cables to run, no untidy wiring and no damage to home decorations that need "making good". But time-saving isn't all there is to wireless controls.

For instance, in older premises which have been extended, Honeywell wireless controls remove the need to drill cable holes through substantial stone walls which can be difficult and costly. Unlike TV remote controls which use "line of sight" infra-red signals, the wireless signals used by Honeywell heating controls travel easily between rooms and between building levels. The advantages of going wireless are even greater when installing heating in large properties.

Obviously, a "wireless" controller such as the Honeywell CM900 programmer doesn't eliminate all wiring. It is wireless between the room unit and the receiver, usually installed near the boiler. The boiler and pump must still have wires and there will be a short cable between the receiver and boiler. Moreover, these controls are not limited to installations with boilers but are also suited to radiator and underfloor heating.

Apart from the Honeywell CM900, there is also the Honeywell CM Zone. This unit extends the principles of wireless control to multi-zone heating system control. It uses wireless signals from central controllers to HR80 wireless receiver/controllers on each radiator, which respond only to their designated heating zone. The radiators, in turn, transmit demand signals wirelessly to a controller next to the boiler. This aggregates demand to minimise boiler firing, providing good fuel economy and reducing boiler firing, so extending boiler life.

Each CM Zone controller can control two radiator or underfloor heating zones. Wireless versions of the latest Honeywell programmable thermostat, the slim line CM900 with its large text display, can each create a single heating zone very easily by transmitting to Honeywell HR80 wireless controller heads, fitted on each radiator or underfloor heating valve in the zone. So it is ideal for creating additional heating zones.

All Honeywell wireless programmable controllers and zone controllers provide up to six time/temperature changes per day to match temperatures with lifestyles, as well as many other energy-saving, comfort-enhancing features.

Contact: www.cm-zone.com

Go Wireless
for Fast
Installation



In a CM Zone system, wireless time/temperature controls are sent to each radiator



The slimline Honeywell CM900 features a large display with wired and wireless options.

CIBSE News

'Value of the Day for More Than the Modest Conference Fee'



Keith Sunderland, DIT (also CIBSE Committee) with Kirk Shanks, DIT; Alan Kearney, Cylon Controls; Mike Murphy, Dean of Engineering, DIT; Brendan Marren, CE5energy; and Michael Conlon, DIT



John Egan, ETCI with Jack Dodd, Control Technology



Brian Keaveny with Hugh Cantwell

As an academic and an active member of CIBSE, IMechE and ASHRAE, I see more than my share of conferences across the world. The recent CIBSE Republic of Ireland Region Conference in Dublin was my first opportunity to attend such a meeting in the Republic of Ireland. I was not sure what to expect since the incredibly-modest conference fee and the strong involvement of Dublin Institute of Technology led to preconceptions of a "budget" event – learned but utilitarian. So it was with anticipations of a "keen but lean" conference I drew up outside the surprisingly majestic Clontarf Castle, tucked away in Dublin commuterland, writes *Tim Dwyer, Chairman CIBSE ASHRAE Group and Head of Department, Department of Engineering Systems, London South Bank University.*

The keen greeting by CIBSE ROI Chairman Brain Geraghty and

his team was the first indication of the vigour of the day ahead – soon to be confirmed by the opening and keynote addresses. The organisation appeared faultless with the impressively-large and knowledgeable crowd of delegates having been registered with great deftness. The delegate packs contained informative pre-prints (I recommend that if you were not there it would be worth getting hold of a copy) and the not so sustainable but obligatory conference bag (what do people do with all these bags when they get home?).

The opening address by Minister Dick Roche set an upbeat theme. His report on the impressive number of new homes being constructed and the apparent awareness of the public to the impending Energy Performance Certificates was heartening. Not being a resident of ROI maybe I was more nave as to the political messages being given by Roche but the recent positive legislation that he outlined to provide exemptions from planning permission for "micro renewable technology" (solar panels, heat pumps, wind turbines and wood pellet burners) looks to give Ireland a real lead in the development of low carbon technology.

In his Keynote Address James Pike, RIAI President, followed on with a surprisingly illuminating overview of the development of sustainable housing in Ireland, starting with his own bungalow from the

CIBSE News



David Brennan, BDP with Michael McNerney, CIBSE Committee; Brian Geraghty, Chairman, CIBSE Republic of Ireland Branch; Brian Homan, Homan O'Brien; and David Taylor, Chief Executive, SEI

1960s through to passive technologies in Carrigeen, and then bang up to date with the low energy homes of Newcastle, Co Dublin. Anyone looking at the rather lacklustre preprints of Pike's paper would fail to get any flavour of his passion and lifetime dedication to the creation of quality sustainable housing – not just in energy terms but also in terms of creating a truly sustainable community.

By this time I was disabused of any notion that I might have had that the day was to lack technical interest. The high point set by the early addresses set a standard that the rest of the speakers then worked hard to meet. In the most part, from my partisan viewpoint, I think that they met, and in several cases exceeded, those expectations. It would be invidious and wholly unfair for me to judge the quality of the presenters (particularly so as I was one of them!) but there were some real crackers that I will just touch on – the omission of others is by virtue of lack of space and is no indicator of their quality!

Declan Meally of Sustainable Energy Ireland (SEI) – the main conference sponsor – showed how the flood of EU cash has produced some tangible results in the development of the Dundalk Sustainable Energy Zone. Working with local employers, the community, the hospital and the college – together with an international hotel group – the scheme aims to provide 20% renewable energy by 2010. As importantly, it aims to improve the energy performance of existing buildings by 40% – an area that is key for a low energy future.

The Office of Public Works (OPW) appears to have a world-leading scheme of monitoring buildings across Ireland. OPW's Conor Clarke showed an impressively-accessible, web-based, reporting system that not only looks good but provides easily-readable diagnostic information of energy usage. The data from individual buildings than can be, and is, used to provide real time analysis to identify faulty equipment and control

regimes, and to provide real data for improved future designs. For example, using such data allows a proper comparison of naturally-ventilated buildings against mechanically-controlled counterparts.

Sadly I missed a couple of the sessions but I understand from my fellow CIBSE ASHRAE Group member and presenter David Arnold that the extensive talk by John Dolan of the Department of Education and Science showed exemplar techniques used in the design of schools. His presentation evidenced that Ireland is out in front in the design of quality schools that holistically embrace practically-achievable sustainable design.

A common challenge across not only Ireland but the rest of the world is how to square the use of supermarkets with the need to reduce carbon



Brian Geraghty, Chairman, CIBSE Republic of Ireland Branch with Patricia Crisp, Chairman, IPFMA; and John Doherty, Chairman, ME & BSCA

CIBSE News

emissions. Mike McNerney of Tesco Ireland showcased some of the system improvements that were being employed in their stores – much down to good house keeping and control. He showed some interesting results of energy reductions, particularly in refrigeration and lighting. Measures ranging from simply adding a low-level glass screen in refrigerated display cabinets to reduce cold air spillage to variable lighting profiles to suit customer densities have given low-cost but energy-effective solutions.

CHP has been recognised for years as having great potential but as shown by Michael Conlon of DIT, there are still very few units in Ireland – a combined electrical output of just 150 MW (in 2004). He indicated that there were a number of battles to win to get greater adoption, including lack of awareness, immature supply chain and planning issues — maybe the legislation previously referred to by Roche will ease the way.

Together with the remaining papers (that I have no space to cover here), these presentations provided an excellent insight into the possibilities, as well as the practice of sustainable design in Ireland. I wholeheartedly congratulate the team of dedicated volunteers who planned and executed this highly-successful event. With over 60 sponsors (who had discrete, but appropriately noticeable, recognition

throughout the meeting) — together with the energetic input of organisers and speakers — the value of the day was far, far more than the

modest conference fee would have suggested.

I look forward to third CIBSE Rol conference in 2008



Brian Norton, President, DIT with Brian Geraghty, Chairman, CIBSE Republic of Ireland Branch; David Arnold, Past President, CIBSE; and Tim Dwyer, ASHRAE



Conor Clarke, OPW with Brian Geraghty, Chairman, CIBSE Republic of Ireland Branch; Declan Meally, SEI; and James Pike, President, RIAI



Brian Geraghty, Chairman, CIBSE Republic of Ireland Branch with Dick Roche, TD, Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government; and Declan Monaghan, CIBSE



York Solution Air Handling Units

When it comes to air handling units (AHU), it is said that the reputation and experience of the manufacturer is every bit as important as the actual products. In the case of York this represents 100 plus years.

