

RCM NEWS

RCM News for February 2014

A newsletter for Resource Conservation Managers in the Northwest

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Building Envelopes

“[Your Savings Could Be in the Building Envelope](#)”, by Paul Hull, is a three-webpage article in the January/February issue of *Distributed Energy*. When constructing or retrofitting a building, consider how to increase the energy efficiency through the building envelope. This can be done by using components of building envelopes, such as window glass and insulation, that are suitable to the region and application. Building commissioning, which makes sure the performance of a building meets its goals, can also be used for the building envelope.

Data Centers

A three-webpage article by Lynn Corum in the January/February issue of *Distributed Energy*, “[New Ways to Manage Air Flow and Cooling for Data Centers](#)”, looks at why increases in data center energy costs have led to innovations and a better return on investments. The article looks at how three data centers reduced their energy usage without compromising the power and speed of their computers.

Energy Management

“[Innovations in Energy Management](#)” is a five-page web article by Carol Brzozowski, published in the January/February issue of *Distributed Energy*. Energy efficiency programs have recently seen a rise in the use of behavioral change by using optimized and attenuated devices to reduce energy usage. These devices, such as energy dashboards, help motivate change in customers by showing them in real time how their energy use impacts their overall bill, and also compares facilities with each other. HVAC and lighting control innovations also contribute to behavior change in respect to energy use.

Water

The following two articles were both written by Lori Lovely and published in the March-April 2014 issue of *Water Efficiency*.

[“How Smart Is Your Watering?”](#) discusses how smart technology is one of the keys to efficient irrigation. Overwatering and inefficient irrigation are common problems that can be overcome with flow management and the correct controls.

[“AMI Integration: Pro and Con”](#) examines the advantages and disadvantages of integrated Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) systems. AMI systems are being implemented by municipalities and utilities for their water systems to measure, collect, and analyze water and energy usage for more efficient management of those resources. Yet while water systems use electricity, water AMI systems are usually not integrated with electric AMI systems. This article explains why integration is difficult, including separate ownership and control of both systems, communication platforms, and installation.

Upcoming Events & Training Opportunities

2014 BOC Technical Webinar Series

- Solar Thermal Systems in Commercial Buildings – March 5
- Are you Solar PV Ready? – April 9

[Click here for more information](#)

BOC

ENERGY STAR® Portfolio Manager Trainings

All are online webinars.

- State of the ENERGY STAR Commercial and Industrial Program – March 5
- Benchmarking Water/Wastewater Treatment Facilities – March 12
- Portfolio Manager Office Hours: Spreadsheet Templates – March 20
- Portfolio Manager 101 – March 25
- Portfolio Manager 201 – March 26
- Portfolio Manager Office Hours: Understanding Energy Metrics – April 24

[Click here for more information](#)

US EPA

Oregon APEM 2014 Spring Forum – Keepin’ It Cool, How to Get the Most Out of Your Chilled Water Plant

The spring forum of the Oregon Association of Professional Energy Managers covers chiller basics, controls and best practices, new technology and equipment. Continuing Education Units are available.

- March 7 in Tualatin, OR

[Information and registration](#)

Oregon APEM

Northwest Facilities Expo / Managing Green Buildings Conference

The expo features the latest technology, equipment, and trends, while the conference offers sessions from industry experts. Free admission to both expo and conference.

- March 19-20 in Portland, OR

[Information and registration](#)

NEEA’s BetterBricks, Portland General Electric

Portland General Electric Seminars and Webinars

Portland General Electric offers online webinars and paid courses open to everyone, and seminars and workshops free of charge to its commercial and industrial customers. All classes in Oregon or online.

- Strategic Energy Management Webinar – March 25 online webinar

[PGE Energy Education Center webpage](#)

Portland General Electric, Energy Trust of Oregon, NEEA, BetterBricks

Building Operators Certification

BOC Level I certification is 74 hours of training and project work in building systems maintenance. Level II certification is 61 hours of training and elective coursework in equipment troubleshooting and maintenance. Classes usually meet one or two full days a month over a period of four to six months.

All dates below are for the first class.

- **Washington State**

- Level I – April 1, 2014 in Seattle (sold out)
- Level I – April 15, 2014 in Everett
- Level 1 – Fall 2014 in Longview
- Level II – Sept. 11, 2014 in Spokane
- Level II – Sept. 11, 2014 in Olympia
- Level II – Sept. 24, 2014 in Seattle
- Level II – Oct. 1, 2014 in Everett

[Click for BOC Washington state information](#)

- **Oregon**

- Level I – March 6, 2014 in the Columbia Gorge area
- Level I – March 11, 2014 in Salem
- Level I – April 15, 2014 in Bend

[Click for BOC Oregon information](#)

Building Operators Certification

Energy/Facilities Connections Conference 2014

Registration is now open for the 10th annual Energy/Facilities conference sponsored by WSU's Plant Operations Support Consortium. The conference features workshops on plant operations, facilities management and efficiency.

- May 6-8, 2014 in Leavenworth, WA

[Click for registration information](#)

WSU Energy Program

Better Buildings Summit

A national summit to catalyze investment in energy efficiency across the public, private, commercial and other sectors.

- May 7-9, 2014 in Washington, D.C.

[Click for registration information](#)

U.S.DOE EERE Better Buildings

AEE (Association of Energy Engineers) Real-time Online Seminars

Webinars and live interactive courses you can take from your computer. Programs are generally two to three hours long, over a period of days. Topics include energy auditing, lighting controls, HVAC systems and much more. Visit their website for a complete list:

<http://www.aeeprograms.com/realtime/> .

Resources for You

Energy Savings Performance Contracting Services

Washington Department of Enterprise Services offers a number of energy related services including [Energy Savings Performance Contracting](#) (ESPC). Local governments, school districts, and state agencies in Washington are eligible to use the support services that help assess whether ESPC will be beneficial and then provide step-by-step structure to the contracting process.

Automatic Irrigation Systems

Summer is around the corner (well, almost...) and it's not too early start thinking about increased irrigation efficiency. [Saving Water Partnership](#) has information on maintaining and creating efficient irrigation systems, including overview of products and services, designing systems, and programming irrigation schedules. Financial incentives may be available for commercial customers in the Seattle region. In addition, [Irrigation Water Management Services](#) for the Seattle region has tools to develop watering runtime schedules and adjust irrigation for more efficiency.

Do you have newsletters, websites and links to share? Do you have RCM questions?

RCM News is always looking for interesting information, tips and resources to share with other resource conservation managers. Our goal is to increase your success by sharing what you and your colleagues are doing – with energy efficiency measures, problem-solving, communication, data tracking, presentations, and more. In addition, WSU Energy Program can help find solutions to your RCM program's technical and programmatic questions. [Email Karen J](#) to share and ask!

Energy Events Calendar

<http://www.energyexperts.org/TrainingEducationandEmployment/EventsCalendar.aspx>

Washington RCM Support

The Washington State University Energy Program provides RCM support. Check out the "RCMx" website: <http://www.energy.wsu.edu/PublicFacilitiesSupport/ResourceConservation/RCMx.aspx>. We appreciate any feedback on this site and would also appreciate items to add to our resources, such as tools, examples of policies and job descriptions.

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Previous issues of RCM News may be viewed at <http://www.energy.wsu.edu/PublicationsandTools.aspx> (click on Resource Conservation in the right hand column).

We welcome comments or ideas for articles. Please send to Karen Janowitz - janowitzk@energy.wsu.edu



