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& REFRIGERATION NEWS

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Tropic Supply Hosts Spectroline and CPS Rebound Events in Florida (see pages 10 & B3)



Ferguson HVAC Hosts Counter Day at Lake Worth Location (see page B12)



ASHRAE Hosts Annual Golf Tournament at Miami Golf Club (see pages B14-B15)



Gemaire Hosts Customer Appreciation Day at North Miami Location (see page 22)



Baker Distributing Summer Kick-Off Vendor Expo in Stuart (see page B11)

HARDI and PHCC File Amicus Brief Supporting EPA's AIM Act Allocation Rule



Jeff Schlichenmeyer
Publisher

Washington, DC — May 14, 2026 — Heating, Air-conditioning & Refrigeration Distributors International (HARDI), in partnership with the Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors Association (PHCC) National Association, filed an amicus brief with the U.S. Supreme Court in

RMS of Georgia, LLC d/b/a Choice Refrigerants v. Environmental Protection Agency. The case challenges the EPA's allowance allocation rules under the American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act of 2020, which governs the phasedown of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) used in HVACR equipment.

The AIM Act directs EPA to reduce HFC production and consumption by 85 percent below historical baseline levels by 2036, with phasedown limits set by Congress. The EPA issued regulations that allocate refrigerant production and consumption allowances to market participants based on their historical production and import. The brief warns that invalidating the AIM Act's allowance allocation provisions would create serious disruption across the entire HVACR supply chain at a critical point in the industry's transition to next-generation refrigerants.

"The HVACR industry needs clear, predictable rules to make major investments in equipment, supply chains, storage, training, and customer support," said Alex Ayers, Vice President of Government Affairs at HARDI. "The AIM Act provides that certainty, and disrupting the allocation rule now would create confusion across the supply chain and make it harder for distributors and their customers to manage the refrigerant transition."

The brief also notes that EPA has used similar market-based allowance systems for prior refrigerant transitions under the Clean Air Act, and that Congress modeled the AIM Act on those earlier programs. HARDI and PHCC argue that this history makes the case a poor vehicle for reconsidering broader constitutional questions about agency authority.

"HVACR contractors are on the front lines of this transition, working to install and service equipment designed for the new generation of refrigerants," said Chuck White, Vice President of Regulatory Affairs at PHCC. "We need to maintain a stable transition to avoid disruption and higher costs for contractors and consumers alike."

HARDI and PHCC urged the Supreme Court to deny the petition for certiorari. The appeal was also opposed by the federal government, the Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI), and the Alliance for Responsible Atmospheric Policy.

East Central Florida's Newest HVAC Distributor Opens in Edgewater

SESupply Brings Industry Experience, Contractor Focus, and Local Service to Central Florida

EDGEWATER, Fla. — SESupply, a locally owned and operated HVAC wholesale distributor, has officially opened its doors in Edgewater and is now serving licensed residential and commercial HVAC contractors throughout Volusia, Flagler, Brevard, Seminole, and surrounding counties.

Located at 305 Baseleg Drive, Building 2, Edgewater, SESupply offers HVAC equipment, replacement parts, controls, refrigerants, indoor air quality products, installation supplies, tools, water heating solutions, and contractor essentials. The company also provides free local delivery, convenient will-call service, and support from experienced HVAC professionals.

The newly opened facility includes warehouse inventory, contractor supplies, professional-grade tools, and a dedicated delivery fleet designed to help contractors keep projects moving and customers satisfied.

What separates SESupply from many distributors, according to company leadership, is the depth of industry experience

throughout the organization.

"Our philosophy is simple," said Rick Mabry, President of SESupply. "We believe contractors deserve a distributor that understands their business, values their time, and delivers on its promises. We have built this company around the real-world needs of HVAC professionals, not financial metrics based on shareholder expectations."

The company's leadership team brings over 100 years of experience, spanning OEM manufacturing, wholesale distribution, contractor operations, sales leadership, pricing, and supply chain management. According to the company, that experience has influenced every aspect of the business—from inventory selection and delivery services to technical support and customer service.

SESupply has already begun building a reputation for maintaining inventory focused on the products contractors need most while providing responsive service and local decision-making. Company officials say their goal is to become a trusted resource for contractors seeking reliable supply, knowledgeable support, and long-term business partnerships.



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Would You Do This?

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Industry expert Ruth King has helped contractors get and stay profitable for more than 25 years.

Reach her at ruthking@hvacchannel.tv.

Contractor hires a known embezzler who needs a job and says that he won't embezzle again. He says he's learned his lesson and the contractor believes him.

Unfortunately the contractor doesn't have the procedures in place to keep temptation away. It's analogous to the addict being around drugs. The temptation is too great.

When he steals a little and the contractor doesn't catch it, the cycle starts again. Finally, after thousands of dollars stolen, the embezzler is caught...again.

The question is: Would you hire a known embezzler? Would You Give that Person Another Chance? I can't answer this question for you.

If you choose to hire an embezzler, please put procedures in place that take away most temptation. Watch, oversee, and question if things don't look right.

First and critically important, never give your bookkeeper check signing authority. If you do, you've given your bookkeeper "the keys to the kingdom." Your bookkeeper can write any check, for any amount, to anyone... anytime. And, if you catch the bookkeeper stealing, it isn't a criminal charge.

With check signing authority, you've given your bookkeeper the permission to write any check payable to anyone for any amount.

Second, look at your bank accounts on-line every day. This is like brushing your teeth...a habit you must embrace. Look at the checks, ACH withdrawals, and everything coming in and going out. It's your cash, you need to watch over it and protect it.

Third, always match your aged receivables and aged payables report at the end of the month to the balance sheet values for accounts receivable and accounts payable. If they don't match, someone is using journal entries rather than the receivables and payables modules of your accounting software...why? These three things take less than 5 minutes a day to do. Protect

your hard earned cash!

Next Topic: More Subtle Clues that Something Isn't Right with Your Business. I gave you my "top three" things to implement to keep the honest people honest.

The most important thing is if something doesn't look right, you MUST question the person responsible for it. Here are three more areas to watch:

1.Sudden or small changes in gross margin. One of the easiest ways to steal from your company is to order materials from your suppliers on your accounts and send them to a company that person ordering the materials owns. Your company has additional direct costs which affects your gross profit and your gross margin. In fact, the CFO who was convicted of embezzling last year used this method.

If you don't track inventory, then you have a huge temptation for field employees. They can "take two or three" when they need one part. The others can be sold. Or, they can store the extra and use it when they start their own business.

If your gross margin decreases, you need to know why. With no reasonable explanation, there is a great likelihood that materials are walking out the back door.

2.Your vendor list. Make sure you know who all of your vendors are. Print a vendor list every quarter... yourself. Do not ask your bookkeeper to do it! Look at the names on the list. Notice if there are two similar names, i.e. ABC Business and ABC Company and ABC Industries. You'll avoid duplicate payments. It's very easy to open a checking account with a similar name to a vendor with whom you do a lot of business. Just a few hundred dollars each month in this bogus account adds up to a lot money over the years.

3.The person who balances the checkbooks does not sign checks. If your bookkeeper reconciles the accounts and signs checks, then the bookkeeper can rec-

oncile payments to herself. As I wrote last week, your bookkeeper should not have check signing authority.

Final Thoughts: A Blood Test is Like a Financial Statement - Most people have blood taken when they go to the doctor for their annual physical, i.e. their health checkup. The results come back and the doctor should review them with you. If you just get the tests and the normal ranges for the results, that is a disservice to you.

If there is an area that is out of normal, either high or low, the doctor should explain what you need to do to get that test result back in range. If this is not explained to you, then the result doesn't help you improve your health. The same is true for financial statements.

First, get an on time and accurate balance sheet and profit and loss statement every month. (The blood test at your physical exam). Then you need to read them. (The blood test results).

Then analyze them and take action based on what they are telling you. (Interpretation of the blood test results). If you don't get any financial statements you are operating in the dark - you have no clue whether your company is truly profitable. Your bank balance doesn't tell you!

If you get financial statements, look at the bottom line of the profit and loss statement, and throw them in a drawer, that still doesn't tell you anything on a long term basis about the financial health of your company.

Like your blood tests, financial statements tell you what is happening with your business. They give you the warning signs of impending cash flow, profitability, and productivity issues. Take action to resolve them before they become business crises.

If you don't understand what they mean get help: Ask your CPA, read a book (The Courage to be Profitable explains financials), subscribe to Financially Fit Business.

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In Loving Memory Carl Pollex

It is with deep respect and sadness that we share the news of Carl Pollex's passing, who died on Tuesday April 28th, at the age of 94 after a long and fulfilling life.

Carl was the father of our dear colleague Roger Pollex, and like his son, he was a remarkable presence in both life and industry. He was a true influence to many who had the privilege of knowing him, not only as a mentor but also as a legend in the HVAC industry.

An Army veteran, he carried with him a strong sense of discipline, integrity, and commitment throughout his life and career.

He was an exceptional salesman, known for

his ability to tell stories that captured attention and connected with everyone in the room. Even those new to the industry found themselves drawn in by his presence, wisdom, and charisma, leaving a lasting impression.

Carl's legacy lives on through the many people he influenced, the relationships he built, and the standards he set throughout his career and life.

Reunited with his son, Roger, our thoughts and prayers are with the Pollex family during this time.

There will be a Funeral Service for Carl to be held on Saturday, June 20th, at

2:30 to 4pm at Memorial Lutheran Church, 5800 Westheimer Rd, Houston, TX 77057



ACCA President and CEO Inspires the Next Generation of Tradespeople on National Skilled Trades Day



ACCA President and CEO Barton James reads 'The Air Came to a Stop' to first graders at a school in Little Rock, Arkansas.

ALEXANDRIA, VA. (May 6, 2026) — ACCA President and CEO Barton James marked National Skilled Trades Day by stepping into the classroom to share with children just how important the skilled trades are.

In early May, James joined a local Arkansas elementary school to celebrate National Skilled Trades Day with a reading of *The Air Came to a Stop* and *The Water Came to a Stop*, two books in ACCA's children's book program.

The initiative is part of ACCA's broader effort to address a growing skilled trades workforce shortage by sparking interest in HVAC and plumbing careers at the earliest possible age.

With an estimated shortage of 110,000 technicians, the industry faces an urgent need to attract new talent. ACCA believes the solution starts long before a student sets foot in a trade school — it starts in the first grade.

"The best time to show a kid that a career in the trades is exciting, rewarding, and worth pursuing is before anyone has told them otherwise," said James. "That's what these books are about — meeting kids where they are and letting them see themselves in this work."

James visited his own children's school in Arkansas last week to read *The Air Came to a Stop* to three first-grade classes. The visit drew enthusiastic responses from students and teachers alike, and underscored the simple but powerful impact of bringing a champion of the trades directly into a classroom.

The campaign also taps into a growing cultural shift. As artificial intelligence continues to reshape the workforce, skilled trades are increasingly recognized as some of the most future-proof careers available — hands-on, problem-solving work that cannot be automated. The number of parents who view career and technical education as the right path for their children has nearly tripled since 2019.

"We're not just addressing a workforce shortage — we're working to change the story about what a successful career looks like in America," James said. "The trades deserve the same respect and excitement as any other profession, and we're starting that conversation in classrooms."

To learn more about ACCA's children's book outreach program or to volunteer for a reading in your community, visit the ACCA website or contact Kate Wessels at kate.wessels@acca.org

The Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA) is the nation's premier trade association for heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration contractors. ACCA's member companies provide quality service in heating, air conditioning, refrigeration, building and home performance, solar, hydronics, and plumbing. ACCA has created the nationally-recognized and industry-endorsed standards needed to ensure HVACR systems are properly installed and maintained. Learn more at acca.org.

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HVAC School
For Techs by Techs

Careful With Cleaners

By Bryan Orr

When I was a green tech, I was really big into showing up all the other techs by doing THE BEST cleaning I possibly could. One of my favorite things to do was to clean the condenser until it was SPOT-LESS inside and out. The only issue was that I really liked using that brown coil cleaner—which will remain nameless—in pretty intense concentrations. (It was so dramatic to watch it foam.)

One day, I was washing a Lennox condenser coil and noticed that it was REALLY DIRTY. It didn't look dirty at first, but the more I sprayed it, the more black stuff kept coming off... and coming off... and COMING OFF.

It wasn't dirt. It was a coil coating, and the thing looked HORRIBLE. Lesson learned.

Cleaning HVAC and refrigeration systems, chillers, and ice machines is obviously not a one-size-fits-all solution, but all too often, we as techs grab whatever we have on the truck and try to make it work. Here are some quick tips:

Read the Label First

I say this in basically every tip, but if you aren't reading, you are ignorant of the industry's risks and best practices. The manufacturer will mention safe uses, concentrations, and hazards right on the bottle. Pay attention to them. This is SUPER important with aluminum micro-channel coils.

Careful What Goes in the Air

When you spray something on an evaporator coil, inside a case, in an air handler, etc., you are putting it in the air people breathe. Are you 100% sure the cleaner you are using is safe for that use? Will it smell like the armpit of Lucifer when you do it? Either way, make sure to take the proper precautions to ensure that you aren't going to harm or irritate the building's occupants. Can anybody say liability claim?

Is the Coil Coated?

Coils can be coated with many possible coatings, and they all respond differently to acidic or alkaline

cleaners. When in doubt, it is best to use a pH-neutral cleaner. That way, you don't risk eating off that coating (like I did when I was 18).

Nickel-Safe Cleaners

Many ice machines have nickel or tin plating on the evaporator. Use the wrong cleaner, and you can permanently damage the evaporator. When cleaning an ice machine, use specifically designed nickel-safe cleaners to ensure that you don't end up with a mess on your hands.

Be Reasonable

I see many guys use cleaners when a cleaner just isn't required. You don't need to use concentrated chemicals every time you rinse a coil; you don't need to pump a quart of the brown stuff on your truck in the drain pan on every PM. Clean until it's clean, but sometimes a rag, soft-bristle brush, or shop vac will do the job better than coating everything in layers of nasty chemicals.

Do a good cleaning. Just pay attention.

New York Appellate Court Halts Refrigerant Ban Amid Public Concern Over Food Supply Impacts

Albany, NY—May 7, 2026 — The Appellate Division of the New York State Supreme Court, Third Department, has granted an injunction that prevents the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) from enforcing a ban on two refrigerants utilized in the commercial refrigeration systems of thousands of businesses across the state. The injunction will remain in effect until the court determines if the broader regulation should be overturned. The decision comes as New Yorkers express growing concern about the affordability and operational impacts associated with the state's refrigeration regulations.

Prior to the injunction ruling, a new statewide survey commissioned by the Heating, Air-condition-

ing & Refrigeration Distributors International (HARDI) found strong public concern that the regulations could increase grocery prices, disrupt refrigeration repairs, and strain food supply operations throughout the state.

According to the survey, 71% of New York homeowners believe refrigerant regulations will increase costs for grocery stores and food retailers. Additionally, 87% said they would be concerned about higher food prices if refrigerant shortages or service delays disrupted grocery store operations.

The survey also found broad support for reconsidering regulations if they create affordability or supply chain concerns:

82% said regulations should be adjusted or de-

layed if they risk increasing food costs or causing supply disruptions.

65% believe refrigeration regulations could make repairs harder or contribute to store closures.

86% said reliable access to refrigerants for equipment repair and maintenance is important for grocery stores and food suppliers.

"These survey results confirm that consumers are worried about policies that disrupt refrigeration access and their consequences on grocery expenses," said Alex Ayers, HARDI's Vice President of Government Affairs. "The court's decision is a crucial opportunity for policymakers to fully evaluate the economic and operational impacts of these regulations on families and the broader food supply chain."