York first began manufacturing air handling units in the 1950s and over the next four decades captured a significant share of the AHU business. Key to this success has been listening to customer needs and having the flexibility to encompass change.

This latest change is the introduction of the YMD model unit. When designing the YMD unit two primary factors were considered — cost and lead-time. York has been successful in delivering on both counts. Cost is very competitive while the lead-time on this model is four weeks ex-works.

Today York is a company dedicated to providing uncompromising solutions for all air handling requirements. Apart from the integrity of the units themselves, design and dimensional flexibility mean that customised units can be provided for all market segments. This includes commercial and institutional facilities, industrial manufacturing, process operations, cleanrooms, and critical hygienic

applications such as hospitals and food production.

Critical to the performance of all air handling units is the integrity of the casing. Consequently, York AHUs employ superior casing construction which limits air leakage to minuscule amounts. Double-skin construction is provided by sandwich-type 35mm or 60mm thick panels comprising 0.7mm thick galvanised internal and external skins and polymerized polyurethane foam of 40kg/m³ density or rockwool 80 kg/m³ density. All panels are removable and fixable to the frame with self-tapping screws.

A complete line of filters is available, including pleated and extended-surface filters for light or pre-filtering duties; rigid or bag filters for more stringent requirements; HEPA filters to trap particles as small as 0.3 microns and Ultra-HEPA filters which can remove particles as small as 0.1 microns. Activated carbon filters are used to remove odours and volatile organic compounds from the airstream.

Cooling coil condensate is removed from the AHU by the use of multi-sloped drain pans which can be easily accessed for periodic cleaning.

Other features include the use of:—

- Variable speed drives;
- Dessicant wheel/dehumidifiers;
- Plug fans (standard YMD models);
- ATEX units.

Noise reduction and elimination is another key factor. York has devised a wide range of noise-reducing technologies, including:—

- Standard low-noise fans;
- Direct-drive plenum fans;
- Vane-axial fans;
- Sound attenuators;
- Sound-absorptive panels;
- Inertia bases;
- Special balancing and vibration isolation options;
- Vibration monitoring.

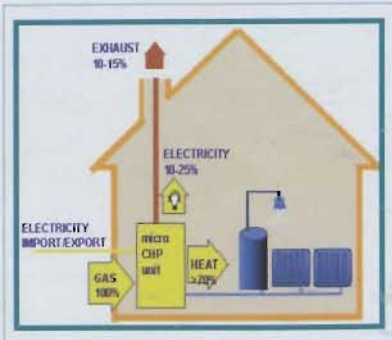
Factory-mounted controls complete the package. These are engineered, installed and commissioned in the factory, thereby improving quality, ensuring accurate operation, and saving installation time.

Contact: Brenda O'Sullivan,
York Cork.
Tel: 021 - 434 6580.
email: brenda.o'sullivan@jci.com

Contact: Andrew McEvitt, York
Dublin. Tel: 01 - 466 0177;
email: andrew.mcevitt@jci.com

face to face

EDITH BLENNERHASSETT



Cutting edge design and in-company “geek days” may seem a strange combination to some but, at Buro Happold, they go hand in hand. Indeed, the ideas and concepts first mooted at “geek day” sessions very often lead to innovative design solutions which in turn become standard industry practice. But what, I hear you ask, is a “geek day”? Quite simply this is the in-house term used in Buro Happold to describe the regular brain-storming workshops held within the group.

“These sessions are most productive”, says Edith Blennerhassett, Group Director of Buro Happold in Ireland. “Quite apart from providing a forum where acquired knowledge and experience can be shared between our network of offices worldwide, they also encourage fresh and innovative thinking, especially between the various disciplines involved.”

For someone who originally qualified as a civil engineer, Edith Blennerhassett has a surprisingly infectious enthusiasm for building services. She attributes this to her first job working for Max Fordham who, she says, “developed and trained me up” on the basis that effective building services design required a holistic view of the entire project, including the mechanical and electrical input.

Edith joined Max Fordham's company in London in 1985, having just graduated from UCD. She spent the next 11 years working on ground-breaking projects using concepts such as natural ventilation and thermal mass, way before it became fashionable to do so. The objective was to minimise mechanical and electrical systems, the thought process being to design systems out rather than in.

She returned to Ireland in 1996 to take up a position with VMRA. “This was very exciting time in the industry”, says Edith. “Construction was booming and there was a growing realisation that the changing marketplace demanded a fresh approach and some new thinking. This was a very different Ireland to the one I had left a decade earlier and my time at Varmings helped me understand this and get a handle on the ‘new Ireland’”.

Come the new millennium Edith got the opportunity to put all she had learned over the years into practice. Buro Happold — with whom she had a working relationship during her time in the UK — approached her to manage their new Dublin office. So, in the year 2000, Edith was appointed to head-up Buro Happold's Irish operation.

Construction was at an all-time high but, even more important, leading developers and blue-chip clients were looking for innovative building solutions. This reinforced the emphasis on holistic design which is precisely what Buro Happold sought to bring to the marketplace. Consequently, the fledgling operation had more work than it could cope with. “Looking back”, says Edith, “we possibly grew too quickly initially. Trying to find the right people was extremely difficult back then.”

face to face

EDITH BLENNERHASSETT

"Self-certification is a very bad idea. Independent enforcement is essential, as is the need for prosecutions for non-compliance. Examples need to be made where there is a blatant failure to comply with regulations."



Edith Blennerhassett

Today Buro Happold Ireland employs 50 people providing both building services and civil and structural engineering. In recent years the office has enjoyed considerable growth but the process is now much more controlled and very dynamic. "As we identify the right people we employ them. Recruitment is as much about the potential of people as their experience and qualifications", says Edith. "We are happy to invest time and resources in developing and training personnel. We have strong links with the educational institutions and often get people in from sister companies in other countries. That said, we also lose staff to sister companies but this 'internal' ebb and flow is a positive development."

Strangely enough, with Sustainable Energy Ireland (SEI) and the Irish Government pushing hard for sustainable design in construction and building services, Edith finds that the experience of the Dublin office of Buro Happold is constantly being tapped into by other group companies. "When it comes to CHP, rainwater recycling, solar panels and the like, we appear to have far more hands-on

experience of completed projects than those in other countries."

However, Edith is far from complacent about the situation in general. When it comes to the EPBD, energy labelling of buildings, air tightness and so on, she believes that effective legislation — and its implementation and enforcement — is critical. "Self-certification is a very bad idea", says Edith, "independent enforcement is essential, as is the need for prosecutions for non-compliance. Examples need to be made where there is a blatant failure to comply with regulations. I appreciate that local authorities in particular may not have the resources to carry out this work but it is something we must face up to."

Nonetheless, Edith is optimistic about the future. She acknowledges that the entire team is engaging at an earlier stage in the overall design and construction process, and that product and systems manufacturers are also being brought into the loop. The immediate challenge, she says, is to harness this collective effort and to maximise its momentum through the combined efforts of individual companies and the various representative bodies within the business.



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This year sees Drainage Systems Ireland Ltd expand their network nationwide to Mullingar, Drogheda, Castlebar, Sligo, Letterkenny, Tullamore, Carlow, Limerick and Waterford. They have incorporated the highest-quality products from the world's leading manufacturers into their portfolio with clear emphasis on quality and innovation. They are committed to providing their customers with the highest-quality products, at competitive prices, on schedule. Full details of the range are available on www.dsi.ie or www.quickbuild.ie. There are six primary divisions within Drainage Systems Ireland and they are as follows:—



ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS

This division works closely with architects and engineers, specialising in new and innovative products. It regularly organises CPD seminars on new and impending legislation, in addition to new products and systems as they become available.

MUNICIPAL CASTINGS

This division specialises in the supply and specification of municipal castings to the construction industry and merchant trade. Applications include motorways, bridges, airports, business parks, shopping centres, housing and sewerage treatment plants.

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

This division specialises in the supply of soil drain and rainwater systems in cast iron, uPVC, HDPE and stainless steel. A full range of ancillary products – including floor drains, roof drains and bracketing systems are available.

LOCAL AUTHORITY

This division specialises in providing design options to local authorities. The range of products includes street furniture, municipal castings, pipes, fittings, adapters and couplings for ductile iron pipes.

