

# RCM NEWS

## RCM News for May 2016

A newsletter for Resource Conservation Managers in the Northwest

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### Building Energy Management Systems

“[The Next Challenge – And It’s a Big One – is Turning Data into Action](#)” by Carl Weinschenk in the May 10, 2016 Energy Manager Today discusses the importance of building energy management systems (BEMs) and the fact that BEMs themselves do not reduce energy use. Data from BEMs must be used to implement measures to reduce energy costs and use. Hardware, software, and services to integrate building data into something that facility managers can use.

### Internet of Things: Grounds Management

Grounds Management is a four-part article in the May 2016 issue of Facility Maintenance Decisions, written by Mike Fitzpatrick. The Internet of Things includes water systems such as smart controllers for irrigation systems. They offer more options for programming, including pre-set programs based on soil types. Sensors tend to increase the cost of an irrigation system, yet are necessary to decrease water use and costs at a substantial level. Rainwater harvesting and using graywater are additional techniques to reduce use of water.

Part 1: [Irrigation: Green Strategies and Technology Advances](#)

Part 2: [Slowing the Flow on Irrigation Systems to Conserve Water](#)

Part 3: [Sustainable Practices Targeting Irrigation Systems](#)

Part 4: [PRODUCTS: Grounds Management](#)

### Internet of Things: Startups

Building IoT Part 2: Startups, written by Edward Sullivan, Editor, for the May 2016 issue of Building Operating Management, continues the discussion of building IoT started in the April issue. A lot of the new technology being developed for the Internet of Things is coming from startup companies.

Advantages to dealing with a startup include a lower cost for products, yet care must be taken to ask the best questions to evaluate the company, such as where their funding comes from and how many of their products have been installed in buildings.

Part 1: [Building Internet of Things Startups Are Rewriting The Rules](#)

Part 2: [How To Evaluate Building Products From IoT Startups](#)

Part 3: [SIDEBAR: 6 Questions Can Reduce Risk of New Building Technology](#)

Part 4: [SIDEBAR: What's Behind the Building Internet of Things Boom?](#)

## Roofs

The May 18, 2016 issue of Energy Manager Today features “[Energy Efficiency and Roofs](#)”, written by Carl Weinschenk. The type of roof and maintenance can increase efficiency of the building, such as prolonging the life of a roof by regular cleaning and repairs. Roof color also affects energy use, and since roofs last a very long time, the a white roof in a heating climate may increase energy costs.

## VRF

“[Why Choose VRF? Here Are Four Reasons](#)” appears in the May 17, 2016 online issue of Forester Daily News, written by William Atkinson. The article details how an elementary school in Georgia installed a VRF zoning system to overhaul their HVAC system, instead of repairing the old system. VRF offers four major benefits: energy savings; high performance; low life cycle costs, and; reduced maintenance costs.

A three-part article in the May 2016 issue of Facility Maintenance Decisions, written by Mark Stavig, looks deeper into using variable refrigerant flow (VRF) technology for HVAC. VRF systems increase energy efficiency and can heat and cool separate spaces at the same time.

Part 1: [HVAC: A Closer Look at VRF Technology](#)

Part 2: [Managers Must Consider Benefits of VRF System for HVAC Upgrades](#)

Part 3: [Application Insights for VRF Systems](#)

## Upcoming Events & Training Opportunities

### Introducing New Variables: Developments in Variable Speed Technology

2016 Oregon APEM Summer Forum:

- June 3 in Wilsonville, OR

[Click here for more information](#)

*Oregon Association of Professional Energy Managers*

### ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

All are online webinars.

- Financing Energy Efficiency Upgrades – Jun 7
- Portfolio Manager Web Services: August 2016 Schema Changes – Jun 14
- Portfolio Manager 101 – Jun 28
- Portfolio Manager 201 – Jun 29
- Portfolio Manager 301 – Jun 30
- Ask the Expert – Every Wednesday at 9:00 AM Pacific time

[Click here for more webinars and information](#)

*US EPA*

### Onset HOBO Webinar Series

- HOBOLink for web-based access to RX3000 Remote Monitoring Systems – June 8 webinar
- HOBOMobile app for configuring and managing MX Series Bluetooth loggers – Jun 29 webinar

[Click here for more webinars and information](#)

*NEEC*

### Portland General Electric Seminars and Webinars

Portland General Electric offers online webinars and paid workshops 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 Workshop – June 15 in Wilsonville
- Lighting Upgrades for Schools – June 23 webinar

[PGE Energy Education Classes](#)

*Portland General Electric, Energy Trust of Oregon*

### Energy Management for Motor Driven Systems

- June 30 online webinar

[Click here for more information](#)

### Energy Management Certificate

**Limited number of \$1,000 scholarships available!** Register now for the annual “energy bootcamp” offered by the Northwest Water & Energy Education Institute. This advanced certificate program covering a wide array of energy management topics is not to be missed.

- July 11-22, 2016 in Eugene, OR

[For more information](#)

*NWEEI*

### 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 – Aug 30, 2016 in Moses Lake
  - Level I – Sept 28, 2016 in Renton
  - Level I – 2017 in Silverdale
  - Level II – Sept 27, 2016 in Tacoma

[Click for BOC Washington State information](#)

- Oregon
  - Level I – Oct 5, 2016 in Tigard/Portland

[Click for BOC Oregon information](#)

*Building Operators Certification*

## Resources for You

### Borrow a HOBO Data Logger

The [Smart Buildings Center Tool Lending Library](#) now has HOBO data loggers you may borrow. These are useful for tracking and charting lighting, temperature, relative humidity, and other characteristics of your building that will help you determine how your building systems are performing, and what you may be able to do to reduce energy use. Based in Seattle, the library is a program of the Northwest Energy Efficiency Council

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### 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](#) to share and ask!

### 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](mailto:janowitzk@energy.wsu.edu)