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Rethinking Multifamily HVAC Design for Easier Installation and Space Efficiency

Architects and builders are being asked to deliver more within the same footprint. Higher construction costs, tighter lot sizes, and continued demand for multifamily housing are pushing project teams to rethink how space is allocated. Mechanical systems are no longer just a design consideration. They also affect installation complexity, retrofit feasibility, and long-term serviceability. This shift has driven the development of more flexible HVAC system platforms, including Midea's EVOX lineup — recognized by ACCA as an example of space-efficient HVAC design for multifamily projects.

HVAC design now influences how units are laid out, how space is experienced, and how projects perform financially. Traditional approaches, such as floor-mounted air handlers and dedicated mechanical closets, remain common. However, they consume usable square footage.

Designing for space efficiency

Space efficiency is now a primary design consideration across multifamily new construction and residential retrofit projects. Architects, builders, and contractors are placing greater emphasis on how HVAC systems integrate into the building envelope and existing infrastructure. Systems that reduce their physical footprint without compromising performance are gaining attention. Within platforms like EVOX, this includes a mix of ducted, ductless, and ceiling-mounted compact air handling solutions designed for different building conditions.

Rethinking the mechanical closet

Mechanical closets are often treated as a standard requirement, but they come at a cost. They occupy floor area that could otherwise support living space or more storage.

Ceiling-mounted air handling systems offer an alternative. By relocating equipment into the ceiling cavity, contractors and project teams can reclaim floor space while reducing the need for major layout changes. Within platforms like Midea EVOX, the inverter-driven Pancake Air Handling Unit (AHU) is one example — a ceiling-mounted system available in 18K, 24K, 30K, and 36K BTU configurations that eliminates the need for a dedicated mechanical closet. It is designed to integrate

with existing ductwork and controls, helping contractors avoid major structural or electrical modifications during retrofit projects.

Designing within real-world constraints

Projects frequently involve limited ceiling plenum space, existing ductwork, and legacy control systems. Redesigning around these constraints can add cost and delay. HVAC systems that adapt to these conditions can simplify installation, reduce callbacks, and minimize coordination challenges across trades.

Key considerations include compact equipment profiles, compatibility with standard 24V controls, and sufficient static pressure to support existing duct layouts. Platforms that support both traditional 24V and advanced communication protocols allow contractors to integrate new equipment without overhauling existing infrastructure or rewiring control systems. The Midea Pancake AHU, for example, offers dual-voltage capability (115V or 208/230V) and RS-485 controls compatibility — features designed to reduce electrical infrastructure requirements in both new construction and renovation projects.

Maintaining performance and comfort

Reducing HVAC footprint does not sacrifice performance. Modern heat pumps can deliver reliable heating and cooling across a range of climate conditions and building types — and they're being designed with smaller footprints and greater flexibility. The Midea Pancake AHU, for instance, maintains up to 100% heating output at -4°F (-20°C) and continuous operation down to -22°F (-30°C) — performance that extends reliable comfort into cold-climate multifamily applications.

Inverter-driven heat pump technology supports this by adjusting output in real time to match demand while maintaining more stable operation across changing load conditions. This improves temperature stability and overall comfort compared to fixed-speed systems. Quiet operation and concealed installation further enhance the occupant experience. These design advantages can also support unit marketability by reducing the visibility of mechanical equipment.

For contractors, high-efficiency systems may

also align with federal, state, and utility rebate programs that help support project adoption and homeowner value.

Integrating HVAC earlier in design

The role of HVAC in building design continues to evolve. Mechanical systems are increasingly considered earlier in the design process, alongside architectural and structural decisions.

Solutions such as Midea's EVOX platform, which includes ducted systems, ductless options, and compact air handling units, reflect this shift. Within this platform, the new ceiling-mounted "Pancake" Air Handling Unit serves as a low-profile option for multifamily projects where traditional floor-mounted equipment is not practical. Its low-profile, ceiling-mounted configuration supports space optimization while maintaining compatibility with existing systems. High CFM output up to 899 CFM also supports longer duct runs and complex multifamily layouts without requiring major duct redesigns.

For contractors, builders, and architects, early coordination helps reduce downstream changes and installation delays. As projects become more space-constrained, that integration will play a larger role in multifamily building design and tenant satisfaction. System platforms that offer multiple configurations within a single ecosystem will be increasingly important for meeting these evolving design and construction demands.

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East Central Florida's Newest HVAC Distributor Opens in Edgewater

Continued from Cover Story



Extensive warehouse inventory supports residential and commercial HVAC applications.



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A broad assortment of HVAC installation materials, chemicals, adhesives, and consumables.

"Brent Sturgell and I, have spent our careers working alongside contractors and technicians," Mabry said. "We understand what happens when a critical part isn't available or a project gets delayed. We understand the realities of OEM's and the market. Our job is to help contractors stay productive and profitable."

The company plans to continue expanding inventory, vendor partnerships, and service capabilities throughout the region. Leadership says additional locations, product offerings and contractor support programs are expected in the coming months.

SESupply's guiding principle—"For the HVAC Craftsman"—reflects its commitment to building long-term relationships rather than simply processing transactions. Its operating philosophy is also reflected

in the message displayed prominently on company vehicles: "In Stock. On Point. On Time."

As growth continues, company officials say their focus remains unchanged: providing quality products, knowledgeable support, dependable inventory, and a customer experience built around helping contractors succeed.

A formal Grand Opening celebration and contractor appreciation event are expected to be announced later this summer.

"We built SESupply around one simple idea: contractors deserve a distributor that understands their business, values their time, and delivers on its promises." — Rick Mabry, President, SESupply

SESupply is a locally owned HVAC wholesale

distributor headquartered in Edgewater, Florida. The company serves licensed residential and commercial HVAC contractors with equipment, replacement parts, tools, supplies, indoor air quality products, water heating solutions, and technical support. Built by industry veterans, SESupply is committed to delivering exceptional service, product availability, and contractor-focused solutions throughout East Central Florida.

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DEWALT® Invests in the Future of Skilled Trades: \$200,000 in Scholarships To Be Awarded

TOWSON, Md., May 11, 2026 /PRNewswire/ -- DEWALT®, a Stanley Black & Decker brand (NYSE: SWK) and leader in jobsite solutions, is proud to announce it has awarded \$200,000 in scholarships to 40 students across the U.S. and Canada. This annual initiative underscores DEWALT's ongoing commitment to closing the skilled trades gap and empowering the next generation through its Grow the Trades program, a \$60 million investment in trades education by 2030.

"As the demand for skilled tradespeople continues to rise, it's essential to invest in the next generation of professionals who will build our communities and drive progress," said James Oh, President and General Manager of DEWALT. "We are proud to support the next generation of tradespeople through scholarships that help remove barriers and create opportunities."

This year's scholarship recipients represent the future of nine critical trades - including electrical,

carpentry, construction, HVAC, welding, and more - reflecting the vital roles these professions play in shaping our communities.

2026 Scholarship Recipient Spotlights - Cory Arant - HVAC, Allison Reiter - Welding, Jacob Davis - Electrical Technician, Audry Ford - Welding. To learn more about DEWALT's Trades Scholarship program and Grow the Trades initiative, visit: www.dewalt.com/growthtrades.



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Achieve Better Installs at the CPS Demo Days

During the month of May, Tropic Supply hosted several CPS Demo Days around the state. The learning objective focused on Better Installs, where attendees learned how the CPS BlackMax VPBM6V 6 CFM Sparkless Vacuum Pump and CPS MT69 Molecular Transformer Sub Cooler help ensure proper vacuum and recovery practices, remove moisture, and reduce future callbacks.

Meet Our Experts:

Norm Sorel, Hamilton & Associates: Norm joined the Hamilton & Associates rep agency in

November 2021. Prior to that, he spent 15 years in the insurance industry. Born and raised in Massachusetts, Norm moved permanently to the Tampa Bay area in 2005. He earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Tampa and currently resides in St. Petersburg. In his free time, he enjoys being out on the water spearfishing, playing golf, and playing ice hockey.

Rob Hamilton, Hamilton & Associates: Rob has been in the HVAC industry in various capacities for more than 35 years and has worked at the

contractor level, distributor level, and as a manufacturer's representative for the last 20 years. Hamilton & Associates was established in 2014 and currently represents 12 manufacturers throughout Florida and the Southeast.

Over the years, Rob has developed a strong working knowledge of a wide range of HVAC-related products, ranging from supplies to equipment.

Visit www.tropicsupply.com/eventscalendar to explore all upcoming events and make plans to join us!



Reniel Rojo, Ana Zapete, Simon Stolbach, Elio Amador, Charles Bruyn of Tropic Supply, Norm Sorel of Hamilton & Assoc, & Bryan Diaz of Tropic Supply.



Norm Sorel of Hamilton & Associates with Karim Taweo, Andres Cesar, and Roberto Pina of DNA Air Conditioning.



Norm Sorel of Hamilton & Associates with Andres Alemany of All In One Air Conditioning.



Tropic Supply CPS Demo Day team at the T-20 Sunrise Resource Center location.



Shannon Ballard, Jorge Alvarez, and Nicholas Grant of Total Appliance with Norm Sorel of Hamilton & Associates.



Norm Sorel of Hamilton & Associates with Jose Bravo of Cold & Heat Air Conditioning.



Norm Sorel of Hamilton & Associates with Jonathan Lara of Florida AC Systems.



Norm Sorel of Hamilton & Associates with Jay Benson of Benson and Benson Air Conditioning.



Norm Sorel of Hamilton & Associates with Henry Molina of SNK Air Services.



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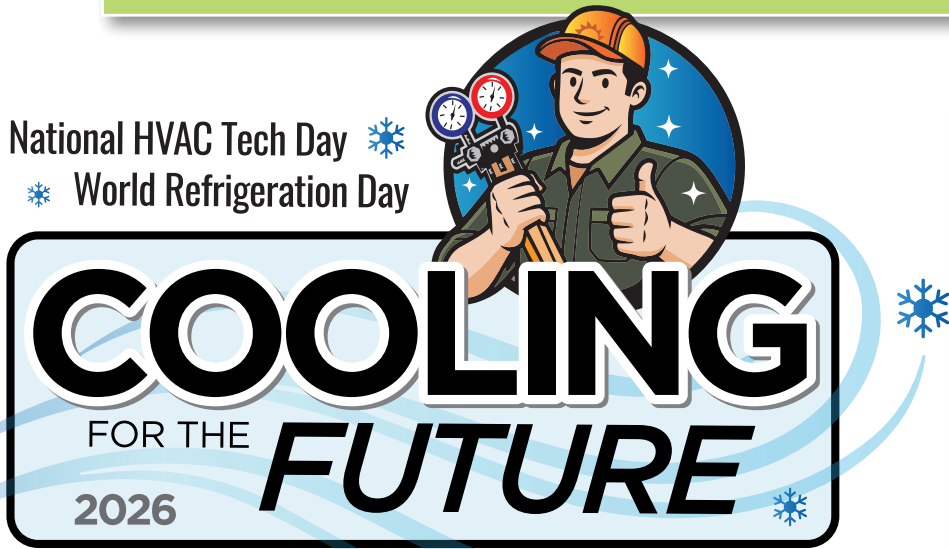
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Friday, June 26 11am - 1pm All Tropic Supply Resource Center locations



National HVAC Tech Day
 World Refrigeration Day

★ CELEBRATING HVAC & REFRIGERATION TECHS ★

Join us as we celebrate **National HVAC Tech Day** and **World Refrigeration Day** on **Friday, June 26, 2026**, from **11am – 1pm** at any of our **22 Tropic Supply Resource Center locations**.

All locations will feature a **Customer Appreciation Cookout** and select locations will host live demonstrations focused on the **REBOUND Campaign's four key objectives** to help boost the skills of your HVAC/R techs. We look forward to seeing you there!

FREE EVENT – NO Registration Required

The **FIRST 100 ATTENDEES** will score this limited-edition **bottle-opener/coaster** as a giveaway while supplies last!
 The **FIRST 20 ATTENDEES** will score this limited-edition **Richardson-style hat** as a giveaway while supplies last!

HVAC/R Tech Tips	Objective	Location
DiversiTech	1 2	T1 Miami N.
Ruud	1 3	T2 N. Fort Lauderdale
Nu-Calgon	1 2 3 4	T3 Miami S.
Lunch only		T4 S. Ft. Lauderdale
Trinity Warranty Solutions	4	T5 West Palm Beach
CPS	1	T6 Fort Pierce
Armacell	1	T7 Mid Miami
Ecobee	1	T8 Ft. Myers
Yellow Jacket	1 3	T9 Delray Beach
Ruud	1 3	T10 Naples
Nu-Calgon	1 2 3 4	T11 Cape Coral
Trinity Warranty Solutions	4	T12 Port Charlotte
CPS	1	T14 Sarasota
CPS	1	T15 Tampa E.
DiversiTech	2	T16 Tampa W.
Samsung	1	T17 Orlando
Allied Air	1	T18 Jacksonville
DiversiTech	1 2	T19 Daytona Beach
Sensi by Copeland	2	T20 Sunrise
Tropic Supply	4	T21 Tallahassee
Nu-Calgon	1 2 3 4	T22 Ocala
DiversiTech	1 2	T23 St. Petersburg

JUNE 26TH EVENT SUPPORTING SPONSORS:



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Rebound is a **contractor enablement campaign** focused on achieving the following four key objectives:

- 1
BETTER INSTALLS
- 2
BETTER MAINTENANCE & PROFITABLE END-USER VALUE UPSELLS
- 3
BETTER DIAGNOSIS & REPAIRS
- 4
BETTER PROPOSAL SELLING & FINANCING

DEMO DAY

Demo Day with Armacell

Tuesday, June 9	8am - 12pm	T18 Jacksonville
Weds., June 10	8am - 12pm	T21 Tallahassee

FREE EVENT – NO Registration Required

Refreshments will be provided.

- **Better Installs** – Learn how Armacell Shield UV-coated insulation protects copper tubing from UV degradation-ensuring long-term durability, proper system performance, and reduced callbacks through correct installation practices.

WEBINAR

AIG Residential Extended Warranties Webinar: A Smart Advantage for HVAC Contractors

Thursday, June 11 8am - 9am EST ZOOM WEBINAR

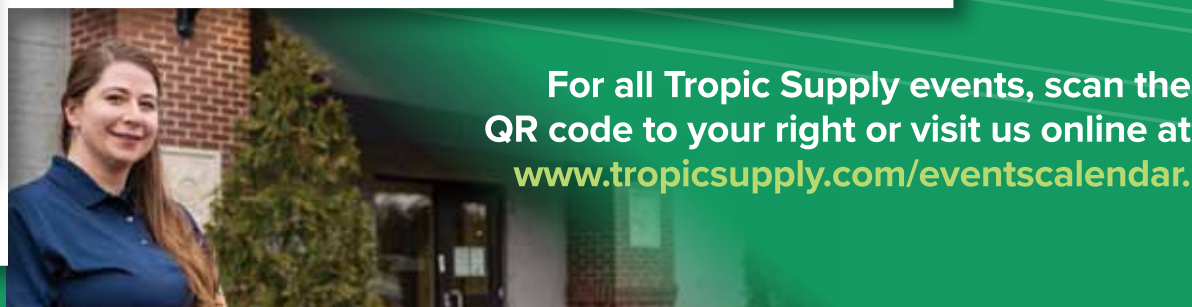
FREE EVENT – Registration is Required!

- **Better Proposal Selling & Financing** – Learn how residential financing helps you win more projects without delaying decisions and increase project scope by presenting flexible cash flow solutions.
- **Dealer ROI & Profitability** – Discover how Protection Plus plans, rebate programs, and CRM tools help contractors win financially, increase revenue, improve customer retention, and support long-term business growth.
- **Better Maintenance Value & Profitable Upsells** – Explore aftermarket programs and extended warranty solutions that support maintenance conversations and create additional revenue opportunities.