CIVIL ENGINEERING

This division specialises in the supply of pressure pipe systems in ductile iron, uPVC and HDPE. The range covers sizes from 80mm to 1600mm and all relevant ancillary products.

LINEAR DRAINAGE

This division provides the design, specification and supply of products for the entire ACO range of linear drainage channels. Applications – airport runways, petrol forecourts, carpark, business parks, roof and domestic drainage.

Critical to Drainage System Irelands' success is its extensive portfolio of Europe's leading manufacturers, including Saint Gobain, ACO, Wade, Howe Green, C4 Industries, Wavin, Emtelle, JFC, Naylor, Geberit, Watershed & Hoofmark. Products include:—

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- Geotextiles;
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Pipework & Drainage

Total Solutions Capability from MFP

MFP has over 30 years experience in the development and manufacture of PVCu drainage systems and is the major supplier of quality products to the construction industry in Ireland. The portfolio is vast and comprises rainwater, soil, waste and underground drainage systems. All conform to appropriate and relevant national and international standards.

MFP is licensed by the British Standards Institute to apply the Kitemark on its many product ranges. The presence of the Kitemark on, or in relation to, a product is assurance that the particular item conforms to the relevant standard, and has been produced under a quality manufacturing system conforming to IS EN ISO 9002, which involves regular third-party inspection.

There are a number of



MFP's storm drain. The complete surface water drainage solution

primary categories within the MFP portfolio and these include soil and waste systems; underground drainage and sewerage systems; and Ferrco Storm Drain surface water drainage systems.

Soil & Waste
MFP's range of products for soil and waste disposal is designed to satisfy the requirements of all types of buildings, whether domestic, industrial, commercial or public. Soil systems are available in diameters of 82mm, 110mm and 160mm, while waste systems come in diameters of 32mm, 40mm and 50mm.

Drainage Products
MFP's range of drainage products is the result of many years of research and development and includes many technical innovations which simplify work on site, improve performance, and reduce installation costs.

One of the most recent innovations is the new MFP Hitec sewer pipe range which comes in diameters of 110mm, 160mm and 244mm. Hitec combines the ongoing material research with the latest developments in manufacturing

technology to produce a multi-layered pipe with greatly-improved impact strength and durability, while maintaining smooth flow characteristics.

MFP sewer is available in sizes 110mm, 160mm, 200mm, 244mm, 250mm and 315mm.

Fernco Storm Drain
Fernco Storm Drain is claimed to be the most innovative development in surface water drainage systems. It provides a complete solution to the collection and dispersal of surface water and can withstand vehicles of up to five tonne in weight. It is an easy-to-install, cost-effective, system which requires no special tools as each channel and accessory can be snapped into place.

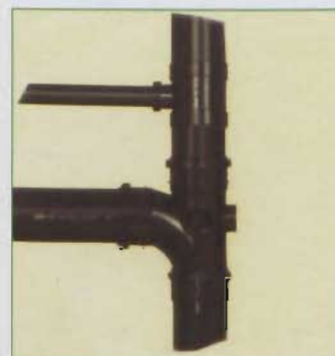
The unique channel drainage system is available in 1m lengths and can be combined with a range of accessories that provide connections to sub-surface drainage. The system includes leaf traps, sump units, end caps, end outlets and rainwater pits. In addition, 90° corners can be provided which are a unique concept in channel drainage.



MFP's latest innovative AJ

All channels are available with standard black grate while a range of coloured grates can also be supplied ex-stock. The grates are easy to click into place and are available in various colours, including grey, sandstone, terracotta and heritage green to match block paving, grassed areas, etc. A stainless steel grate is also available. This provides additional strength, durability and is also eye-catching.

Contact: Dudley Foster,
MFP Sales.
Tel: 01 - 630 2600;
email: sales@mfp.ie



An example from MFP's soil and waste system

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Despite all these extra benefits, the MFP AJ still costs less than its nearest competitor – so next time you're looking for the widest, most advanced range of AJs in the country, just ask for...

The logo for MFP (Muller Fluid Products) features the letters 'MFP' in a bold, stylized font. The 'M' and 'P' are yellow with red outlines, while the 'F' is red with a yellow outline. The letters are set against a background of horizontal yellow and red stripes.

ACCESS JUNCTION

MFP SALES LTD.

Bathrooms & Accessories

'Bathroom Experience' Innovation Awards at ISH

This year more than ever, the Bathroom Experience at ISH confirmed that bathrooms have evolved into a lifestyle product, combining a cosy ambience with high-tech fittings. The demand for aesthetic appeal, technical fittings, and comfort and convenience in the bathroom have increased enormously and, for this reason, many manufactures now work with well-known designers and architects and this was very apparent at the show.

The trend for wellness and recuperative relaxation within one's own home is now an established fact and the recent Bathroom Experience at ISH provided the ideal platform for manufacturers to showcase developments in all these areas. It represented the largest bathroom show in the world and brought together in one place everything imaginable for bath and bathroom design.

There was also the ISH Design Plus Awards programme for products combining functionality and aesthetics in a particularly intelligent way and 24 of these went to products in the Bathroom Experience section.

These included the following:—

— Bette GmbH & Co KG won the jury's approval with "BetteFloor", a shower surface without any corners to trip on;

— Among successful products from Ceramica Flaminia SpA was "Water Drop", a shower basin distinguished by a highly-unique, minimalist design and low height;

— The boundaries of purely geometrical minimalism were passed by Grohe AG with its "GROHE Ondus®" collection, running from three-hole washbasin mixers to five-hole bath fittings in various models, complemented by a complete range of accessories. Indeed, the jury gave Hansgrohe AG no less than three awards, one for the "Hansgrohe Raindance Rainfall Head Shower" which, unlike normal head showers, comes as a multifunctional, horizontal shower panel.

— Ideal Standard GmbH received an award for its "active" washbasin fitting which, with its monolithic



Hansgrohe Raindance Rainfall Head Shower

design – a flush-mounted water-stream regulator let into a block-shaped outlet – which is designed to be an integral element of contemporary architecture;

— KOS S.p.A. pleased the jury with its "GEO Line" of baths which, with their almost archaic dish-like shape, are reminiscent of historical fountains;

— Viega GmbH & Co KG received the Design Plus Prize for its "Visign for more, 100 + 1004 series" and for

its "Visign for style." The WC press-operation fittings featured in the "Visign for more" line convey an approach to design and function in harmony with ceramic products. The press-operation fittings featured in "Visign for style" are intended as a complementary functional element and, according to the manufacturer, their newly-developed technology "allows an extremely soft and short height of lift, while maintaining maximum reliability."

matki
SHOWERING

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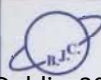
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Copper — The New Weapon Against Superbugs

A Birmingham hospital is conducting an 18-month clinical trial to establish whether the installation of copper surfaces and bathroom fittings will kill MRSA and other hospital-acquired infections. Because 80% of MRSA transmission is through surface contacts, stainless steel door handles and push-plates are being replaced by copper, along with bathroom taps, toilet flush-handles and grab rails.

Laboratory tests at Southampton University have established that the natural antimicrobial properties of copper and copper alloys dramatically reduce the presence of MRSA compared with stainless steel, the most commonly-used surface-metal in health institutions. Now these findings are being put to the test in a real hospital environment. If the trial is successful, copper could be installed widely to cut the death-rate from hospital-acquired infections.

Selly Oak Hospital in Birmingham was chosen for the copper clinical trial because it is a multi-specialist centre with an advanced microbiology centre. One general medical ward has had all relevant surfaces and bathroom fittings

replaced by copper versions while a similar ward next door retains its traditional metal fittings and will act as a control in the experiment.

If the laboratory results are successfully replicated, it is likely that thousands of hospitals across Europe will introduce copper alloy surface contacts and fittings. The hospital Trust's Deputy Medical Director, Professor Tom Elliott, says: "Potentially, it is very, very exciting if we find that copper actually works in a clinical environment, following the laboratory tests in Southampton and here in Birmingham".

The tests have already shown striking results. The MRSA bacteria (staphylococci) on stainless steel remained fully active for days but on brass, an alloy of copper and zinc, they died in less than five hours. On pure copper the superbugs were eliminated in 30 minutes.

The Director of the Environmental Healthcare Unit at Southampton University, Professor Bill Keevil, says that copper suffocates the germs. "The metal reacts with the bacteria and inhibits their respiration; in effect it stops them breathing. In

fact, if you look back in the literature, the Egyptians were using copper thousands of years ago to treat infections!" The tests also show that it is not just MRSA that can be killed by copper. The newer threat — the extremely resistant *Clostridium difficile* — can also be killed, as demonstrated by preliminary tests. Scientists are already considering wider medical applications for copper, including a possible defence against bird flu. Experiments by the Southampton team have shown that the metal can kill the human flu virus. Professor Keevil says: "Avian flu is almost identical to normal human flu so, although we haven't done the work yet, we would predict the same results".

Copper Development Association has been working with the supply chain to support the development of copper and copper alloy healthcare products for the trial through the provision of information on the efficacy of different copper alloys and their suitability for different applications. Any stakeholder with an interest in designing out infection in hospitals, such as architects, designers, facilities

managers, material suppliers and product manufacturers, are invited to join the Antimicrobial Copper Interest Group to be kept up to date with the latest news and as a networking opportunity. Further information on antimicrobial properties of copper can be found at www.cda.org.uk/antimicrobial.

Contact: Conor Lennon, Irish Metal Industries.
Tel: 01 - 295 2344;
email: conor.lennon@irish-metalindustries.com



Laboratory tests at Southampton University have established that the natural antimicrobial properties of copper and copper alloys dramatically reduce the presence of MRSA compared with stainless steel

Davies
EST 1933

**PLUMBING — HEATING
BATHROOM CENTRE**

Davies Bathroom Centre have just completed the refurbishment of their 3000 sqfeet showroom in Kilmacanogue, Co. Wicklow.

Situated in beautiful surroundings beside Avoca Handweavers, the showroom now displays Europe's finest signature bath and shower products.

Among the many top brands in stock are American Standard, Sottini, Kohler, Matki, Twyford, Jacuzzi and Tueco.

Contact: Davies Bathroom Centre.
Tel: 01 - 276 5689

Bathrooms & Accessories

Timeless Showering Excellence from Matki

The Matki Showering Collection from BJ Caraher (Distributors) represents a world of bathroom innovation and style. The various ranges comprise shower doors, surrounds, shower mixers, bath screens and shower trays, all of which combine leading-edge design with timeless elegance, effortless style and efficient operation.

In keeping with its already-established reputation for design excellence, the new Curved and Straight Wet Room panels offer an all-in-one, stylish, showering solution. Through the use of a unique, concealed glass support, the glass panels can be placed in different positions directly on to a tiled floor, making for immense flexibility and the best possible showering experience.

Also new to BJ Caraher is the exclusive range of shower accessories from Swaddling, a new addition to the Matki Group. The Swaddling range offers the ultimate fittings for today's

contemporary bathroom. Fashioned from solid brass, the beauty is more than skin deep, according to BJ Caraher's Aidan Vance. He emphasises that Swaddling's shower valve technology combines superior performance with a state-of-the-art thermostatic control, allowing the user to shower in total comfort.

"While Matki and Swaddling have spent considerable effort on producing beautifully-styled designs", adds Vance, "they have not ignored the practicalities of the bathroom environment. All frames

are constructed from high-quality, rigid aluminium extrusions while the chromed, solid metal door furniture and fixings ensure that good looks are matched by excellent and long-lasting performance".

Most Matki doors and screens also include the choice of Matki Glass Guard easy clean surface protection which helps reduce limescale and hard water deposits, so making cleaning much easier.

Matki shower surrounds and shower trays are covered by a 10-year

guarantee against parts failure, with the initial two-year period also having labour cost cover. Gold-plated parts and Matki Glass Guard are guaranteed for the initial two-year period only.

Meanwhile, Matki Elixir and Swaddling thermostatic shower mixers and accessories, and Matki Fastflow shower wastes, are guaranteed for five years.

Contact: Sales Office, BJ Caraher (Distributors).
Tel: 048 9751 1071;
email: sales@bjcaraher.co.uk



An example from the new Matki straight-panel wet room collection

Cheque mate



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Published by ARROW@TU Dublin, 2007

Grundfos is Much More Than Heating

Grundfos is one of the world's leading suppliers of circulator pumps. However, it is much more than just a heating pump supplier. Grundfos cold-water pumps are every bit as robust, easy-to-install, quiet and reliable and they have already proven their worth in millions of homes throughout Europe. In fact, Grundfos has an unrivalled portfolio which provides flexible solutions for every domestic application.

Grundfos' domestic cold-water range comprises 25 different product lines with a multitude of pump variants, all of which are designed to add value

to any home and accommodate all requirements, whether it is for a refurbishment or a new-build project. Innovative design and diversity are the key benefits of the range.

Grundfos lifting stations are a typical case in point. All models were designed to reduce installation and operating costs and to maximise operating efficiency. They incorporate state-of-the-art technology and straight-forward thinking to provide simple solutions to complex problems. The range comprises a variety of products, from small, one-source units to dual pump systems with

volume capacities up to 1200 litres.

For instance, the Multilift M and MD stations are supplied as complete units ready for installation. They consist of one or two vortex impeller pumps which are fully integrated with the collecting tank. Solutions for a single- or three-phase power supply are available.

Multilift M and MD stations are supplied complete with all necessary flexible connections for inlet, discharge and ventilation pipes. They also incorporate a polypropylene level sensor unit with built-in pressure switches. Both models are capable of handling liquid temperatures between 0°C and +40°C.

Multilift M has a tank capacity of 100 litres and is ideal for family homes or small commercial buildings. It is available in seven different models with output power ranging from 1.2kW to 3.2kW.

With two pumps and a tank capacity of 120 litres, Multilift MD is more

suited to multi-family homes or commercial building projects where the additional capacity and operational security offered by a two-pump system is required. This range is available in five different models with output power ranging from 1.5kW to 3.2kW.

Operational control is assured thanks to the dedicated LC109 and LCD109 controllers which are designed for direct on-line starting. These incorporate all necessary components such as contactors, control board with lights for indication of operating conditions, and alarms.

All the products are designed for low maintenance, so customer's water supply and drainage needs will always be met with minimal disruption. Whether the application calls for an efficient drainage or wastewater solution, to distribute water or to boost water pressure, Grundfos has the answer.

Contact: Grundfos Sales Team.

Tel: 01- 408 9800;

email:

info-ie@grundfos.com;

www.grundfos.ie



Multilift M and MD stations are supplied complete with all necessary flexible connections for inlet, discharge and ventilation pipes

Bathrooms & Accessories

Uponor Delivers Bathroom POD Solution

Uponor Housing Solutions Ireland has delivered a tailored solution to The Grange Complex in Stillorgan, Co Dublin, to satisfy the modern pre-fabricated bathroom and en-suite "pods" construction methods being used by the developer.

The pipework within the individual "pods" has been integrated into adjacent loops of Uponor PEX 15 underfloor heating pipe utilising Uponor's "quick and easy" joining

system. This fast and reliable plumbing solution reduced time on site and associated costs.

Both the Uponor PEX and MLC pipe ranges have a wide variety of innovative fittings for all applications to ensure joints are made with confidence.

Contact: Donal Stafford,
Uponor Housing Solutions.
Tel: 01 - 895 7430;
email:
hsenquiries@uponor.co.uk



The Grange Complex, Stillorgan, Dublin

Honeywell D06 Pressure Reducing Valve

The Honeywell D06 pressure-reduction valve is ideal for protecting water installations in household, industrial and commercial premises from excessive supply pressures up to 25 bar.



The Honeywell D06 Pressure Reduction Valve

As the standard pattern Honeywell brass-bodied valve for the heating and plumbing market, it maintains a constant pressure even when there are wide inlet pressure fluctuations. Its output can be set at any pressure from 1.5 to 6 bar.

By maintaining a constant ideal pressure, it also reduces water consumption, minimises system flow noise, and reduces the possibility of leaks from both system pipework and appliance hoses.

The D06 has an in-built filter and a choice of filter bowl — brass or clear synthetic. The valve is supplied with a choice of connections from DN15 to DN50 (½ to 2 inch) and its dezincification-resistant brass housing is suitable for water, compressed air or nitrogen.

The pressure is set simply by turning an adjustment knob to the pressure indicated on the scale. The adjustment spring is not in contact with potable water. The valve insert is of high

quality synthetic material. Replacement valve and filter inserts are available.

Pressure gauges up to 4, 10, 16 and 25 bar are optionally available. The valve can be retrofitted easily with an inlet non-return valve and to convert it to a reverse-rinsing filter combination.