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Demo Day with SPORLAN and YELLOW JACKET

Tuesday, June 2	8am - 10:30am	T15 Tampa E.
Tuesday, June 2	8am - 10:30am	T21 Tallahassee
Weds., June 3	8am - 10:30am	T14 Sarasota
Weds., June 3	8am - 10:30am	T22 Ocala
Thursday, June 4	8am - 10:30am	T12 Port Charlotte
Thursday, June 4	8am - 10:30am	T19 Daytona Beach
Friday, June 5	8am - 10:30am	T18 Jacksonville
Monday, June 8	8am - 10:30am	T2 N. Fort Lauderdale
Tuesday, June 9	8am - 10:30am	T1 Miami N.
Weds., June 10	8am - 10:30am	T5 West Palm Beach
Thursday, June 11	8am - 10:30am	T6 Fort Pierce
Tuesday, June 16	8am - 10:30am	T10 Naples
Weds., June 17	8am - 10:30am	T9 Delray Beach
Weds., July 1	8am - 10:30am	T17 Orlando

FREE EVENT – NO Registration Required

Refreshments will be provided.

YELLOW JACKET:

- **Better Installs** – TITANMAX™'s leak test feature ensures there are no leaks in a newly installed system, ensuring fewer callbacks.
- **Better Diagnosis & Repairs** – Achieve fast, accurate diagnostics and troubleshoot with precision using TITANMAX™ to improve efficiency, reduce callbacks.

SPORLAN:

- **Better Installs** – Build confidence in valve assembly and system setup with real-time practice that helps improve installation accuracy and reduce callbacks.
- **Better Diagnosis & Repairs** – Strengthen troubleshooting skills through hands-on valve training that can be completed on the spot. Identify issues faster and make more accurate repairs in the field.

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Women In HVACR's Navigator Program Launches the Industry's First Mentor Training Program

ENGLEWOOD, Colo.—May 11, 2026—Women in HVACR (WHVACR), a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering women in the heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration trades, is addressing the industry's persistent gender gap through its Navigator Mentor Training Program, a structured mentorship and professional development training initiative designed to provide targeted mentorship training curriculum based on the specific needs of women in HVAC & Refrigeration.

This training will equip women entering or advancing in this industry to have the mentoring skills critical to their own career growth, leadership development and long-term success, and share those skills with their peers and colleagues.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, women only make up about 3% of the HVACR workforce, reflecting longstanding barriers to entry and advancement within the trades. WHVACR members have identified the power of mentorship in helping them develop the skills and knowledge to be successful in their careers. Participation in the WHVACR Navigator program has tripled in size over the last two years, and directly reflects the significant need for mentorship and trained mentors.

“The number one question I get asked by companies across the industry is around attracting and retaining women in their organization,” said Lisa Knapp, a WHVACR board member who has helped drive the Navigator program. “My response is always, mentorship. Data collected from our members show that mentorship has been particularly valuable in employee retention and advancement. And now that we have seen the impact of our Navigator program, we want to flood the industry with women trained to be mentors to other women.”

Navigator was originally launched in 2024 and pairs emerging professionals with industry veterans who provide real-world insights and practical guidance to help mentees navigate obstacles to move forward in their careers. Knapp said the new training element ensures that mentors have the tools they need to guide other women through modern challenges.

The Navigator program is powered by MentorCity, a cloud-based, comprehensive mentoring platform designed for organizations and individuals to foster professional growth through structured and automated mentor-mentee matching. Since its launch, Navigator has demonstrated strong participation and measurable impact, including:

- More than 400 mentorship meetings
- Strong engagement across program discussion boards
- More than 90 professional development goals set by mentees

“Having a mentoring mindset is such a valuable part of leadership development,” said WHVACR President Jane Sidebottom. “We have such a strong mentorship committee, with deep coaching and mentoring experience. Their willingness to share this expertise in the form of training and in support of our members' leadership development is a gift. It fills a gap for structured mentorship training in this industry.”

Women in HVACR continues to expand programs that deliver measurable value to members and that serve the industry's evolving workforce needs.

“By investing in leadership, mentorship and community, we are providing a valuable employee development and retention resource to companies across the industry,” Sidebottom said. “Together we can close the labor shortage gap, while creating a more inclusive and sustainable HVACR workforce for the future.”

For more information about the Navigator program, please contact WHVACR Executive Director Meghan Millard at director@womeninhvacr.org

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Bluon Embeds HVAC Intelligence Directly into ServiceTitan

IRVINE, Calif. – May 21, 2026 – Bluon, the industry-leading AI support and data company for HVAC contractors, announces a fully embedded solution of its Bluon for Business product integrated within ServiceTitan, the software platform that powers the trades. The embedded integration brings Bluon's battle tested UI and extensive HVAC intelligence directly into the ServiceTitan platform, including its Field Mobile App, allowing contractors and their technicians seamless access to Bluon's AI support and data within their existing workflows and without switching to another application.

Through the embedded integration, ServiceTitan users who subscribe to Bluon for Business can now directly access Bluon's AI support and expansive parts and equipment database without ever leaving their field service management (FSM) platform, which they rely on every day, for every job. Technicians can quickly identify and log equipment details including virtually any technical spec, access guided tech support for the specific HVAC model they are working on, identify compatible replacement parts and locate distributors who carry those parts, all while never leaving their existing workflows within ServiceTitan.

Bluon's database includes tens of millions of model numbers across hundreds of OEMs, giving contractors fast access to equipment intelligence for both current and legacy systems, including many situations where manuals or documentation are not available online. The database provides context and deterministic properties to Bluon's proprietary AI, that has been trained on 150,000 live tech support calls handled by 40 of the best technicians in the trade, giving the AI their collective field wisdom and experience. As a result, the AI is capable of highly nuanced, specific troubleshooting for virtually any piece of HVAC equipment from mini-splits to chillers.

By embedding this functionality within ServiceTitan, contractors can work more efficiently without adding another layer of technology to adopt and manage.

“At Bluon, our focus is making advanced HVAC intelligence and nuanced troubleshooting as accessible and practical as possible for technicians in the field,” said Peter Capuciati, CEO of Bluon. “This integration with ServiceTitan allows contractors to add the intelligence and power of Bluon without the challenges surrounding adding another application for their team.”

As part of the embedded integration, contractors also gain access to Bluon's PartsConnect™ capabilities within ServiceTitan workflows. Technicians can instantly see what compatible replacement parts are carried by their preferred distributors, mitigating one of the biggest friction points in HVAC service.



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AHRI Releases March 2026 U.S. Heating and Cooling Equipment Shipment Data

U.S. shipments of central air conditioners and air-source heat pumps totaled 856,674 units in March 2026, increased +4.6 percent compared to 818,761 units shipped in March 2025. U.S. shipments of air conditioners increased +0.1 percent, to 436,757 units, compared to 436,291 units shipped in March 2025. U.S. shipments of air-source heat pumps increased +9.8 percent, to 419,917 units, compared to 382,470 shipped in March 2025.

Year-to-date combined shipments of central air conditioners and air-source heat pumps decreased -6.8 percent, to 1,936,334, compared to 2,077,964 units shipped during the same period in 2025. Year-to-date shipments of central air conditioners decreased -13.4 percent, to 975,764 units, compared to 1,126,190 units shipped during the same period in 2025. The year-to-date total for heat pump shipments increased +0.9 percent, to 960,570, compared to 951,774 units shipped during the same period in 2025.

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Introducing the TITANMAX® Cover! This rugged, water-resistant cover keeps your TITANMAX® protected with full access to ports, controls, and the screen throughout the job. Unlike competitors, the TITANMAX® Cover is specifically designed for the equipment to ensure your investment is always protected. The TITANMAX® is available individually or as part of select backpack kits for added convenience. The TITANMAX® Cover is sold separately.

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- Velcro® straps to secure cover around the TITANMAX® valve bar

NIBCO® Introduces Branded Markings to its PressACR® Line



ELKHART, Ind. – May 2026 – NIBCO INC. introduces branded markings to its PressACR product line enhancing product identification and helping ensure proper application in the field. Each fitting now features a distinctive black band, with “NIBCO” printed on one side and “PressACR” on the other.

These markings clearly differentiate PressACR fittings, for use in copper tube systems for air conditioning and refrigeration applications, from other NIBCO press fittings in the field, minimizing the risk of misapplication and improving jobsite confidence for contractors.

“NIBCO is committed to providing solutions that make installation easier and more reliable for our customers,” said Marilyn Morgan, senior product manager-fittings, NIBCO. “These new markings are a simple but impactful way to help contractors quickly identify the right fitting for the right application, reducing errors and increasing confidence on the job.”

NIBCO’s PressACR fittings are made from high-quality, globally-sourced pure copper and are manufactured in Stuarts Draft, Virginia. Press end connections reduce installation time, while the patented interior groove design and gray HNBR seals make them suitable for high-pressure HVACR applications.

With a professional appearance and consistent joint quality, PressACR fittings meet stringent certification and compliance standards for applications rated up to 700 psi.

The PressACR line ranges in size from 1/4-inch OD to 2-1/8 inches OD and is approved for use with K, L and M hard copper tubing that complies with ASTM B280 ACR tube or B88 standards and soft copper up to 7/8-inch OD.

For more information, visit nibco.com/pressacr.

NIBCO INC. is a fifth generation, family-led and employee-owned company founded in 1904, and a trusted manufacturer of valves, fittings, and flow-control products for mission-critical infrastructure, including data centers, as well as commercial, industrial, institutional construction, marine, residential, irrigation, and waterworks markets.

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Performance Pointers

By James Ball



The Real Cost of Poor Humidity Control

Along the Gulf Coast, homeowners often describe comfort issues the same way: “My HVAC system keeps my bedroom at 65 degrees every night, but lately the sheets have felt damp and sticky. I’ve even turned the A/C down lower, hoping the room would dry out and feel more comfortable.” In many cases, the air conditioner seems to be cooling fine, but the home still does not feel truly comfortable.

Many homeowners do not realize that comfort depends on more than temperature alone. Humidity has a major effect on how a home feels and how well an HVAC system performs.

When indoor humidity stays too high, people often lower the thermostat to feel more comfortable, which increases utility bills, adds unnecessary strain to the equipment, and reduces overall system performance.

Proper humidity control is one of the most important jobs an HVAC system has, especially in humid areas like the Gulf Coast. A lot of people think air conditioning is just about making air cold, but a system also needs to remove moisture. In many areas of the country, humidity removal matters as much as lowering the temperature.

Air conditioners remove moisture at the indoor evaporator coil. As warm, humid air moves across the cold coil, moisture condenses, collects, and drains away. But that only works well when the system runs long enough to remove a meaningful amount of moisture and doesn’t have to deal with additional moisture because of pressure imbalances from duct leakage and interior door closure.

That is where a lot of HVAC performance issues start.

One of the most common reasons for poor humidity control is oversized equipment. Many ho-

meowners assume a bigger system will cool faster and work better. But oversized systems often hit the thermostat setting too quickly and shut off before they remove enough moisture. That short cycling leaves humidity high even when the thermostat temperature looks fine.

The result is a home that feels cool but damp. Homeowners then lower the thermostat more, using more energy without fixing the real issue. In some cases, homeowners think the system is not cooling correctly when the actual problem is too much indoor humidity from insufficient runtime.

Poor humidity control can also affect the home itself. Too much moisture can lead to musty smells, condensation on vents or windows, mold growth, and damage to wood materials over time. High humidity can also make the air feel warmer and heavier, even at lower temperatures.

Airflow problems can make dehumidification worse. Too much airflow across the evaporator coil reduces how much moisture the coil removes.

Restricted airflow from dirty filters, clogged coils, undersized duct systems, or return air issues can also hurt comfort and system performance.

In many homes, HVAC systems are judged only by whether they blow cold air. But real system performance is about more than supply air temperature.

A properly working system should keep the home comfortable, control humidity, run efficiently, and move air evenly throughout the house.

Signs of poor humidity control can include a sticky feeling indoors, musty odors, visible condensation, uneven comfort from room to room, mold around supply vents, or unusually high electric bills during cooling season. These are often signs that the system is not removing moisture the way

it should.

Proper HVAC design and commissioning have a big impact on humidity control. Correct equipment sizing, airflow adjustment, duct evaluation, and static pressure testing all help make sure the system works the way it should. Unfortunately, many systems are installed or serviced without ever checking these important performance measurements.

A properly dehumidified home feels more comfortable at a higher thermostat setting, which can lower energy use and improve comfort at the same time. In many cases, better humidity control can make a home feel noticeably better without lowering the temperature at all.

True HVAC performance is not just about blowing cold air. It is about keeping the home comfortable while managing both temperature and humidity efficiently.

Jim Ball has been involved in the HVAC industry all his life. He’s been a long-time National Comfort Institute (NCI) shining star and an effective implementer of High-Performance HVAC™. Jim sold his family HVAC service company and looks to give back to the industry by contributing his knowledge and experience. He hopes to help other HVAC professionals move forward with implementing High-Performance HVAC processes.

As a Senior Mechanical Engineer with Dewberry Engineering, Jim stays actively involved in helping contractors in our industry to become High-Performance HVAC professionals using lessons learned from NCI. If you would like to learn more, take a look at NationalComfortInstitute.com or call 800-633-7058.



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BUILDING A SMARTER ENERGY FUTURE®

DiversiTech® Corp. Acquires Polymer Adhesives



May 29, 2026 (Duluth, Ga.) – DiversiTech® Corp., North America's leading manufacturer

and supplier of components and related products for heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration (HVAC/R), announced today that it has acquired Polymer Adhesives, a leading manufacturer of water based and solvent based sealants and adhesives. This acquisition will formally add Sealants & Adhesives alongside DiversiTech's existing Chemicals line to create a unified Consumables product family. This gives DiversiTech a cohesive, scaled position in the high-frequency, repeat-purchase consumables categories that contractors rely on daily.

Polymer Adhesives has a proven track record for over 30 years providing duct & acoustic sealants for the HVAC/R Industry. With DiversiTech and Polymer together, DiversiTech is positioned to serve as the preferred source for HVAC and Construction professionals seeking premium, strongly positioned, application-focused, code-compliant solutions across job requirements.

"We are thrilled to be joining forces with the team at Polymer Adhesives," said Andy Bergdoll, CEO of DiversiTech. "We are proud to continue investing in manufacturing excellence and producing high-quality products trusted by HVAC/R Contractors. We look forward to enabling them to leverage DiversiTech resources and infrastructure to build even stronger wholesaler partnerships."

"By joining forces with DiversiTech we are gaining the scale and resources to further accelerate operational excellence, strengthen customers relationships, and support continued growth," stated Brady Basil, President of Polymer Adhesives. "I am excited to build on Polymer Adhesives' strong foundation and take it to the next level."

For more information about DiversiTech, visit diversitech.com. For more information about Polymer Adhesives, visit polymeradhesives.com. Founded in 1971, DiversiTech® Corporation is North America's largest manufacturer of equipment pads and a leading manufacturer and supplier of components and related products for the HVAC/R industry.

HARDI Opposes EPA Changes to Technology Transitions Rule as Costly Mistake for HVACR Industry

Columbus, OH — May 21, 2026 — Heating, Air-conditioning & Refrigeration Distributors International (HARDI) strongly opposed announced changes to the Environmental Protection Agency's Technology Transitions Rule as it applies to commercial refrigeration, including retail food refrigeration and cold storage. The changes would significantly increase demand for refrigerants that are facing a statutory decrease in supply under the American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act. These new restrictions apply to refrigeration systems used by supermarkets, retail food establishments, and cold storage warehouses when new equipment is needed; no business is required to replace systems under the AIM Act.

HARDI said the changes undermine the market certainty needed to support the ongoing HFC phase-down and risk increasing refrigerant demand beyond what the industry is legally allowed to supply.

According to HARDI estimates, the increased demand for these refrigerants could cost the refrigeration industry nearly \$8 billion in refrigerant costs alone, with economic ripple effects increasing the total cost to \$13 billion. HARDI warned that the impacts will not be limited to supermarkets or cold storage facilities, but will affect the broader HVACR market, including contractors, distributors, building owners, manufacturers, and consumers.

HARDI's analysis indicates that the changes will likely produce the opposite of their stated goal. Rather than lowering costs or easing the transition, extending the use of high-GWP refrigerants in major commercial refrigeration applications will increase demand for refrigerants whose supply is already being reduced by law, putting upward pressure on prices and increasing the likelihood of shortages across the HVACR market.

"This outcome is deeply disappointing, and it did not have to go this way," said Talbot Gee, CEO of HARDI. "HARDI, along with manufacturers and other industry partners, submitted data-driven comments demonstrating the real-world supply and cost consequences of allowing extended high-GWP refrigerant use in commercial refrigeration. And yet the final rule appears to reflect the preferences of a nar-

row segment of the food retail sector that supported the changes over the well-being of the most-affected HVACR businesses and their customers. That is not how sound rulemaking should work."

HARDI said the decision is particularly concerning because many food retailers are already moving toward lower-impact refrigeration systems, and advocacy efforts to delay the transition are increasingly disconnected from the direction many businesses have already chosen.

"The HVACR industry was preparing for this transition even before the AIM Act was signed by President Trump in 2020," Gee added. "So it is frustrating to see those concerns sidelined in favor of changes that will increase costs for everyone. A responsible transition can't happen smoothly with last-minute policy changes that upend the market."

The announced rule changes did include a HARDI-supported change to repeal the installation date deadline as it applies to residential and light commercial air conditioners and heat pumps. The installation date prohibition would have had a negative impact on HVACR wholesale distributors.

Once the final changes to the rule are published, they will not take effect until 60 days after the publication date.

HARDI will continue to engage with the EPA, Congress, and all relevant parties to ensure that rule-making reflects factual analysis and represents the needs of the full HVACR distribution community.

HARDI is the single voice of wholesale distribution within the North American and Latin American HVACR markets.

A non-profit association, HARDI serves its members through government affairs and advocacy efforts, market intelligence and benchmarking, training programs, and world-class events. HARDI proudly represents more than 570 distributor members and their 5,000+ branch locations, and close to 600 suppliers, manufacturer representatives, and service vendors. HARDI Distributor members serve installation and service/replacement contractors in residential and commercial markets, as well as commercial/industrial and institutional maintenance staff.



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SFACCA Hosts Cigar Night at Tabacon Cigars & Spirits in Plantation



Tony Ferrara of Dang It's Hot!, Mark Zarzeczny, Kelly Dexter, Isabelle Breney and Ricky Dexter Padron of Air Quality Control Environmental

SFACCA hosted Cigar Night, held on May 6th, from 5:30 - 9pm, at Tabacon Cigars & Spirits, located in Plantation.

SFACCA Cigar Aficionados sampled a variety of different brands and sipped on a fine assortment of beverages, while enjoying some tasty bites with industry friends.

Get ready to cast your lines and reel in some fun at the first-ever SFACCA fishing showdown! Join us for the 1st Annual SFACCA Fishing Tournament. The Virtual Captain's Meeting before the event will be held Thursday, June 25th at 4:00pm.

The Fishing Tournament is on Friday, June 26th. Fishing lines in at 7am, and lines out at 3:45 pm. Weigh-in is between 4pm-5pm.

Weigh-In Reception 5pm-8pm, and all attendees must be registered for the reception at Regatta Grove, 3415 Pan American Dr, Miami, FL 33133.

There are so many good business reasons to join forces with SFACCA. For many contractors, membership means they have a powerful voice for change at the local, state and federal levels.



Jeff Campen, Mike Nicolas, Andy Saez, Carlos Borja, Fernando Ramirez, Russell Berry, and Jaime Bernat



There was a great turnout for the SFACCA Cigar Night at Tabacon Cigars & Spirits in Plantation



Andy Taylor of Leone Green with Scott Stringfellow and Tony Ferrara of Dang It's Hot!



Viviana Maguire of LG Electronics and Steve Price of Coastal Florida Mechanical



SFACCA Cigar Aficionados sampled a variety of fine brands and sipped on some top shelf refreshments



Scott Brandsman of Energy Control Technologies and Jason Combs of Energy Control Consultants



Andre Williams of Florida Services Incorporated and Jimmy Farach of Filter King



Stacey Miller SFACCA Executive Director, Mike Nicolas of Johns Manville, and event sponsor, with Kelly Dexter SFACCA President



Jeff Campen and Russell Berry of Pyke Mechanical

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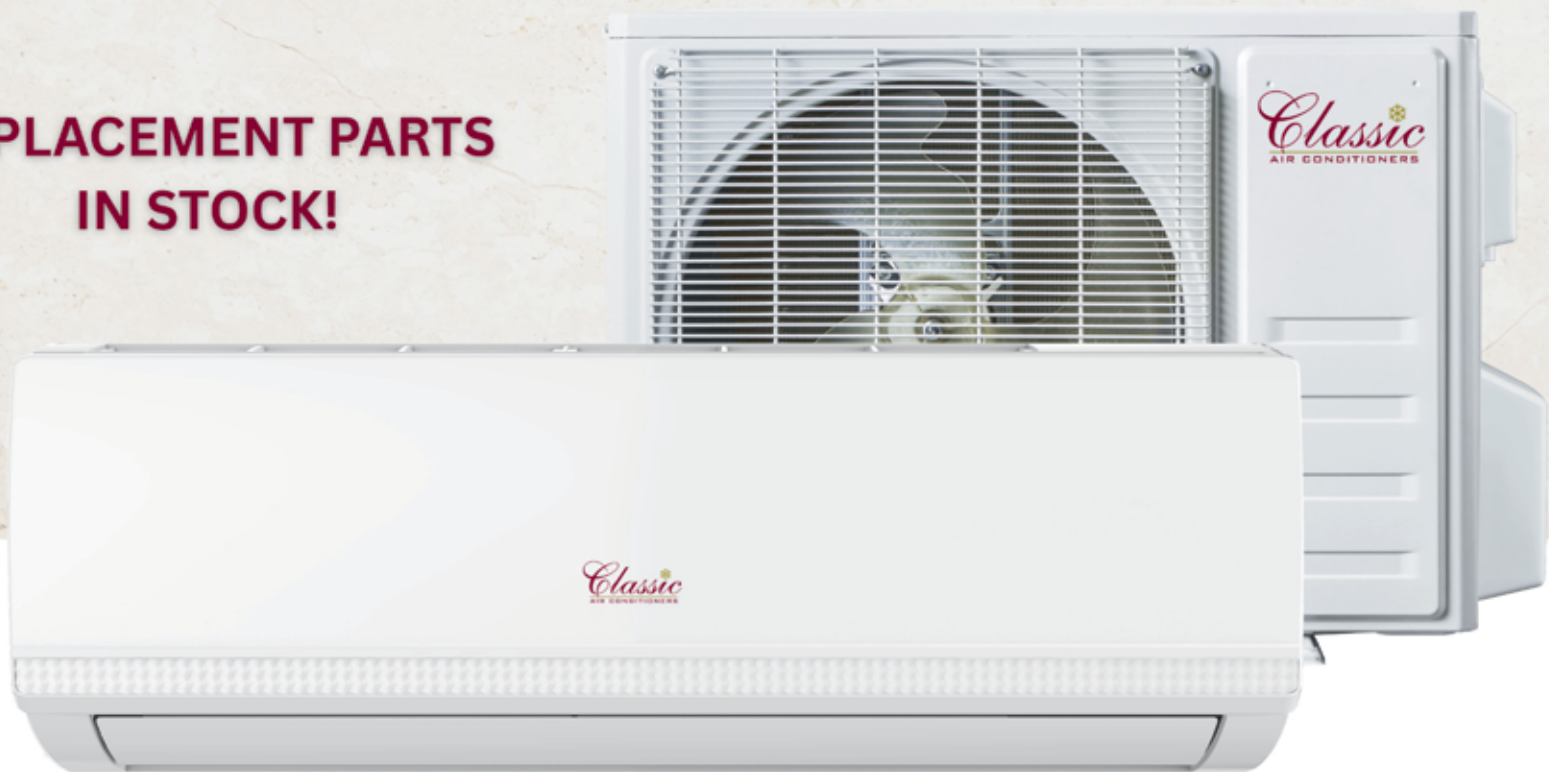
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Gemaire Distributors Hosts Customer Appreciation Day in North Miami

May 14th, 2026

On May 14th, from 10am-1pm, Gemaire Distributors, North Miami Branch, hosted a fun filled Customer Appreciation Day celebrating five years at the Gratigny location.

The CHE Grill Food Truck was on-site preparing delicious cheese burgers, flank steak and grilled chicken sandwiches, along with fries and beverages.

Gemaire North Miami had several vendors on-

site showcasing their products with product giveaways. Many product specials were available to take advantage of, at the Customer Appreciation Day along with several raffle prizes including an iPad and Yeti cups.

Gemaire North Miami is located at 2420 NW 116th St, Miami, FL 33167. Rafael Corea is the branch manager. Stop by to see Rafael, or any of

his experienced staff to assist you with your product selections. Whether your needs are product, technical training, sales training, marketing tools and resources, Gemaire wants your business to be as successful as possible. Gemaire.com is a full-scale HVAC online store designed to make your product ordering process faster, simpler and better organized.



The Gemaire North Miami Customer Appreciation Day Team who made it all happen!



Gemaire North Miami is now celebrating five years at their Gratigny location!



Armando Martinez of Ecobee with Adolfo Valdez of Pola Pro Services



Scott Behanna of AHR Sales, with Juan Rivera of Gemaire and of Jorge Ojeda of Freezing Point



The Che Grill Food Truck was on-site preparing delicious cheese burgers, flank steak and grilled chicken sandwiches



Evelio Mata of The McAllister Group with Juan Torres and Jeff Menendez of Miami Public Schools



Frankie Valle of Mitsubishi Electric with Aldolfo Placencia and Biendvenido Valdez of Placencia Services



Angel Pardo of Gemaire with Scott Kuschel of Miami Tech



Colby O'Brien and Gabriel Vecin of Gemaire with Rafeal Mendez of Air Right Away



Evelio Mata of The McAllister Group with Rafeal Mendez of Air Right Away and Jorge Ojeda of Freezing Point



Rafael Corea (right) branch manager of Gemaire North Miami, speaking with customers attending the event



Scott Behanna (left) of AHR Sales, giving a product demonstration of the ProIAQ UV Lights



Tamara Tolley of Gemaire with Frankie Valle of Mitsubishi Electric



Javier Cardenas, Sady Quito, and Alien Ulloa of Gemaire



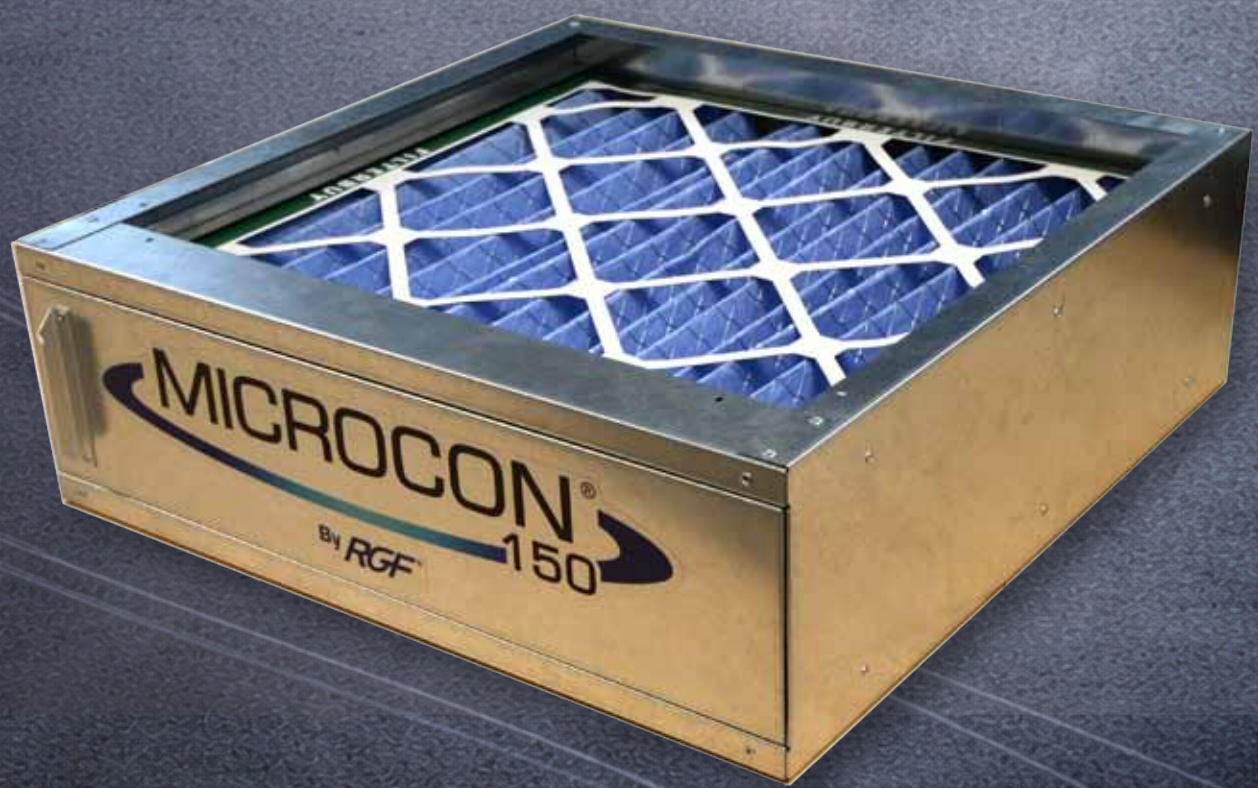
Leo Leon of Leo Air Conditioning with Alien Ulloa of Gemaire

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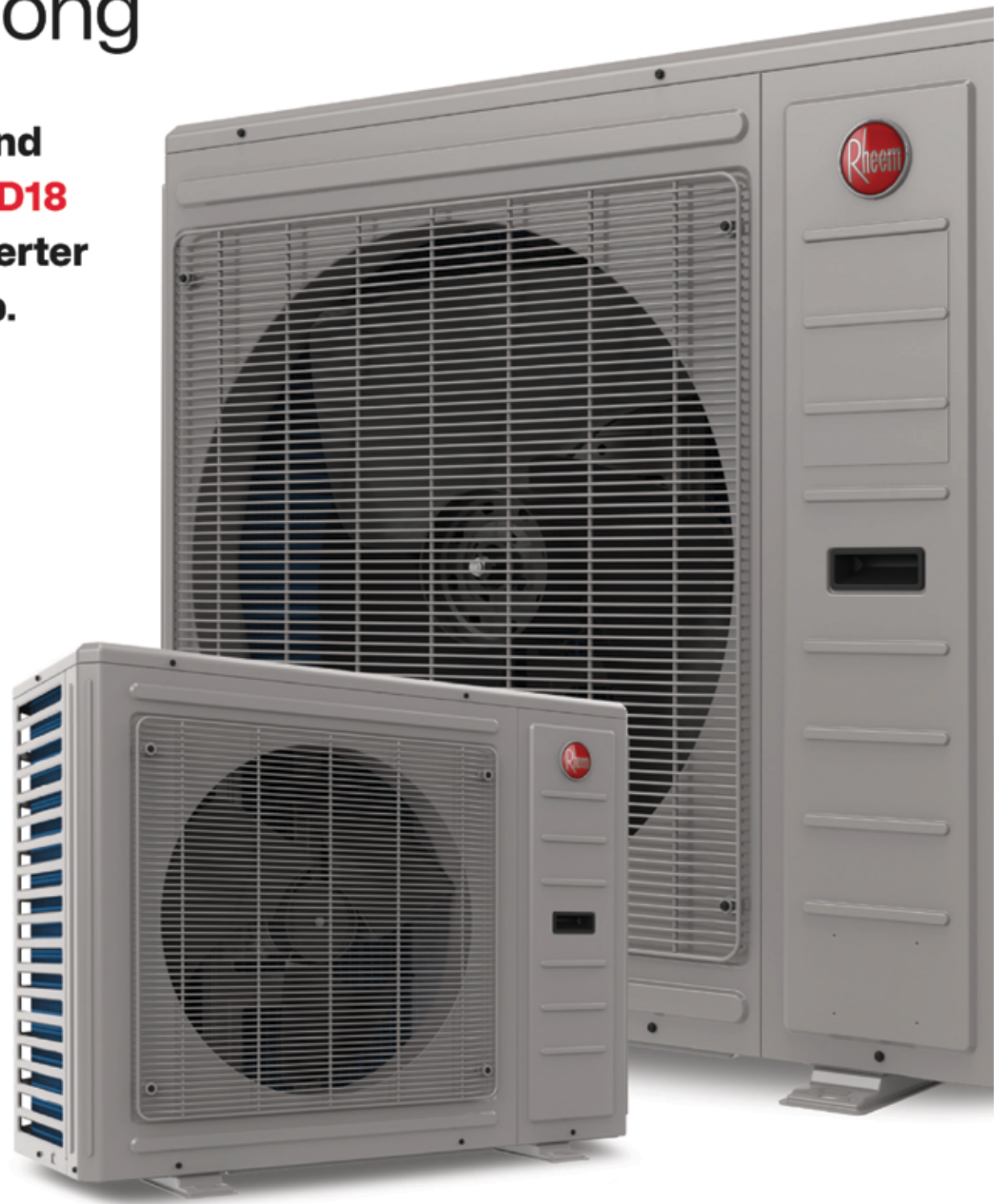