Contact: Honeywell HVAC Products.
Tel: 0044 1344 656655;
email:
HVACProductsUK@honeywell.com

Another Side Of ...

Mark Kiely

This Other Side Of ... carries a bs news health warning. Yes, it's a first but then anyone who knows Mark Kiely of Gasco will understand. Such is the force of his personality and the energy he exudes that it is exhausting merely listening to him talk. The warning? ... don't accept an invitation from him to go for a bike ride!

Mark was one of Ireland's foremost cyclists and has a string of club, regional and national titles to prove it. Today he is one of only four, fully-qualified, Level 3 accredited cycling coaches in Ireland and has a string of young cyclists whom he coaches. He also teaches coaching techniques to would-be cycling coaches. But more of that later.



Bringing out the best in others — Mark's coached these young hopefuls to relative success in Ireland back in 2000. All have enjoyed considerable success since. From left, Tim Cassidy, is now a top professional with the Sean Kelly/Murphy & Gunn team as Philip Deignan is with the French team Ag2R; Michael Dennehy, went on to be a King of the Mountains Winner, Tour of Ireland while Adam Armstrong won a National Junior Champion Award.

At the height of his career Mark was putting in as many as 12,000 miles a year throughout Ireland and the Continent and had very definite ambitions to turn professional. However, the need to pay the bills in the interim meant that he had to make a choice — take a full time job and fit the cycling around that, or concentrate on the cycling and try and make ends meet with part-time work.

He tried the latter first but it was not easy. Professional-level training routines without the required dietary input do not go hand in hand. He even perfected the art of strategically calling on friends houses at meal times to up his carb intake. Minor health problems along the way did not help.

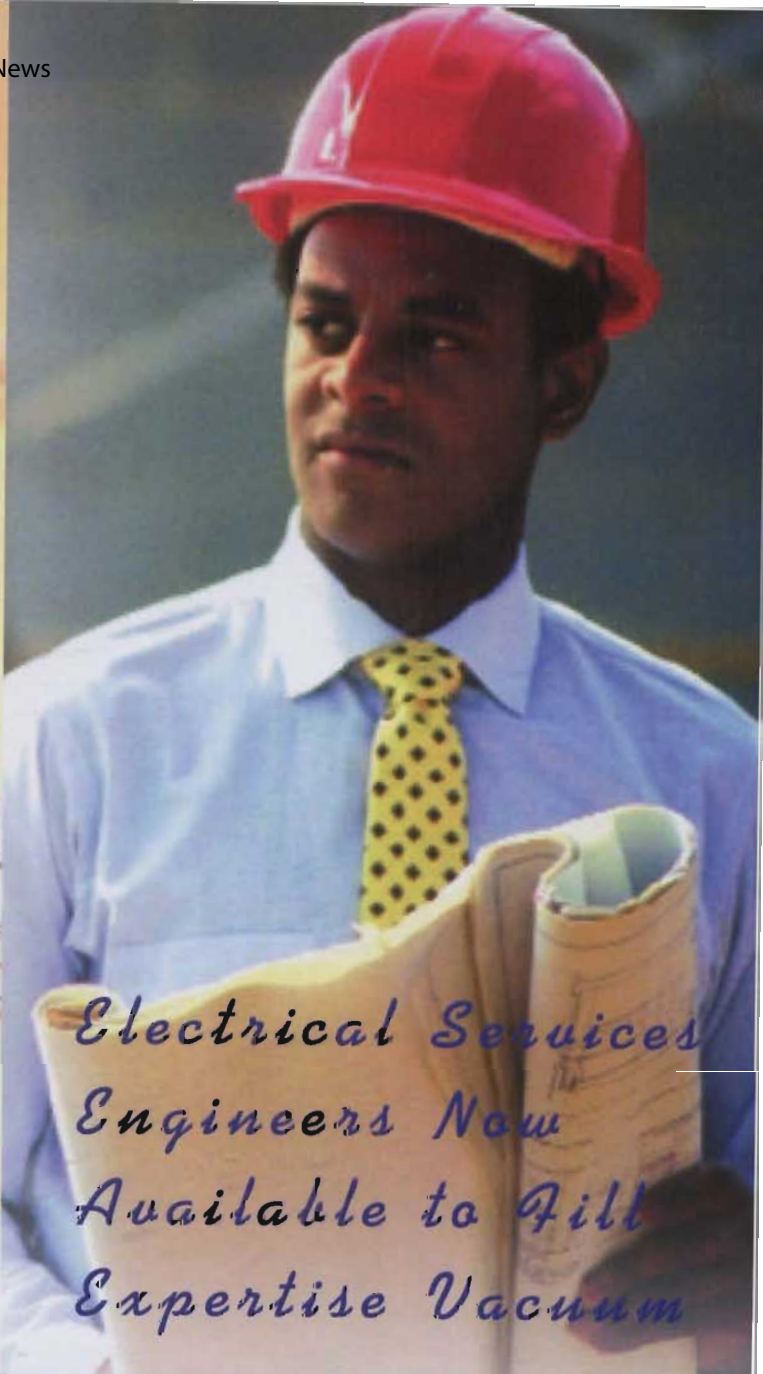
So, eventually Mark took on a full-time job which he got through a cycling contact. That person was none other than Tony Madden (of HRP at the time) and so, at least, his cycling did lead him into professional employment. By this time he had also met and married his wife, Rachel, herself

an accomplished cyclist and Irish international. Effectively, his competitive days were numbered.

As a junior Mark had done a FÁS-led coaching course and so he picked up where he left off and did all the necessary study and exams to get his full coaching credentials. He started coaching kids first, then clubs and finally senior riders. He also travelled to Europe as mechanic with national teams but was mainly involved with the women's and junior men's teams.

Mark's management style seems to help riders realise their full potential. He demands total commitment from the young (and not so young — note Malcom Goggin!) riders in his charge. That said, he also likes a laugh and reckons it is this combination which gets the best out of people in all walks of life.

PS: Just so that everyone knows we are talking about the same Mark Kiely, he did admit during his conversation with bs news to being "a little mad, a little crazy" at times.



*Electrical Services
Engineers Now
Available to Fill
Expertise Vacuum*

Leading service providers in the building services sector, be they consultants, contractors or product suppliers, are increasingly aware of the growing diversity, complexity and sophistication of the systems they provide. Indeed, in recent years they have had great difficulty in identifying suitably-qualified staff to fill these new-emerging roles.

What the marketplace now demands is competent electrical services engineers who can straddle the divide between what was traditionally viewed as a mechanical or electrical product. DIT recognised this some years ago and is now producing graduates to fill this role.

This year's students will shortly come on stream and so are now in the market for employment. Additionally — and given the time of year — many of the higher certificate students are also available to undertake summer contract work.

All are specialists in electrical services design and have invaluable attributes at both technician and engineer

level. They also have extensive knowledge of related engineering disciplines. These include:

- Electrical Services Systems;
- Lighting Design;
- Electrical Services Plant;
- Project Management and Estimating;
- Industrial Automation and Environmental Control;
- Building Services Design;
- Computer Aided Drawing (CAD).

If you have a current or impending vacancy within your organisation (be it full-time or part-time), one of these students will fit the bill.

Contact: Keith Sunderland, Industrial Liaison Officer,
Department of Electrical Services Engineering, DIT
Kevin St.
Tel: 01- 402 4882;
email: keith.sunderland@dit.ie



Nationwide Completion Certs Direct to RECI

Contractors have been returning completion certificates for counties Kerry and Wexford direct to RECI on a trial basis for the last two years. This arrangement has proven successful and now a further improvement to the RECI and ESBN computer systems has been implemented.

The completion certificates which are received at RECI are processed on the same day and the ESB Networks (ESBN) computer system is immediately updated with the necessary information. When the MPRN number of a certificate is entered on the computer at RECI, a connection is immediately made via a web services system to the ESBN MPRN website and the address which ESBN has for that MPRN is displayed on the RECI computer.

If the address of the installation entered by the contractor on the completion certificate is significantly different from the MPRN website address, RECI cannot process the certificate. It is returned to the contractor who should check with his customer. This should eliminate delays later due to mismatches. RECI strongly recommends that contractors explain to customers that the addresses must agree and that, if the customer does not inform the

contractor of the address which is on the application form to ESBN or on their ESB bill in the case of existing installations, then this could lead to a delay. All other parts of the certificate must also be completed correctly or the certificate will have to be returned to the contractor. When it has connected supply to the installation, ESBN will send a text message to the contractor's mobile phone advising him of the connection.