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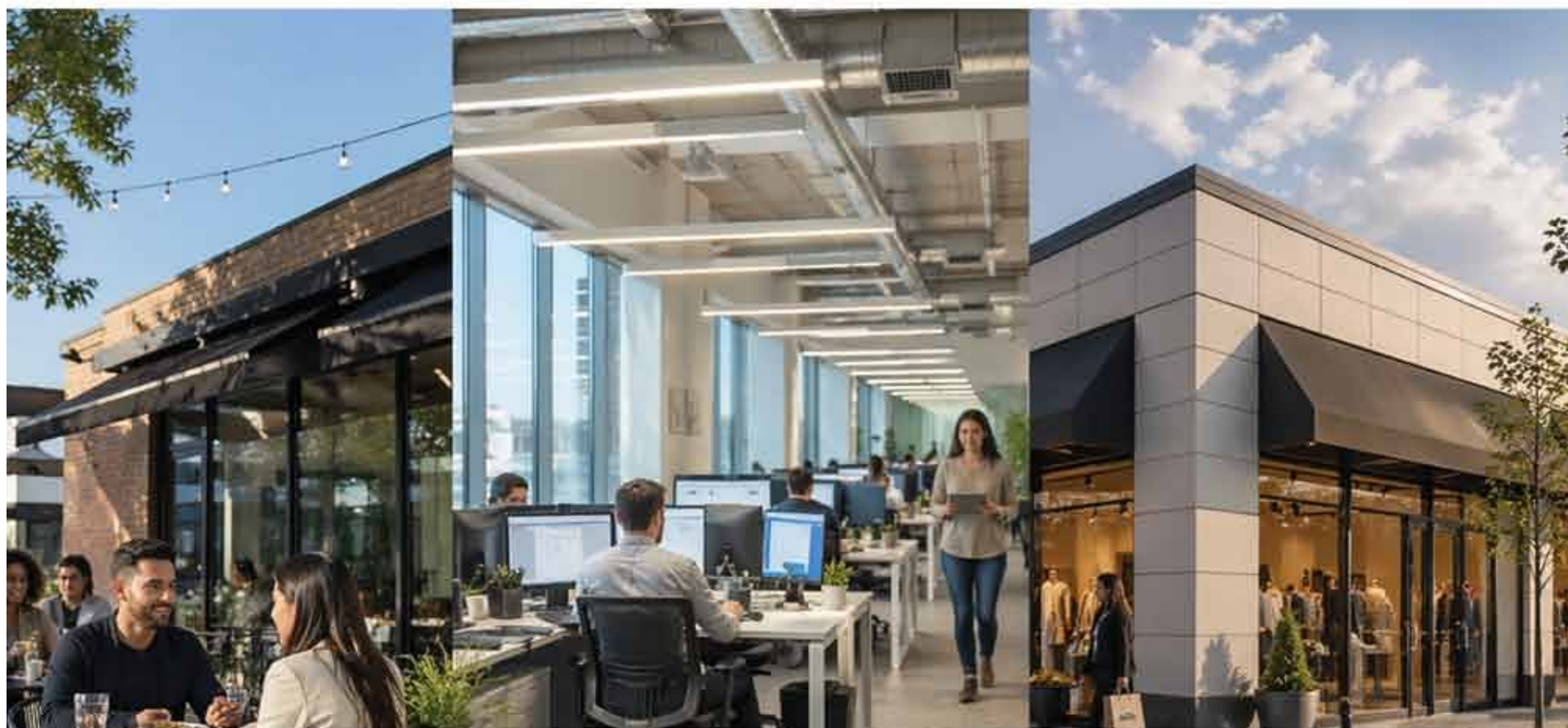
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Q-PAC Multimotor Plenum Fan Keeps Hospital Airflow Online 24/7

Q-PAC, a leader in the design and manufacturing of commercial HVAC fan systems, highlights the Q-PAC Multimotor Plenum Fan (MPF), engineered to keep air handlers in healthcare facilities running without interruption so critical spaces stay operating. Built for the industry's 24/7 demands, the Q-PAC Fan is a total fan system that eliminates single points of failure and helps hospital facility teams support patient care environments without downtime.

When legacy belt-driven fans fail, operating rooms and patient rooms can be taken offline, triggering audits, delaying procedures, and risking patient care. The Q-PAC Fan is built to operate as a single fan with a multiple motor design that keeps air moving with 100% resilience to eliminate the risk of catastrophic failure. Even if a single motor falters, the fan continues to provide airflow with 24/7 uptime so that rooms stay in service and facility teams are not scrambling for emergency solutions. The direct drive EC



motor design eliminates bearings and grease from the airstream, reducing mechanical particulates that could otherwise add to the airborne load in critical care areas. This helps support infection prevention strategies that rely on clean, consistent airflow and stable pressurization.

For hospitals in high-seismic regions, the Q-PAC Fan is covered under HCAI Special Seismic Certification Preapproval OSP-0875, giving owners a seismically certified fan designed to stay anchored and keep operating, for demands up to the certified seismic limits that have been identified for a Q-PAC Fan. The complete fan—frame, Fan Controller, and all plug fan models—and accessory Q-PAC Control Panel was shake-table tested to ICC-ES AC156 and certified for use under IBC 2024 and CBC 2025, providing a clear, code-based path for both new construction and retrofit air handlers in essential facilities.

ties. Q-PAC also designed the Q-PAC Fan to minimize installation friction in existing hospital buildings. The modular, compact frame and lightweight, hand-carryable components make it an ideal solution when access and space challenges exist. The Q-PAC Fan can be easily moved through stairways, elevators, and narrow doorways, and can be assembled inside mechanical rooms, helping hospitals replace aging fans without major structural work, downtime, or crane lifts. For air handlers that already have seismic preapproval with a fan array, the Q-PAC Fan can often be applied as an equivalent preapproved ECM fan solution when the mounting support is comparable, simplifying design review and inspection while modernizing performance.

To support hospital teams when downtime is not an option, Q-PAC offers a 48-Hour Quick Build option for the Q-PAC Fan. This allows a complete fan to be configured, built, and shipped in as little as two days in the event of a catastrophic failure. Standard lead time for the Q-PAC Fan is about three weeks for planned upgrades. Every Q-PAC Fan arrives pre-wired and labeled as a complete kit, reducing coordination, shortening install time, and minimizing disruption inside active healthcare facilities.

Once in operation, the Q-PAC Fan gives hospital facility teams full visibility into system performance through the Q-PAC Fan Controller, which consolidates data and communication into a single connection point. Airflow, motor status, and fan alarms are available on demand without extra software, making it easier to verify performance, document compliance, and respond quickly when conditions change across critical zones.

For more information on the Q-PAC Fan, visit the Q-PAC website today.

Johnson Controls Introduces TEC4000S Series Thermostat

MILWAUKEE, May 7, 2026 — Johnson Controls launched the TEC4000S Series Thermostat, the only thermostat in its class with a user interface that meets AAA Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) compliance, the highest accessibility standard available. It delivers up to an 80% reduction in setup and commissioning time for midsized properties, enabling faster and more efficient system deployment for contractors.

Sayan Chakraborty, product manager for Commercial Thermostats at Johnson Controls said, "Leveraging these insights and our 140-year heritage of thermostat innovation, we engineered the TEC4000S Series with the capabilities that deliver the greatest value for today's contractors, building owners, and occupants."

The TEC4000S Series features a 4-inch color touch display, the largest in its class, and a simplified navigation structure. Its AAA-compliant interface incorporates high contrast visuals, large text and direct access to frequently used functions, reducing navigation steps and supporting inclusive operation across commercial environments. With preset configuration profiles and USB based cloning, setup time can be reduced by up to 80%. The optional Johnson Controls Connected Workflow Wireless MS/TP (CWCVT) adapter enables wireless commissioning before wall mounting, while proportional control autotuning reduces time and need for specialized expertise in commissioning more complex equipment.

The TEC4000S Series targets single-zone commercial applications from 300 to 3,000 square feet, including offices, hotels, retail stores, managed condos and K-12 schools. This model features seven HVAC control applications, and a two-SKU lineup designed to streamline selection and inventory management.

Hospitality mode sequences paired with an integrated occupancy sensor are designed to reduce energy use during vacancy while maintaining comfort during occupied periods. Built in access control options help maintain consistency while managing occupant changes, and a white color option allows the thermostat to blend into walls with almost any color.



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DESCRIPTION	SPECIFICATIONS
VOLTAGE	100-240V, AC, 50/60HZ
MAX. FLOW @0 HEAD	40L/H, 10.60 GAL/H
SOUND LEVEL @1M/3.30FT	19 DBA
MAX DISCHARGE HEAD	20M/66FT
MAX. SUCTION LIFT	1M/3.30FT
SAFETY SWITCH	3A
MAX WATER TEMP.	70°C / 158°F



SPS SERIES

Tank Capacity 40ml/0.011Gal



SPB SERIES

Tank Capacity 300ml/0.08Gal



SPL SERIES

Tank Capacity 50ml/0.013Gal



SPC SERIES

Tank Capacity 40ml/0.011Gal





Spectroline Demo Days at Tropic Supply Deliver Valuable Product Learning Across Florida

In May, Tropic Supply hosted several Spectroline Demo Days around the state of Florida. Tropic Supply customers discovered the advantages of Spectroline leak detection products.

Better Installs: Learn how Spectroline leak detection products help technicians quickly identify refrigerant leaks, making repairs more efficient and accurate.

Better Maintenance & Profitable Upsells: Learn how adding Spectroline leak detection to your company's maintenance program can help technicians identify leaks before they become problematic and avoid future callbacks.

Meet the Experts:

Johanne Bueno – Southeast Florida

Johanne has been a valuable member of J. Nichols & Associates, Inc. for eight years, where she covers the South Florida and Caribbean markets. With over 20 years of experience in the HVAC/R industry, both at the distributor and contractor levels, she brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to her role.

Johanne holds a Class B Air Conditioning Contractor License in the State of Florida, which further enhances her credentials.

Nick MacFee – Central and Southwest Region

Nick has proudly represented J. Nichols & Associates since 2018. Nick covers both the Central and West Coast of Florida, spanning from Gainesville to Port Charlotte. Throughout Nick's tenure, he has garnered national recognition for his innovative

approach to merchandising and marketing within the HVAC industry. Building Strong Partnerships: Nick takes pride in nurturing relationships with wholesalers and contractors, offering training and assistance with their events to foster mutual growth and success.

Jim Nichols – President

For more than 25 years, Jim has been a Manufacturers' Representative in the HVAC/R industry. J. Nichols & Associates was founded in 1996 and quickly became a leading Manufacturers' Representative company serving HVAC/R wholesale distributors, contractor partners, OEMs, and exporters throughout Florida.

Visit www.tropicsupply.com/eventscalendar to explore all upcoming events and plan to join us!



Spectroline Demo Day at Tropic Supply Delray Beach.



Johanne Bueno of J. Nichols & Associates with Eddie Nunez and David Yoon of Edd Helms AC & Electric.



Johanne Bueno of J. Nichols & Associates, with Sean Redmond and Greg Neil of DL Folsom Air Conditioning.



Johanne Bueno of J. Nichols & Associates with Alex Hernandez and Bill Allgaire of Just Air Conditioning.



Belen Cabrera of Tropic Supply with Mike Defalco of D&M Mechanical Services and Johanne Bueno of J. Nichols & Associates.



Marius Todinca of Rom Air Conditioning with Johanne Bueno of J. Nichols & Associates.



Josue Escalante of PKI Group with Johanne Bueno of J. Nichols & Associates.



Jerry Charles and Connor Laughton of Mr Air with Johanne Bueno of J. Nichols & Associates.



Johanne Bueno of J. Nichols & Associates, Vielka Escovar of Tropic Supply, Karim Taweo and Manuel Mata of DNA Air Conditioning.



Alan Simkaitis of Dove Air Conditioning with Johanne Bueno of J. Nichols & Associates.



Jesus Guzman of DRT with Angel Rivera of Tropic Supply and Johanne Bueno of J. Nichols & Associates.



Anthony Scott of 40 Degrees AC with Reiner Guerra of DEEM and Johanne Bueno of J. Nichols & Associates.



Johanne Bueno of J. Nichols & Associates, with some Spectroline Demo Day local contractors at Tropic Supply in Sunrise.



Spectroline Demo Day at Tropic Supply North Miami.



Johanne Bueno of J. Nichols & Associates speaking with the counter at Tropic Supply in Sunrise about the new Demo Day products.

Trane Technologies Unveils the World's Largest HVAC Training Center

Trane Technologies (NYSE:TT), a global climate innovator, today celebrated the launch of its new Trane Advanced Technology Training Center (ATTC), a state-of-the-art facility designed to shape the future of the commercial HVAC technician workforce. The 45,000-square-foot facility – the largest and most technologically advanced of its kind in the world – is located at the company's North America headquarters in Davidson, North Carolina.

"The launch of the ATTC represents an important investment in the future of our industry," said Holly Paeper, President, Commercial HVAC Americas, Trane Technologies. "As building systems become more connected, more efficient, and more sophisticated, the expertise required to service them continues to grow. This center empowers Trane's technician network - the largest and most experienced in the world - to support these next-generation systems with confidence."

With capacity for up to 4,500 students per year

and over 100,000 annual training hours, the ATTC provides immersive, hands-on experiences that equip technicians with the necessary skills to commission, maintain, repair, and optimize increasingly complex climate control systems essential to ensuring optimal performance, delivering industry-leading levels of uptime and reliability, and protecting our customers' investments in sustainable buildings and mission-critical environments.

Built to support technicians at every career stage, the ATTC offers multiple learning pathways that combine in-person laboratory instruction with complementary e-learning modules. This hybrid approach expands access to industry-leading training nationwide, ensuring technicians gain real-world, applied experience with the latest technologies.

Earlier today, North Carolina Governor Josh Stein toured the ATTC, gaining a close look at the cutting-edge technologies and hands-on training opportunities available to technicians at every stage of

their careers. The visit, part of an executive round-table on clean energy, innovation, and economic growth hosted at the Trane Technologies campus, underscored North Carolina's leadership in the clean energy economy and the importance of clean energy availability for businesses across the state.