Completion certificate check sheet
If it is necessary to return a certificate to the contractor, a tick list sheet (Figure A) will accompany the certificate indicating what is wrong.

Subject to satisfactory performance of the new computer systems during the current trial period, RECI intends that contractors from all over the country will return certs direct to RECI from Monday, 30 April 2007. As it will no longer be possible to submit completion certificates direct to ESBN offices, contractors should consider using the electronic completion certificate system at www.reci.ie.

Contact: David McGloughlin, RECI.
Tel: 01 - 492 9966
email: info@reci.ie

- MPRN number missing (an MPRN number has eleven digits and starts with 10)
- Incorrect MPRN number (re-check this number carefully with your customer)
- Invalid MPRN number (may be invalid because customer has not yet agreed terms with ESBN)
- MPRN number is terminated. New MPRN required
- Address does not agree with ESB Networks MPRN database (shown below)
- Date of installation missing
- Construction & Test/Test only not ticked
- Type of installation not ticked.
- Type of installation incorrect. Should be:— New Alteration Temporary Supply Other
- Number of fittings not entered
- Test results not entered/incorrect
- Test record sheet number not entered
- Bonding not ticked
- Reference number of test record sheets not entered
- Name/Reg. No. box not completed
- Pre-connection tests not signed for
- Date of Pre-connection tests not entered (show day, month and year)
- Wrong type of Completion Certificate. Should be:

*This is an example of a completion
certificate tick sheet*

AGM & Election of Independent Directors

The RECI AGM will be held on Saturday, 26 May at 11.30am in the RECI headquarters at Unit 9, KCR Industrial Estate, Ravensdale Park, Kimmage, Dublin 12. Registered contractors are invited to attend.

At every third AGM all the directors retire from office. All retiring directors from whatsoever source are eligible for re-election and/or re-appointment in accordance with Clause 33c of the Memorandum and Articles of Association. Independent members elect one independent member from each of the following regions — Connaught /Ulster; Leinster; Munster. Candidates must be proposed and seconded by registered contractors in the appropriate region.

PSA Licence Not Required for Alarm Systems

In January the PSA posted the following news item on their website www.psa.gov.ie

"The private security authority has confirmed that the wiring of intruder alarm systems is not a licensable activity within the definition of Installer of Security Equipment in the Private Security Services Act 2004.

"Where a premises is wired by a contractor for an intruder alarm system, the contractor is not carrying out a licensable activity. However, where any of the various component elements of an intruder alarm system are added to this wiring by a contractor, the contractor is now engaged in a licensable activity and must hold a current Installer (Intruder Alarm) License."

Electronic Cert System Improvements

The new ESB Networks (ESBN) web service, which has been produced by ESBI Computing, has now been applied to the Electronic Completion Certificate system (ECC). This means that when a user of the system enters the details of a completion cert at Step 2, the address of the installation will be returned from the ESBN web service. The user will no longer have to enter the address themselves.

The user should check the ESBN address carefully against the address they have been given by their customer and, if there is any significant difference, it should be checked before completing the certificate. The MPRN status — such as assigned, energised, de-energised or terminated — and the meter configuration information, will also be returned by the web service. This information may be useful for contractors in certain circumstances.

RECI believes that existing users of the ECC system will find these improvements very useful and that they will speed up the process of completing a certificate. It is also in discussion with ETCI and ESBI Computing regarding some further modifications to the system which will provide additional benefits to contractors.

Contractors not yet using the system and who would like to do so should contact Nuala directly at RECI (Tel: 01 - 492 9966). She can arrange a demonstration of the system or talk you through the completion of a certificate over the 'phone.

The screenshot shows a web form for Step 2 of the ECC system. The form is titled 'TEST' and has a navigation bar with 'Step 1 Step 2 Step 3 Step 4 Step 5'. The form is divided into several sections:

- Type of Certificate:** Radio buttons for 'Construction and Test of Installation' (selected) and 'Installation Test Only'.
- Customer Details:** Fields for 'First Name' and 'Last Name'.
- Installation Details:** 'Address of Installation:' field with a red circle around the text '21-28, 21-28 LANDLORD MELVILLE DRIVE FINGLAS DUBLIN 11'. A red arrow points to this text with the annotation 'Address of installation from MPRN website'.
- County:** A dropdown menu showing 'Dublin'.
- Are you sure this is the correct address?:** A checkbox labeled 'Yes'.
- MPRN Status:** A dropdown menu showing 'Assigned'.
- Meter Configuration:** A dropdown menu showing 'MCC02'. A red arrow points to this text with the annotation 'MPRN status and meter configuration'.
- Type of Premises:** A dropdown menu with 'Select a premises'.
- Date of Installation:** Two input fields for 'dd/mm/yyyy'.

At the bottom of the form are 'Cancel Cert' and 'Next Step' buttons.

Screen shot of Step 2. Image and web service produced by ESBI Computing

CER Criteria Update

Compliance with the CER criteria by the regulatory bodies is still on a voluntary basis. CER is currently developing a new criteria document and intends to have meetings with all stakeholders, public consultations, and a full legal review before the final document is published. CER expects to be able to designate approved regulatory bodies by November 2007.

'Gas Heat Pump Technology Can Help Meet Part L Requirements'

The recently-amended Technical Guidance Document Part L of The Building Regulations — dealing with conservation of fuel and energy — has presented specifiers with some new challenges. This is especially so in relation to air conditioning where it is now more important than ever to ensure that the specified system is energy efficient, appropriately sized, and reduces running costs and CO₂ emissions, writes Vincent Mahony, Sanyo Airconditioners Ireland.

Since Part L was amended last year it is apparent that specifiers are analysing more closely how they calculate building cooling-loads, and the general trend appears to be that those loads are decreasing. This has a knock-on effect on the duty of the air-conditioning plant, which in itself is a good thing. The question is, what happens in winter if the air-

conditioning system is of the electric heat-pump type, is appropriately sized for cooling, but is also the only form of heating?

With every electric heat-pump, the heat-output will decrease with a decrease in ambient-temperature. In very low ambient temperatures, this can be by as much as 20%. If the system is tightly sized, this may be an issue, especially during early morning start-up in winter.

A system such as the Gas Heat Pump (GHP) from Sanyo has no such difficulty. With this system waste heat from the gas-engine is reclaimed, and through a heat exchanger, is transferred into the refrigerant-circuit. Sanyo guarantees 100% heat-output from any indoor unit down to an ambient of -20°C. With GHP, there is also no requirement for defrost, which means 100% heating is available 100% of the time.

Another important aspect to take into consideration is diversity. The duty of the outdoor unit should match the total maximum room demand at any one time, and not the total duty of indoor units. This will reduce not only the size of

outdoor units, but also possibly reduce pipework sizes and CO₂ emissions during equipment manufacture.

Because the Sanyo GHP unit is primarily driven by natural gas, the CO₂ emissions are approximately 25/30% lower than an equivalent sized electric driven VRF system or chiller with 4-pipe fan coil unit.

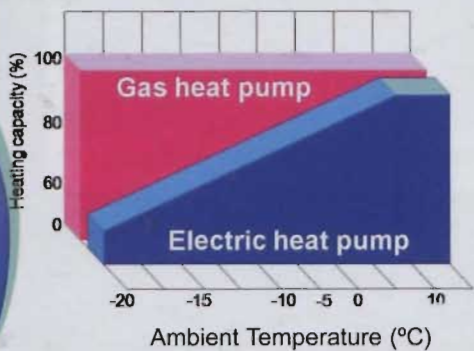
Sanyo has software available which can analyse and compare CO₂ emissions and running costs between GHP and other air conditioning systems.

For a recent project, Sanyo secured the order for a large GHP system delivering a total of 1.23MW of cooling and 1.38MW of heating. These units offered a reduction of 147 tons of CO₂ emissions per annum when compared to another type of system installation.

The Sanyo GHP unit also offers other advantages over typical electric VRF such as lower running costs and single-phase power supply across the range.