The launch of the ATTC builds on several years of strategic investments at Trane Technologies' North America headquarters. In 2024 and 2025, the company invested more than \$50 million in the ATTC as well as a state-of-the-art engineering and R&D lab for compressor development testing and full-scale chiller performance evaluation across a wide range of operating conditions.

The ATTC also expands on the strong foundation of Trane Technologies' technician training programs in La Crosse, Wisconsin and St. Paul, Minnesota, offering technicians across the country increased access to hands-on, industry-leading development opportunities.

EVAPCO Celebrates 50 Years of Innovation in Evaporative Cooling and Heat Transfer

EVAPCO, Inc., an industry-leading, employee-owned manufacturer of heat transfer solutions, is celebrating its 50th anniversary on June 14, 2026, marking five decades of innovation, customer partnerships, and global growth.

Founded in 1976 by Wilson E. Bradley and William E. Kahlert, the company began as a small refrigeration-focused business at 3120 Frederick Avenue in Baltimore, Maryland, with a team of five employees and a single product line of evaporative condensers.

"When we started the company, we planned to stay just in the refrigeration business, which meant a smaller company just making evaporative condensers," said co-founder Wilson Bradley. "The condensers were well received right from the start, and we quickly realized there was a need to broaden the product line."

Today, EVAPCO's portfolio includes factory-assembled and field-erected cooling towers, closed-

circuit coolers, evaporative condensers, air-cooled solutions, advanced water treatment systems, and large-scale equipment for power plants and data centers.

EVAPCO has built a vertically integrated global footprint that supports customers across the world. The company now operates 34 global locations in 14 countries, including 28 factories in 11 countries, complemented by numerous subsidiaries.

The company's growth and market leadership are underpinned by a strong commitment to research, testing, and intellectual property. EVAPCO holds more than 500 active patents worldwide and subjects every solution to rigorous research and performance testing to help ensure maximum efficiency, reliability, and long-term value. These efforts support the company's strong sustainability goals, focusing on higher system efficiency, reduced resource consumption, and environmentally responsible cooling technologies. Equally important, generations of dedicated employ-

ee-owners have driven EVAPCO's culture of innovation, service, and continuous improvement.

"EVAPCO's success over the past 50 years is rooted in our commitment to quality, innovation, and the long-term relationships we've built with our customers and sales partners," said Jamie Facius, Marketing Vice President of EVAPCO, Inc. "As we look to the future, we're investing in technologies and services that help our customers meet demanding efficiency, sustainability, and reliability goals."

As EVAPCO commemorates its 50th anniversary, it honors the vision of its founders and the dedication of employees, sales representatives, and customers who have driven the company's growth from a small Baltimore startup to a global leader in heat transfer technology. The company's employee-owners remain at the heart of its success, designing, building, and supporting solutions that serve critical applications around the world.



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ACCA Expands Online Training Hub for HVACR Contractors

ALEXANDRIA, VA. (May 4, 2026) — As a part of its commitment to workforce development, the Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA) is announcing a robust expansion of its online training hub for all employees at HVACR companies.

ACCA will be collaborating with HSI, a leading provider of workforce training solutions, to expand access to high-quality online training for HVACR professionals nationwide.

Through this collaboration, ACCA will activate HSI's online training courses as part of its online training hub. ACCA's 24/7 online training hub is designed to support professional development throughout the HVACR industry so that employees in contracting businesses receive flexible, on-demand training they can complete from home and at their own pace.

The most popular trainings have included:

- Commercial HVAC for Office and Sales Staff
- Industrial and Commercial Electrical and Mechanical Systems
- Residential and Light Commercial Electrical and HVAC Essentials

Highly anticipated upcoming trainings scheduled for release soon include Understanding Finance, Mentor Coaching, and an updated version of Residential HVAC for Office and Sales Staff.

"Providing our members with practical, accessible education is central to ACCA's mission," said Barton James, ACCA president and CEO. "Partnering with HSI allows us to expand the training we offer while supporting our members as they build skills, maintain credentials, and advance their careers."

ACCA's online training hub offers structured training that supports skill development, professional growth, and continuing education. Upon completion of courses and exams, participants receive certificates of completion.

"We are excited to work with ACCA to support their members with accessible, high-quality online training," said Kevin Schneider, HSI account executive. "This partnership helps ensure HVACR professionals have the tools they need to stay current, build skills, and advance their careers."

Cooper&Hunter Celebrates Major Milestones in U.S. Expansion and Strengthens Its Commitment to NASCAR and the HVAC Community

Doral, Florida —05/18/2026— Cooper&Hunter, a global HVAC manufacturer with more than 25 years of industry leadership and over a decade of growth in the United States, proudly announces a series of major achievements that mark a new chapter in the company's evolution. From expanding one of the largest HVAC operations in the country to deepening its presence in the NASCAR Cup Series, Cooper&Hunter continues to reinforce its commitment to innovation, performance, and the HVAC professionals who power the industry.

A New Era of Operational Growth

Cooper&Hunter has significantly expanded its U.S. footprint, adding new warehouse capacity and strengthening its in house Technical Support and Engineering divisions. This expansion ensures faster response times, stronger distributor support, and enhanced resources for HVAC technicians nationwide.

"This year represents a turning point for Cooper&Hunter in the U.S. market," said Jake Neto, Marketing Director at Cooper&Hunter USA. "We're not just growing — we're building an operation that stands shoulder to shoulder with the largest players in the HVAC industry. Our expanded warehouse capacity and upgraded technical infrastructure allow us to support our distributors and technicians with unmatched speed, precision, and reliability."

A Deeper Commitment to NASCAR & HVAC Speed
Beyond operational growth, Cooper&Hunter is accelerating its presence in the NASCAR Cup Series — a partnership that reflects the brand's identity of speed, performance, and endurance.

Cooper&Hunter's NASCAR story is more than a sponsorship. It's a connection rooted in authenticity. Chad Finchum, driver of the Cooper&Hunter car, comes from an HVAC family with over 35 years in

the industry. Today, his family business, A1 Finchum, proudly carries the Cooper & Hunter name, creating a genuine bridge between motorsports and HVAC professionals.

"NASCAR isn't just a marketing platform for us — it's a story that mirrors who we are," Neto added. "Speed, precision, performance — these values define both NASCAR and the HVAC technicians we support every day. Since 2023, our involvement has evolved from sponsorship to a true partnership built on shared passion and purpose."

A Milestone Moment in Texas

The May 3, 2026 NASCAR Cup Series race in Texas marked a defining moment for Cooper&Hunter.



The Cooper&Hunter car took the track not only as another competitor, but as a symbol of the HVAC community — representing contractors, technicians, and families across the country.

The Cooper&Hunter team worked side by side with the Garage 66

Team, demonstrating complete synergy between the brand and the sport.

"This partnership is a strategic step forward," said Artur Terchiyev, representing Cooper&Hunter's executive leadership. "We're building a presence in NASCAR that reflects our commitment to the HVAC industry. Our distributors, contractors, and technicians see themselves in this story — and that's what makes it powerful. And we're just getting started."

Looking Ahead

Cooper&Hunter plans to continue expanding its presence in NASCAR and exploring new opportunities across the sports world. The company remains committed to celebrating the HVAC community, supporting its partners, and delivering high performance solutions that embody the spirit of HVAC Speed.

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Venstar Skyport Cloud Services Is a Remote HVAC Management System for End Users and HVAC Contractors

Real-world use cases highlight energy savings, proactive maintenance and improved comfort from centralized thermostat management

WEST HILLS, Calif., May 1, 2026 — Venstar, a leading thermostat and energy management solutions provider, today unveiled a series of new real-world applications of its Skyport™ Cloud Services and Skyport Mobile App. The use cases highlight how end users and HVAC contractors are transforming system performance through remote access, automation and real-time insights.

As HVAC systems grow more distributed and complex, operators need faster, smarter ways to maintain performance and control costs. Venstar Skyport enables users to monitor, adjust and troubleshoot unlimited locations from a single, intuitive dashboard that is accessible from virtually any desktop or mobile device.

With real-time visibility, proactive alerts and centralized control, organizations can prevent comfort issues before they escalate, reduce service calls and optimize energy use at scale.



Use Case #1: Climate Control at Palomar Observatory

At Palomar Observatory, where even minor temperature fluctuations can distort astronomical imaging, HVAC precision is mission-critical. Owned by Caltech and home to some of the world's largest telescopes, the facility depends on tightly controlled dome temperatures to prevent air stratification that can blur observations.

Rick Burruss, superintendent of the observatory, uses Skyport Cloud Services to remotely monitor and control HVAC systems across the campus, including within telescope domes.

With Skyport, Burruss can:

- Maintain strict temperature setpoints to protect imaging accuracy
- Monitor real-time conditions inside each dome
- Receive instant alerts when conditions drift outside parameters
- Make immediate adjustments from anywhere via desktop or mobile

"Venstar's Skyport Cloud Services gives me remote access and control of all of our thermostats so I can ensure proper telescope conditions for ideal star viewing and indoor comfort for our staff and guests," said Burruss.



Use Case #2: Remote HVAC Management for 80+ Café Zupas Restaurant Chain Stores

For this fast-growing restaurant brand, HVAC consistency directly impacts both customer experience and operating costs. Café Zupas, an 81-location, fast-casual chain across eight states, uses Venstar's ColorTouch commercial thermostats with Skyport

to standardize and streamline HVAC management across all stores.

Tyler Harris, owner's representative overseeing facilities, uses Skyport to:

- Remotely program and adjust thermostats individually, regionally or system-wide
- Monitor runtime and rooftop unit performance across all locations
- Track supply air temperatures to identify equipment issues early
- Set units to idle during maintenance to support faster, safer service

This centralized control allows Café Zupas to reduce HVAC energy, improve equipment visibility and maintain consistent comfort for customers and staff.

"Venstar's Skyport enables me to remotely manage thermostats at 81 stores across eight states, giving us better control of energy usage and indoor comfort," said Harris.



Use Case #3: Campus-Wide HVAC Control for California Baptist University

At California Baptist University, managing HVAC units across dozens of buildings requires both scale and flexibility. Using Skyport, the facilities team remotely manages 1,000 thermostats across 53 campus locations without the complexity or cost of a traditional building automation system.

Eric Taylor, Director of HVAC, Energy & Controls, and his team rely on Skyport to:

- Monitor, control and troubleshoot systems in real time
- Apply global temperature adjustments across buildings or zones
- Implement 365-day scheduling for holidays and campus closures
- Track system runtimes to extend equipment life
- Enforce setpoint limits to prevent unnecessary energy use

"Our Venstar Skyport solution operates like a mini-HVAC automation system, giving us the control of higher-end automation systems without the high cost," said Taylor.

Designed for Modern HVAC Demands

Venstar Skyport Cloud Services equips HVAC professionals and facility managers with the tools needed to shift from reactive maintenance to proactive system optimization. Key capabilities include:

- **Real-Time System Visibility:** Monitor and adjust temperatures across multiple sites from a centralized dashboard
- **Proactive Alerts:** Receive instant notifications to identify and address issues early
- **Global Changes:** Apply changes across individual units, groups or entire portfolios
- **Remote Troubleshooting:** Reduce truck rolls and resolve issues faster
- **Scalable Management:** Control thousands of thermostats from a single interface
- **No Subscription Fees:** Deliver advanced functionality without ongoing costs

By combining remote access, automation and actionable data, Skyport helps organizations reduce operational costs, extend equipment life and deliver consistent indoor comfort across every location.

LG Debuts New California Training Academy To Power Next-Gen HVAC Innovation



ORANGE, Calif., April 20, 2026 – Global HVAC technology leader LG Electronics celebrated the grand opening of its new LG Air Conditioning Technologies Training Academy in Orange, Calif. The ribbon-cutting ceremony marked the culmination of California Heat Pump Week (April 11-19), showcasing LG's commitment to advancing energy efficient HVAC solutions.

VIP attendees at the grand opening event got a first look at LG's 2026 high-efficiency HVAC products, including water heating and control solutions intended to enhance comfort, minimize noise and maximize energy efficiency under appropriate operating conditions. Mayor Dan Slater welcomed LG to the City of Orange, noting that "LG Electronics' newest training HVAC Academy will be providing great career opportunities in an increasingly important industry."

The LG Orange Training Academy extends LG's national network of six specialized facilities focused on developing skilled HVAC professionals. It joins established academies in Alpharetta, Ga.; Boston, Mass.; Chicago, Ill.; Dallas, Texas; and Englewood Cliffs, N.J. that provide training and insights into LG's air conditioning solutions. In these academies, experienced trainers deliver courses spanning unitary, ductless, VRF and controls solutions, covering everything from installation to service for LG's full range of air conditioning and water heating products.

Through its heat pump technologies and training infrastructure, LG's participation in California Heat Pump Week supports the acceleration of heat pump adoption across California and the state's goals for a more electrified future. The statewide activation, an initiative of the California Heat Pump Partnership, is dedicated to raising public awareness, strengthening contractor capacity and accelerating the adoption of heat pumps in California.

"Contractor training is critical to advancing the adoption of heat pump technology," said Steve Scarborough, senior vice president and general manager of LG Air Conditioning Technologies, LG Electronics USA. "LG's Orange Training Academy is the latest example of our commitment to equipping contractors and installers with the in-depth knowledge and hands-on skills intended to support implementation of HVAC technologies across California."

In addition to the training academy opening, LG rolled out its Mobile Showroom and co-hosted distributor and community events throughout California Heat Pump Week. The showroom provides immersive, hands-on demonstrations with LG products and expert insights into its HVAC technologies.

The Mobile Showroom stops during California Heat Pump Week included Home Depot Antelope and ECCO Supply in Sacramento, Miles Memorial Playhouse in Santa Monica and the Livart Group, Commerce.

Eleven-time ENERGY STAR® Partner of the Year LG Electronics USA is a proud member of the California Heat Pump Partnership, the ENERGY STAR Heat Pump Manufacturers Action Council and the national Heat Pump Water Heating Initiative, and collaborates with the Building Decarbonization Coalition, Rewiring America and others. For more information about LG's air conditioning business, visit www.lghvac.com.

FRACCA 2026/27 Leadership Team



President, Bryan "BJ" Lingerfelt

I am honored to serve as the President of the Florida Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Contractors Association (FRACCA). I am a third-generation mechanical contractor at J.P. Griffin, Inc., a family-owned business based in Tampa, Florida, that has proudly served the community since 1945. This year marks my 21st anniversary with the company, where we specialize in commercial air conditioning services.

My journey with FRACCA began in 2012 when I joined the Board of Directors for RACCA, the Tampa-area chapter of FRACCA. I served as President of RACCA in 2017 and became a member of the FRACCA Board that same year, following the retirement of my father, who was one of the founding members of FRACCA. Taking on his role was a natural step in continuing our family's commitment to the HVAC industry, and it has been incredibly rewarding to support an association that is so vital to our trade.

I'm deeply passionate about advocating for the HVAC industry and strengthening the relationships that drive our success. I look forward to continuing this work and collaborating with fellow industry leaders as we support contractors across Florida. - Bryan "BJ" Lingerfelt, JP Griffin Inc

Carre Welsh, Vice President

I am honored to serve as Vice President of the Florida Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Contractors Association (FRACCA). I have spent my career in the HVAC and plumbing industry, helping to operate a successful business with a focus on office operations, workforce development, member engagement, and industry advancement. Being in the industry since 2005 has provided me with extensive insight into workforce development and the evolving needs of our trade.

My involvement with FRACCA and TRACCA (Tallahassee Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Contractors Association) has given me the opportunity to combine my passion for the trades with my commitment to supporting contractors and helping develop the next generation of industry professionals. Through TRACCA, I've been closely involved with apprenticeship programs, leadership development efforts, contractor education, and member events; all focused on strengthening our industry across the region.

I'm committed to advocating for contractors, supporting workforce initiatives, and helping create opportunities where both businesses and technicians can succeed. I look forward to continuing to work alongside the dedicated leaders of FRACCA as we move our industry forward across Florida. Carre Welsh, Watts HVAC & Plumbing

Jeremy Parker, Secretary/Treasurer

Jeremy Parker, P.E., is the owner of Parker Services AC & Electrical, a Tallahassee-based HVAC and electrical contracting company, and a founding partner of FSM Controls. With 29 years of experience in the industry, he brings deep technical expertise and a strong commitment to quality, operational excellence, and customer service.

Jeremy currently serves as Secretary/Treasurer of FRACCA, supporting the organization's mission through active leadership and financial stewardship.

HARDI Distributors Report 10.4% Revenue Increase in March

COLUMBUS, OH—Heating, Air-conditioning & Refrigeration Distributors International (HARDI) released its monthly TRENDS report, showing sales by HARDI distributors increased by 10.4% during March 2026. The annual sales growth for the 12 months through March 2026 is an increase of 3.3%.

"Double digit sales growth could be a great sign for 2026 after more than a year with annual sales growth in the 2% to 4% range, but that gain for the month had some help," said Brian Loftus, Senior Market Analyst at HARDI. "March of 2026 had one more billing day than last March. We estimate the sales growth was closer to 5.4% with the same number of billing days."

The monthly sales survey also calculates distributor's Days Sales Outstanding which is a measure of how quickly customers pay their bills. The DSO for March was near 38 days like last March. "It looks like subdued market activity is helping to keep the DSO contained. It dipped below 40 days not long after the annual growth rate dipped below 5%."

"March was the last month of heating season and the temps were well below normal in most of the country," said Loftus. "That may have allowed some construction activity to begin early. The sales-to-inventory ratio indicates distributors are planning for a busy cooling season."

HARDI members do not receive financial compensation in exchange for their monthly sales data and can discontinue their participation without prior notice or penalty. Participation is voluntary, and the depth of market coverage varies from region to region. An independent entity collects and compiles the data that can include products not directly associated with the HVACR industry.

A non-profit association, HARDI serves its members through government affairs and advocacy efforts, market intelligence and benchmarking, training programs, and world-class events. HARDI proudly represents more than 570 distributor members and their 5,000+ branch locations, and close to 600 suppliers, manufacturer representatives, and service vendors.

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YORK Introduces YH9 21-SEER Heat Pump + SHC510 Smart Home Control

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- ▶ Heat pumps surpass ENERGY STAR® requirements for cold climate designation



WICHITA, KAN., May 28, 2026 – Today, YORK®, a licensed brand of Bosch Home Comfort Group, launched their newest heat pump innovation, the YORK® YH9. The variable speed, 21 SEER2 heat pump achieves excellent efficiency and precision comfort, even in colder climates with operation down to -10 F. Matched with the company's newest communicating thermostat, the combination creates a fully communicating system that offers exceptional benefits to both homeowners and contractors.

“As the industry continues to navigate workforce challenges, it is essential for manufacturers to engineer equipment that can simplify processes in the field,” said Piero Caballero, senior product manager, Bosch Home Comfort Group. “The YH9 is an excellent example of how intentional engineering can meet both contractor and homeowner needs in tandem. Combined with intelligent controls, contractors can reduce installation and service time without sacrificing quality.”

The ENERGY STAR® certified heat pumps feature variable speed compressors that precisely modulate temperature output to maximize energy efficiency and comfort down to -10 F, and they can maintain up to 100% capacity at 5 F, surpassing the program's requirements for cold climate performance.[i]

The YH9 heat pumps ship factory-charged for a 15-foot line set to reduce brazing and charging time during installation. Independent panels create quick access to power and control wiring. Diagonal base valves provide open access for low-loss fittings. Full corner access, removable fan guards and screw-on pressure switches help to streamline maintenance. Additionally, contractors can digitally access technical documents and warranty information from a QR code located on the equipment.

YORK® YH9 heat pumps are further optimized when paired with the latest SHC510 Smart Home Control communicating thermostat, which also supports zoning. As a fully communicating system, the smart thermostat auto-configures the connected equipment during installation ensuring optimal performance. If service is needed, the system enables remote access for easy diagnostics without the need for a fee-based subscription.

YORK® YH9 heat pumps are engineered in a state-of-the-art facility in Wichita, Kan., and meet Build America, Buy America requirements. The communicating thermostats meet Department of Energy (DOE) 2026 Controls Verification Procedure (CVP) standards[ii], in addition to providing remote diagnostics and enhanced comfort. For more information, please visit: <https://bit.ly/YH-9HeatPump>.

YORK® is a registered trademark of Johnson Controls International plc and its affiliated companies. Used under license.



Airzone Aidoo Pro Validated for Demand Response Applications



GENERAL HVAC Solutions America, Inc. is pleased to announce the Airzone Aidoo Pro as a validated smart thermostat integration solution for Fujitsu AIRSTAGE indoor units, including demand-

response-capable applications.

The Airzone Aidoo Pro functions as a cloud-enabled protocol gateway that enables the Google Nest Learning Thermostat (4th Gen) and ecobee Smart Thermostat Premium to operate as the primary control interface for Fujitsu AIRSTAGE inverter-driven HVAC systems, while preserving native Fujitsu AIRSTAGE modulation, safety logic, and fault protection.

Validation testing confirms stable Cloud-to-Cloud and wired thermostat operation, auto changeover functionality, minimum heat protection, and participation in utility demand response programs when used with qualified smart thermostats.

Product Highlights:

- Smart thermostat integration using standard 24 VAC thermostat wiring (Rc/Rh, C, Y, W, G).
- Supports Utility Demand Response (DR) participation via thermostat cloud platforms.

- Preserves native Fujitsu AIRSTAGE inverter control, safety logic, and fault handling.

- Auto Mode with automatic heating/cooling changeover.

- Seven-day scheduling via smart thermostat comfort profiles.

- Programmable scheduling via smart thermostat comfort settings

- Built-in fallback algorithm maintains operation during cloud outages

- Native R32 Leak Detection via Communication Protocol*

*R-32 Leak Detection availability depends upon the system type.

Supported Fujitsu AIRSTAGE Systems: H, V, and J-Series units with a UART communication port. Confirm compatibility with your specific system using the Airzone Compatibility Tool: <https://pro.airzonecontrol.com/eu/en/selection-tool/aidoo/>

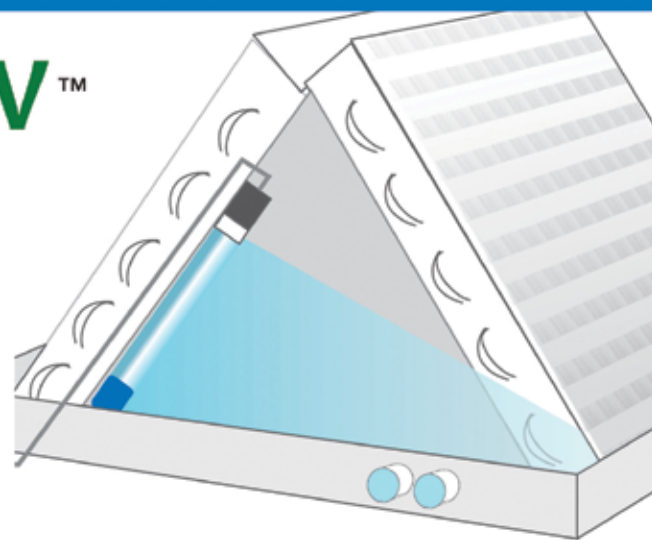
Supported Smart Thermostats: Smart thermostats must include terminals for Rc/Rh, C, Y, W, and G. Fujitsu AIRSTAGE has validated the following smart thermostats: Google Nest Learning Thermostat (4th Generation) and Ecobee Smart Thermostat Premium

For more information or for any questions regarding this announcement, please contact Airzone support at: techsupport_na@airzonecontrol.com

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Kills bio-growth in HVAC condensate to help prevent drain line clogs

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*Conforms to UL 2998 (3rd Edition, July 10, 2020) clause 6.2, emission of ozone not exceeding a concentration of 0.005 ppm.



HVAC condensate completely laden with Zoogloea

ADDITIONAL FEATURES

- Easy installation — especially when adding to an existing Ultravation UV system
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EZ-Light-4-DUV

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UltraMAX UV-C Lamp, 6ft cable, connection adapter and installation accessories

FULL KIT

UMX244EZ-DUV

Stand-alone system includes power supply



Full kit adds 24-volt power supply



Field Leaders Learn How Servant Leadership Makes Their Crews Unstoppable at PHCC Foremen Workshop

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (May 8, 2026) – The most skilled installer on a job site is not always the most effective foreman — and that distinction was at the heart of the Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors—National Association (PHCC) Educational Foundation’s annual Creating Super Foremen workshop, held May 1–2 at Milwaukee Tool’s headquarters in Brookfield, Wisconsin. Twenty-four field leaders from across the country gathered for the intensive two-day program, which challenged them to rethink the very nature of their role on the job.

Purdue University Professor Emeritus Kirk Alter provided instruction for the program and challenged attendees to stop solving problems with their tools. While the instinct to jump in and get work done is often what earns a trades-

person the foreman title in the first place, Alter argued that same instinct can be precisely what holds foremen back from being truly effective leaders. “Most foremen want to solve problems by leading the way with their tools in their hand and end up doing the work themselves,” said Alter. “Your job as a foreman is actually to be like a shepherd and lead from the back of the pack, spending time teaching your field crews, and making sure that they have all the resources, materials, tools and information they need to work as efficiently as they possibly can.”

That shepherd analogy became a theme for the workshop’s focus on servant leadership, a management philosophy that defines a leader’s primary job as removing obstacles and enabling others to do their best work. Attendees explored how great foremen ask better questions, plan more deliberately, and consistently put their crew’s needs ahead of their own impulse to be the “hero” with the answer. Rather

than telling workers what to do or stepping in to do it themselves, servant leaders ask what is getting in the way of their crews and then fix that.

The workshop translated that philosophy into concrete field management skills. Participants worked through productivity tracking and ways foremen can identify problems through numbers rather than intuition. Attendees also tackled the cultural and interpersonal dimensions of field leadership. The class confronted the entrenched “us vs. them”

tension between field crews and the office, challenging foremen to see themselves as members of the management team rather than a high-end field worker. Discussions on mentorship, emotional intelligence, and communication reinforced that a foreman’s most powerful tool is not

a wrench — it is the ability to develop the people around them and build a team that doesn’t need rescuing.

Milwaukee Tool sponsored and hosted the class at their headquarters in Brookfield, Wisconsin. “We believe that investing in the people who work in the trades is just as important as investing in the tools they use,” said Ron Shanaver, Milwaukee Tool National Account Manager. “Hosting the PHCC Foremen Workshop is a natural extension of that commitment, and we are honored to be part of developing the next generation of field leaders.”

The PHCC Educational Foundation conducts the Foremen Workshop and its Essentials of Project Management class once per year, with one-day versions of the training offered in partnership with various PHCC state chapters at other times. See the Foundation web site for more information at <https://phccfoundation.org>.



Danfoss Launches Microchannel Heat Exchanger Sample Shop and Material Lab

With the opening of a sample shop and accompanying product evaluation material lab on its Monterrey, Mexico, campus, Danfoss now offers original equipment manufacturer (OEM) customers the opportunity to obtain customized microchannel heat exchangers. The facilities also support precise and reliable testing for all prototypes, giving customers the confidence to bring their products to market.

Following its expansion last year, the Monterrey production facility is a key site for the manufacturing of Danfoss heat exchangers for the North American market. A space where Danfoss engineers work with customers to develop and test microchannel heat exchangers was a natural fit. The proximity of the location to North America customers provides for reduced lead time and enhanced collaboration.

Coupled with Danfoss engineers’ product expertise, the 1,600 square-foot shop features flexible equipment that can process performance samples from 300 –1,700 millimeters in height, 300 – 4,000 millimeters in length and 12 – 32 millimeters thick, for standard and long-life alloys. Prototypes can be bent into various shapes for different applications, with no size limitations. As a result, the facility can deliver high-quality prototypes reflecting customer requirements, with delivery possible within 3-5 weeks.

The material lab has full qualification capabilities to ensure reliable heat exchanger performance, including the selection of optimal materials for each design. Once the prototype is created, the lab provides corrosion testing and metallographic analysis as well as testing for pressure, fatigue and durability to ensure it meets specific quality, safety and performance standards. When deemed production-ready, it can then be manufactured in larger quantities at the factory.

“The sample shop and material science lab are another example of how we are innovating to serve our customers as they transition to sustainable HVAC technologies,” said Juan Palma, engineering manager of the sample shop and material lab. “With our engineering expertise and state-of-the-art production facility, we are able to collaborate with customers to develop solutions that meet their needs.”



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Baker Distributing Summer Kick-Off Vendor Expo in Stuart May 21st, 2026

On Thursday May 21st, Baker Distributing hosted their First Annual Summer Kick-Off Vendor Expo at their Stuart location from 10am to 2pm.

Many Manufacturers Representatives were in attendance, displaying and demonstrating their new products available at Baker Distributing.

The SoFlo Po' Boys Food Truck was on site serving up Buffalo Wings, Pulled Pork, Shrimp Po Boy Sandwiches, Baked Beans, Mac N Cheese,

Cole Slaw, and Cucumber Salad. Along with the great food, there were exclusive show specials, chances to win tools, and some great raffle prizes.

With a complete inventory of HVAC/R products and technical assistance, Baker Distributing Sales Centers can provide you with the products and information you need to make your job and you more efficient.

Baker Distributing offers customers a wide

range of product lines, competitive pricing, superior customer service and valuable, timesaving services that position us as an industry leader. Baker Distributing has the experience to meet your company's heating, ventilation, air conditioning, refrigeration and food service requirements.

Marcus Mosley is the Branch Manager. Stop by the Baker Distributing at the Stuart location to see Marcus or any of his experienced team.



The Baker Distributing Summer Kick Off Team: Duviel Sanchez, Vadimir Carbentier, Dave Brough, Marcus Mosley, and Jachin Younger



Duviel Sanchez and Howard Montgomery of Baker Distributing with Scott Kuschel of Miami Tech



Luke Durden and Steve Hentz of Krauss & Crane Air Conditioning with Ervin Rodriguez of Baker Distributing



The SoFlo Po' Boys Food Truck was serving up Buffalo Wings, Pulled Pork, Shrimp Po Boy Sandwiches, Baked Beans, Mac N Cheese, and more!



Travis Scott and BJ Mueller of HPP HVAC Protection Plus



Jose Rodriguez of Owens Corning, Kevin Perry of Baker FCS, and Michael Williams of Barksdale Sales Group



Jackie Tutko of The Metal Shop with Marie Garduno of Kasa Cool



Jesus Gomez and Kevin Avellaneda of Dedicated Air LLC with Fidel Martinez of Copeland



Jachin Younger, Vadimir Carbentier, Howard Montgomery, Marcus Mosley, and Dave Brough of Baker Distributing



It was a great day for the Baker Distributing Summer Kick-Off Vendor Expo in Stuart!



Duviel Sanchez of Baker Distributing, Chris Erickson of Leone Green, and Marcus Mosley of Baker Distributing



Neil Crawford of Nidec-US Motors with Shaun Jones and JU Baker of JU Baker Services



Mike Berry of DS Air Conditioning with Scott Behanna and Anthony Saunders of AHR Sales



Vadimir Carbentier of Baker Distributing, Colin Pikula of The McAllister Group, and Jachin Younger of Baker Distributing



Adam Emanuel of Arnold's Air Conditioning with Andres Ponce of AMP Strategic



Ferguson HVAC Hosts Lake Worth Counter Day

May 20th, 2026

On May 20th, from 9am-2pm, Ferguson HVAC in Lake Worth hosted a Counter Day, designed exclusively for HVAC and plumbing pros. Ferguson was excited to reveal their newly renovated counter.