Contact: Vincent Mahony, Sanyo Air Conditioners Ireland.
Tel: 01 - 403 9900;
email: vincentmahony@sanyoaircon.com

No Heating Drop-off to -20°C



GHP technology guarantees 100% heat output down to ambients of -20°C

National Skills Celebrates Its 50th Anniversary

Last month refrigeration apprentice training celebrated its 4th National Skills Competition and is now preparing to send its second ever competitor to the World Skills Competition which will be held in Japan in November 2007.

The National Skills Competition (now celebrating its golden jubilee) is run by The Department of Education and Science but the organisation and facilitation is carried out by the various National Skills committee members based in the institutes of technology around the country. The Dublin Institute of Technology has been host to the refrigeration competition since its inception in 2004 with an understanding that it would share this role with Cork Institute of Technology at the earliest opportunity. This finally happened last month when CIT hosted the 2007 event, in conjunction with other skills.



Last year's winner — Declan Tynan, Commercial Refrigeration

Garrett Keenaghan, Refrigeration Chief Expert who is based in DIT, told **bs news** as we went to press: "This year's competition proved an enormous success and I would like to congratulate the CIT National Skills Organising Committee for their professionalism in the preparation and hosting of the event.

"It was also a boost to welcome two new positive influences to the competition in the form of Richie Long from FÁS and Brendan Lennon on behalf of industry. Their contribution played no small part in the selection of John Fanning as winner of the National Skills Competition – Refrigeration 2007. Congratulations to John who is employed and supported by Dinny O'Dwyer Refrigeration and Electrical Services."

Last year's winner, Declan Tynan — who is employed and supported by Commercial Refrigeration — is still eligible

under competition rules to compete in Japan and therefore the World Skills Council now has the onerous task of choosing one competitor from the two to represent Ireland in the World Skills Competition in Japan in November of this year.

bs news joins with the industry, institutes of technology and FÁS in recognising the achievements of both John and Declan and we wish them well in their future endeavours, irrespective of who gets to go to Japan.

Contact: Garrett Keenaghan, National Skills Chief Expert, DIT.
Tel: 01 - 402 3911;
email: garrett.keenaghan@dif.ie



John Fanning, Dinny O'Dwyer Refrigeration & Electrical Services, winner of the National Skills Competition – Refrigeration 2007.

Thank You Sponsors

Industry sponsors play a very active and important role in supporting the development of national skills within the sector and the organising committee would like to acknowledge the contribution of the following in this context:—

Danfoss Ireland

Fridge Spares

Refrigeration Skillnet

John White Refrigeration Supplies

Dean & Wood Ireland

GT Phelan Air Conditioning

Gasco Ireland



IRISH PROPERTY
AND
FACILITY MANAGEMENT
ASSOCIATION

IPFMA Membership Course

The IPFMA will run a membership course this coming Autumn/Winter. Participants will be required to show they have at least three years employment in the areas of property and/or facilities management, and to demonstrate that they are anxious to increase their knowledge of the subject.

Total numbers on the course will be limited and it may also be necessary to limit the number of participants from individual organisations in order to ensure a good mix of students. All applications are subject to approval by the IPFMA Council.

The course will commence in September 2007 and run right through to June 2008 (except for Bank Holidays). Lectures will be held on successive Mondays and Thursday's, from 6pm to 8pm, at the Association's premises at 5 Wilton Place, Dublin 2.

Cost per individual participating is €2,000 with a deposit of €1,000 payable on submission of the application form. The balance is payable on confirmation of a place on the course.

Subject areas to be covered will include:—

Law (September – December 2007) — Introduction to the legal system; Landlord and Tenant Law; Contract and Tort; Arbitration; Property; Planning and Building Regulations; Business Law;

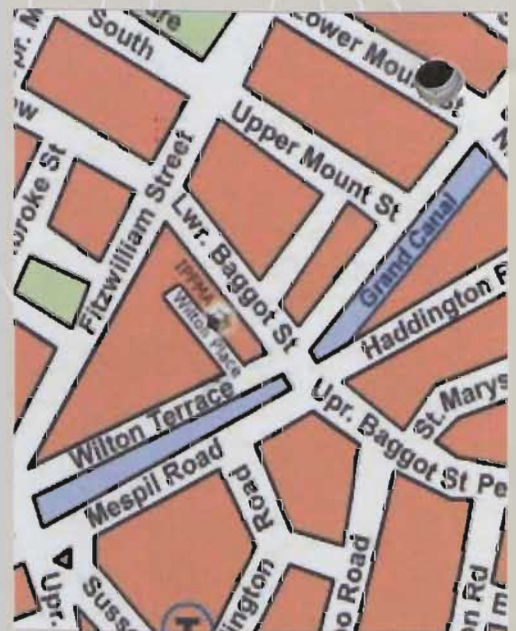
Property and Facilities Management (January – March 2008) — Introduction; Property Management; Facilities Management; Refurbishment; Life Cycle; Project Management; Preventative Maintenance; Unplanned Maintenance; Shopping Centre Management; Management for Investment; Management for Owner Occupier Insurance; Marketing; Health & Safety; Security; Residential Management;

Finance (April – June 2008) — Introduction; Valuations; Service Charge Accounting; Benchmarking; VAT;

Examination — Examinations will be held in the three subject areas in December, March and June. Successful examinees will be awarded the IPFMA Diploma and will be eligible for membership of the Association.



David O'Brien, newly-elected Chairman of the IPFMA



The IPFMA offices at 5 Wilton Place, Dublin 2

Down Your Way ...

Irish Fan Distributors

Co Waterford

Irish Fan Distributors, the leading supplier of ventilation, air conditioning and heating products, has just taken possession of additional premises immediately adjacent to its existing base on the IDA Industrial Estate in Waterford. "Ex-stock availability is critical to the quality of the service we provide", say Managing Director Billy Wright, "and this acquisition was essential if we were to continue to deliver to the high expectations clients have come to expect."

The combined capacity of the two buildings is 10,000 sq ft, a vast portion of which is filled with a comprehensive cross-section of products from the company's extensive portfolio. The remainder is given over to offices, workshop and manufacturing facilities.

Irish Fan Distributors is an Irish-owned company established by principal Billy Wright in 1990. Over the years it has gained considerable market share thanks to its combination of people, technical knowledge, specialist expertise, and unique product portfolio made up of international brand names in the ventilation sector.

These include Malco, the renowned German manufacturer of fans and ventilation systems; its sister company Dynair, which specialises in industrial ventilation; and ATC who supply a massive range of duct, flexible duct, accessories, spiro accessories, grilles, and other contractor components.

Complementing this extensive portfolio is Irish Fan Distributors' own-manufactured spiral duct range. Produced to the highest specification, advantages include fast order processing; lengths from 1.2m to 6m; custom diameters; and special materials, including stainless steel. There is also a full range of fittings such as bends, joiners, hangers, saddles and branches, and accessories

When it comes to air movement and air quality, Irish Fan Distributors delivers the most energy-efficient, cost-effective and environment-friendly solutions. The vast product range is complemented by design assistance, product selection advice, and a specially-devised Dynair software package.

While Waterford based, Irish Fan Distributors' market penetration takes in clients located throughout the entire 26 counties. It has its own fleet of delivery vehicles and, where necessary, also uses contract couriers.

"It is all about the quality of the service provided" concludes Billy Wright. "There is no point representing a vast portfolio if the product is not available ex-stock; there is no point taking the orders if you cannot deliver to site when required; equally, it is essential to offer design advice and technical support. We take pride in the fact that we can fulfil all of these criteria. Effectively, we are a one-stop-shop for every conceivable ventilation, air conditioning and heating requirement".



Airtrade Centre (ATC) stainless steel external weather louvre



The single tube type TYS and the double tube type TYP are used as connection pipes for transporting refrigerant between indoor and outdoor units.

Plumb Lines

heard it on the grapevine ...



OPEN-TOP AIR CONDITIONING

Came across this gem thanks to Niall Horgan of Systemair. It simply begs a photo-caption competition so, over

to you lot. The possibilities are endless but keep it clean! As always, replies to pat@pressline.ie



GIVE A DOG A BAD NAME!!!!

Is it any wonder the plumbing sector has a bad name? As an exercise earlier this month I conducted a mini-survey to assess the response of some of the biggest advertisers in the Golden Pages offering 24-hour emergency call out.

I chose the Saturday morning of Patrick's weekend and rang 12 different companies, all of whom claimed to offer a 24-hour emergency call-out service. I explained that I had a serious water leak in an upstairs bathroom and that water was coming through the ceiling. Six said the best they could do was get someone to me by the following Tuesday; one gave me another number to call which kept ringing out; while four promised to 'phone back within the hour and never did.

I know, that only makes 11 ... I've kept the best for last. On explaining my predicament and how desperate I was to the last company contacted, an "understanding" individual said he would definitely be out within the hour. However, he emphasised that, as it was an emergency, it would cost €280 the call out, plus time added on for parts and labour. I reluctantly agreed — I thought I've got to meet this guy face to face — but yes, you've guessed it, even at that he failed to show up.

Is it any wonder legitimate heating and plumbing companies are faced with such cynicism when dealing with the public?

As we went to press the NSAI Plumbing & Heating Committee was meeting to discuss the main sections and subject headings for the proposed new Code of Practice for Plumbing & Heating. It would be desirable if it included a category dealing with customer service, in addition to technical matters.

BUTTOCK SCORCHING TOILETS RECALLED!!

Japan's high-tech toilet/bidet market has taken a nosedive following revelations that one manufacturer — Washlet — has recalled 180,000 units in a scare that involved many of them bursting into flames.

The armrest of these sophisticated units incorporate a baffling array of buttons, lights and dials to control automatic seat warming, wash and blow-dry functions (I kid you not). Can you imagine getting

your dials mixed up? Activating the bidet function prior to the flush function could be traumatic!

Anyway, apparently what's happened in this case is that a stretch of poorly-insulated wiring became scratched, short-circuited, and caused the heater that warms the bidet water to go out of kilter. This caused the plastic seat to melt and burst into flames. Thankfully, no injuries have been reported to date but then again, would you?

Moreover, it maintains that profit growth will also be substantial, suggesting that increased sales and contained production costs will push margins into the realm of 60% plus.

So, if you don't believe in doing it for the environment, how about "going green" for the money!

FINANCIAL SOLAR GAIN



A German research group called Photon Consulting has concluded that the worldwide market for solar panels and related equipment will be in the region of \$90 billion by the year 2010.

MITSUBISHI HEAVY INDUSTRIES
AIR CONDITIONING

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High performance cooling/heating multi systems for retail & leisure

- Mitsubishi Heavy Industries high performance cooling/heating systems are designed for a variety of retail and leisure applications
- Simple, low cost installation
- Connect up to 4 indoor units to a single outdoor unit. Indoor units connected by branch piping, just two pipes connected to the outdoor unit
- Up to 28kW cooling or heating with an outdoor unit footprint of just 0.36sq m



New compact, high performance outdoor units with **INVERTER** technology



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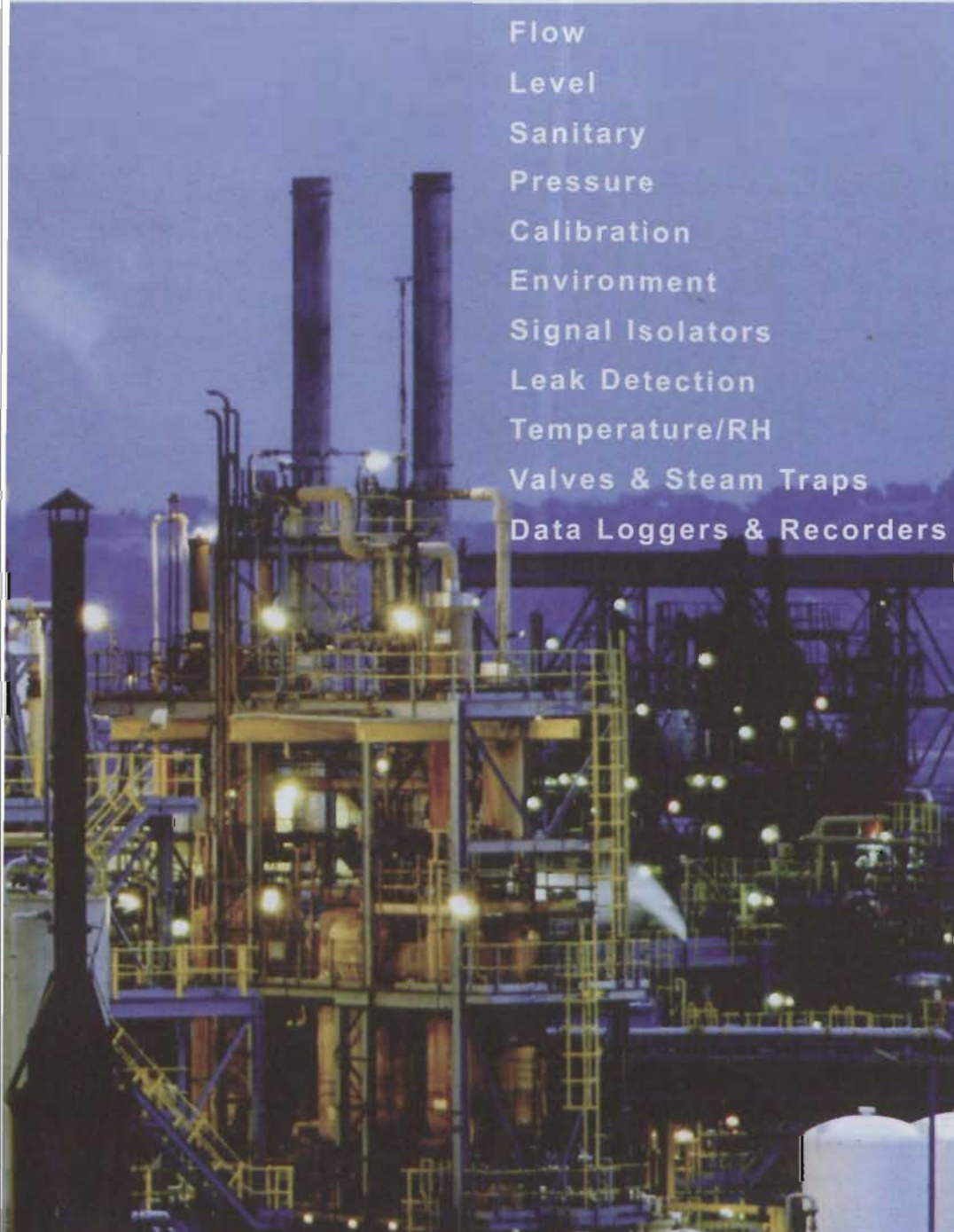


3D Air Sales (Ireland) Ltd,

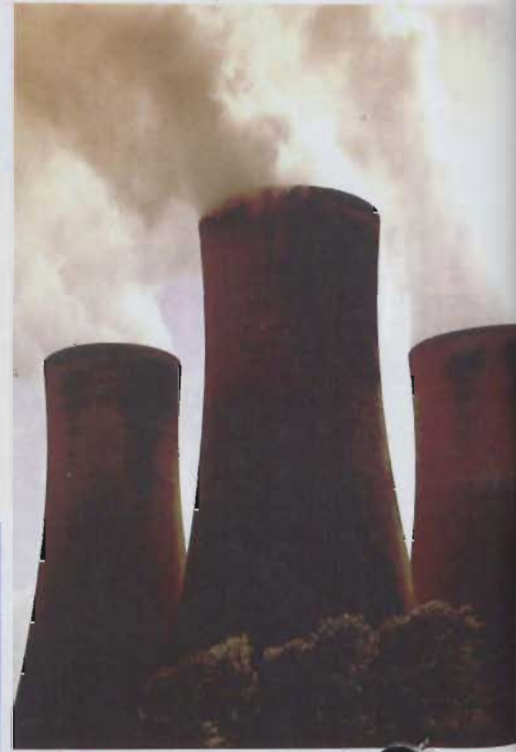
Tel: 01 - 463 8604 Fax: 01 - 463 8606

Fit & Forget Instruments & Controls

Manotherm Ltd provides a broad range of precision instruments for measuring, transmitting and controlling pressure, temperature, level and flow. In addition to providing quality precision instruments, Manotherm is committed to exceptional customer service, including knowledgeable, courteous technical support that generates and maintains long-term relations.



- Flow
- Level
- Sanitary
- Pressure
- Calibration
- Environment
- Signal Isolators
- Leak Detection
- Temperature/RH
- Valves & Steam Traps
- Data Loggers & Recorders



The Controls Centre,
4 Walkinstown Road, Dublin 12.
Tel: 01 - 452 2355/452 2229
Fax: 01 - 451 6919