Several product vendors were on site showing their new products, giving product demonstrations and answering questions. Sponsors included: Mitsubishi Electric, Bradford White, DeWalt, Durastar, PROFLO, PROSELECT and Ruud.

Attendees were able to connect with the Ferguson

team, enjoy some great food, and take a tour.

The Old School Food Truck was on site preparing breakfast burritos till 11am, then switching over to lunch, serving cheeseburgers and chicken sandwiches with fries and beverage.

Ferguson HVAC is a national distributor of residential and commercial heating and cooling equipment, parts and supplies. HVAC contractors across the country rely on Ferguson HVAC for the best unitary and ductless equipment brands, and for a

wide-range of HVAC products including accessories, controls, air distribution supplies, and service and repair parts.

Ferguson HVAC highly trained associates are experts on the products they carry and offer the training, consultation and technical support you need to service your customers. Ferguson HVAC Branches are supported by an advanced network of 12 distribution centers strategically located around the country.



The Ferguson Southeast Support Team attending the Lake Worth Counter Day



Ferguson Lake Worth Counter: Alonso Girando, Keith Connell, and Brian Davidson



Ed Kemp of Ruud with Nick Johnson of Ferguson



Eladio Christian and Matt Daniele of Ferguson with Kevin Beatty of The McAllister Group



Francis Figueroa and Lazero Rodriguez (center) of Faster Plumbing with the DeWalt team coming together for a group photo



The Old School Food Truck was on-site preparing Breakfast Burritos before 11am and Cheeseburgers or Chicken Sandwiches for lunch



Nick Gast Phase Pumping Service, Chris Coyne of The Spirit Group, and Alan Gross of Phase Plumbing Service



The Ferguson Lake Worth counter was busy all morning with great product specials!



Hamzah Abuiqad and Mohammad Abed of EZ Fix Plumbing with Frankie Valle of Mitsubishi Electric



Jeff Meve of DeWalt with Fred Maclean of Erica's Plumbing



It was really great to catch up with industry friends, relax, and enjoy some lunch from The Old School Food Truck!



There was a great turnout for the Open House at Ferguson in Lake Worth



Kevin Read of Ferguson with Frankie Valle of Mitsubishi Electric, and Hisham Madi of Ferguson



Rafael Efrece of DeWalt, Rock Miller of Pool Crafters, and Keith Connell of Ferguson



Justin Berke of Ferguson, Leon Holmes of The Carr Company, and Jim Austin of SSA

Women in HVACR Announces Keynote Speakers for its 2026 Annual Conference



ENGLEWOOD, Colo. – May 14, 2026 – Women in HVACR (WHVACR), a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering women in the heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration trades, has selected Christine Cashen and Rebecca Heiss to serve as keynote speakers at the group's 2026 annual conference, Built for Speed, which will be held at the JW Marriott Indianapolis Sept. 27-29.

"Christine and Rebecca bring a powerful combination of humor, science and real-world experience that aligns perfectly with our mission," said WHVACR President Jane Sidebottom. "Their keynote sessions will inspire attendees to embrace challenges,

build resilience and continue to grow as leaders in the HVACR industry."

Cashen is a nationally recognized speaker who has spent more than 20 years connecting with audiences through humor and real-world insight. She's the award-winning author of "The Good Stuff" and "It's YOUR Business," and her background spans roles as a university admissions officer, corporate trainer and broadcaster. Her perspective is also shaped by her experience as a cancer survivor, which brings an added level of authenticity and strength to her message.

Joining her is Heiss, a stress physiologist and leadership expert with a doctorate in biology. She is dedicated to helping individuals harness fear as a catalyst for growth, and her research has been recognized by the National Science Foundation. Heiss is also the founder and CEO of a leadership development platform and the author of

"Springboard" and "Instinct." Through her Fearless Masterclass and global speaking engagements, she gives audiences practical ways to reframe stress, boost performance and navigate change.

Conference highlights also include:

- Networking opportunities with HVACR professionals from across the country
- Educational sessions focused on leadership, career growth and industry trends
- Programming designed to support women at every stage of their careers

About Women in HVACR

Since 2002, Women in HVACR has worked to increase the number of women in the Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigerant (HVACR) industry and empower women to succeed by providing members with a variety of opportunities to network and develop a professional environment through education and mentorship. The 1,200-member nonprofit organization holds a variety of regional and national events each year and provides scholarship opportunities for women who pursue careers within the HVACR industry, including those who seek engineering and business degrees or a trade school education. For more information about Women in HVACR, visit <https://www.womeninhvacr.org/>.

Ferguson and Explore The Trades: Empowering the Multi-Skilled Trades Workforce

In celebration of National Skilled Trades Day, Ferguson, in partnership with Explore The Trades, proudly announces the latest recipients of the Explore The Trades Skills Lab, Built by Ferguson equipment grants. This initiative reflects a shared commitment to strengthening the skilled trades workforce by investing in education aligned with Explore The Trades' mission to promote careers in plumbing, HVAC and electrical. Each of these essential trades provides students with hands-on experience and serves as a foundation for building a modern, multi-skilled workforce.

The skilled trades landscape is shifting. No longer confined to single-track specialties, today's job sites demand multi-skilled professionals fluent in plumbing and HVAC, or able to wire, weld and troubleshoot smart systems. While each Skills Lab grant is focused on a single discipline, collectively these labs serve as

a launchpad for students to explore the broader world of the trades — developing adaptable skills and career confidence that can evolve into multi-trade proficiency.

That's where Ferguson and Explore The Trades step in. Since launching the program in 2021, 35 skills labs have been established across 17 states, reaching over 3,500 students. Each lab provides hands-on training designed to prepare learners for the complexity — and opportunity — of modern trades careers.

"Strong partnerships between industry and education are critical to the continued growth of the plumbing, HVAC, and electrical trades. In our partnership with Ferguson, we have had a front row seat to students who discover an instant connection to working with the tools that can lead to a fulfilling career. Over the past four years, seeing local schools embrace, and enhance, trades education for their students is a joy and

it's a privilege to be a part of those success stories." — Kate Cinnamo, Executive Director of Explore The Trades.

Those partnerships and versatility are already showing results. Logan D., a student from Lyman High School in Longwood, Florida, and a 2022–2023 Skills Lab grant recipient, shared how the program opened doors he never expected: "Adding the plumbing program through the Skills Lab grant was amazing and so fun. It gives students the opportunity to see more trades and experience other fields of work. It made room for more hands-on experiences and other opportunities to get into careers. I tried it out and loved it. Then, I was given the opportunity to go to the SkillsUSA Florida state competition and I was able to place second. I was also given the opportunity to go to a local competition and I came in first place.

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2026 ASHRAE Miami Golf Tournament at the Miami Beach Golf Club May 7th, 2026

The 2026 ASHRAE Miami Golf Tournament was held on May 7th at the Miami Beach Golf Club. Registration started at noon, and a shotgun start at 1 PM. Goodie Bags were presented to each golfer. Proceeds went to ASHRAE Research.

Miami ASHRAE Chapter members enjoyed an afternoon of fun and festivities with industry peers.

On the course, beverage carts were available throughout the entire tournament. Following the tournament was the awards dinner, presenting awards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finish, longest drive, and closest to the pin. Many great raffle prizes too!

ASHRAE's 2026 Annual Conference, is taking place June 27–July 1 in Austin, Texas. The con-

ference will bring together industry professionals, for a week of knowledge-sharing, technical exploration, professional development and peer engagement. ASHRAE will install its new officers and directors, and incoming 2026–27 ASHRAE President Sarah Maston will deliver her inaugural address on "Changing the Game: Retrofitting for Resilience."



Barbara Garcia, Ruben Abreu, Linette Prats, Haleh Moghaddasi, Danielle Bejar, Sonia Arranaga and Tulia Rios of ASHRAE Miami



Catching some lunch with friends at the Miami Beach Golf Club before the tournament



ASHRAE golfers heading to their first hole after the shotgun start at 1pm



Travor Slade, Brian Sparks, Caelan Brooks, and Kristopher Kendall of Lennox



Roger Coll, Julene Arregui, Raniero Plaza, and Jorge Alvarez of ICS



Arman Pradhan, Rodney Pacheco, Todd Aquilo, and Miguel Garcia of ICS



Edgar Badarago, Steve Bender, Tulia Rios, and Robert Molina of Stan Weaver



Danny Diaz, Fred Aragon, and Max Marrero of ICS



Christopher Ramos, Scott Hamilton, and Chris Matiska of Engineering Control Systems



Stefanie Holmes, Juliana Depuy, Todd Ratkosky, and Tony Ortega of Envelop Critical Environments



Jarrette Sammel, Kevin Shirk, Matt Fernandez, and Lorenzo Fernandez of Diversified Fluid Controls



Roger White, Sean Morris, Alex Sama, and Everett Fasano of Earl Hagood Inc.



Anselmo Hill, Ben Bigio, Hector Anduiza, and Mark Kerny of Cooling Power



Juan Carlos Gonzales, Ray Ugelles, Alejandro Molinar and Brian Aucon of Dunham Bush



Tom Griswold, Kiet Troung, Joseph Gucciardo, and Fran Torres of Carrier Enterprise



Antonio Bravo, Robert Ronzka, Paul Richarson, and Gil Gutierrez of CAVH HVAC



Joe Lopez, Jorge Marin, Raul Perez, and Manuel Fontan of ACE



Tristan Irwin, Steve Wilson, Matthew Paladino, and Albert Quesada of Victaulic



Camen Andrews, Gary Devore, Trevor Citek, and Tony Amita of ASHRAE SWFL



Ruben Abreu, Roberto Arranaga, David Lopez, and Gustavo Calderon of ASHRAE Miami



Ryan Hortwitz, Michael Medina, Peter Gomez, and Ethan Muller of Stan Weaver



Dan Perez, Rey Rivera, Raul Trejo, and Yoandry Viton of Smart Building Solutions



Keith Miller, Rick Gonzales, Tony Matiska, and Brian Solis of Stan Weaver



Parth Patel, Zacahry Denson, Michael Hoo, and Keith Lawson of Johnson Controls



Jake Quigley, Jonathan Fernandez, Carl Thomason, and JC Diaz of MEP Integrated Systems



Louis J. Aguirre, Roger Subir, Daniel Aguirre, and Michael Martinez of Louis J. Aguirre Consulting



Felipe Osorno, Miguel Garcia, Brett Lowry, and Jarrett Churchin of Osorno Group



Robert Makowiec, Mitchell Delgato, Matt Vanbibber, and Juan Daza of Northern Duct



Christian Guzman, Justin Ingram, Giancarlo Thompson, and Kyle Goring of Protec



Cody Jacques of Price, Fausto Frias of Jasko, Cary Frias and Josh Robins of Cool Trace



Neil Caporale, Brian McMahon, TJ Bohne, and Dave Johnson of Roth



Jaxon Mills, Jeff Hawk, Eric Amour, and Mike Granobles of Stan Weaver



Ross Jimenez, Fadey Haddad, and Juan Suarez of Smart Building Solutions



Adrian Sanchez, Francisco Hurtado, Gus Chacon, and Carlos Zuloaga of Protec



Javier Cepero, John Mahoney, Larry Smorgala, and Luis Chinaea of Saez Distributors



Gabriel Gonzalez, Brett Jacobs, Piero Palacios, and Jimmy Bautista of ICS



Third Place Winners: Tristan Irwin, Steve Wilson, Matthew Paladino, and Albert Quesada of Victaulic



Second Place Winners: Robert Makowiec, Mitchell Delgato, Matt Vanbibber, and Juan Daza of Northern Duct



First Place Winners: Christian Guzman, Justin Ingram, Giancarlo Thompson, and Kyle Goring of Protec

New Yorkers Say State Should Slow or Adjust HVAC Regulations

Columbus, OH — May 12, 2026 — As New York State pushes forward with sweeping HVAC and refrigerant regulations under Part 494, a new statewide survey commissioned by the Heating, Air-conditioning & Refrigeration Distributors International (HARDI) finds that New York homeowners are highly concerned the regulations will increase costs and reduce affordable heating and cooling options.

The survey of New York homeowners found that 80% of respondents believe New York should slow down or adjust regulations if they increase costs for homeowners and everyday consumers. Just 20% said the state should continue moving forward even if costs rise.

Despite the broad scope of New York's Part 494 regulation, nearly three-quarters (71%) of homeowners say they are unfamiliar with state policies affecting the types of heating and cooling systems they can install in their homes.

Even without prior awareness of the regulations, homeowners expressed strong worry about their financial impact. Sixty percent of respondents said they expect HVAC regulations to increase the cost of replacing their home's heating or cooling system, while 66% said they are concerned about the availability of affordable HVAC replacement options over the next five to ten years.

The survey also found broad support for balancing climate policy with consumer affordability. While only 10% of respondents said climate goals should take priority over affordability concerns, 85% said affordability should either be prioritized or balanced equally with climate objectives.

The political implications are significant as well. Forty-six percent of homeowners said regulations that increase home energy or equipment costs would make them less likely to support state leaders. Additionally, 66% said that if the Governor's office were granted authority to delay major climate programs because of affordability concerns, it should reconsider regulations affecting home heating and cooling costs.

"This survey shows that New York's current approach to HVAC and refrigerant regulation is out of step with what homeowners can afford," said Alex Ayers, HARDI's Vice President of Government Affairs. "Policymakers have to press pause before moving forward with policies that could make heating and cooling systems more expensive."



NCI's High-Performance Summit 2026 is Coming Soon!

This year's Summit is shaping up to be the biggest and best ever. We want you to be there. Discover what hundreds of your fellow High-Performance HVAC contractors know when they attend Summit: it's a one-of-a-kind experience that you can't miss.

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Daikin Introduces R-32 VRV EMERION Commercial HP, Heat Recovery Systems



WALLER, Texas, May 21, 2026 – Daikin Comfort Technologies North America, Inc. (Daikin) has introduced the new Daikin VRV EMERION commercial heat pump and heat recovery systems featuring low global warming potential (GWP) R-32 refrigerant. Designed with a focus on flexibility, connectivity and sustainability, the new lineup is designed to help streamline installation, simplify maintenance and expand monitoring capabilities – while improving performance and sustainability compared to current R-410A-based systems.

Building on the success of and compared to previous R-410A commercial VRV solutions, Daikin has redesigned these three-phase, air-cooled systems to help reduce installation and commissioning times, expand heating and cooling operations, enhance energy savings, and support sustainability. Daikin R-32 VRV EMERION utilizes low-GWP refrigerant, designed to help improve efficiency with a lower total system charge compared to VRV EMERION R-410A systems.

"Launching this innovative and versatile R-32 commercial line for North America exemplifies Daikin's goal to supply advanced, sustainable and flexible HVAC solutions," says Sachin Dixit, Vice President, Commercial Strategy and Business Development at Daikin.

Available from 6- to 40-tons, Daikin R-32 VRV EMERION is engineered for increased energy savings with Variable Refrigerant Technology (VRT) delivering efficiencies up to 24.6 IEER and 3.80 COP, compared to R-410A VRV EMERION systems. Evaporation temperature control at each indoor unit provides comfort to each space along with required branch selector box or safety shutoff valve. Low-GWP R-32 not only improves efficiency, compared to VRV EMERION R-410A systems, it's easy to reuse, reclaim or recycle.

This sustainable HVAC solution also helps supply satisfying indoor comfort, covering an expansive ambient temperature range, from -22°F (-30°C) to 122°F (50°C). During defrost capability, continuous heating can be provided with single module (16- to 20-ton) and all dual module (22- to 40-ton) heat pump and heat recovery systems.

A New Standard for Installation, Monitoring & Control – "The streamlined installation and intelligent control capabilities of Daikin VRV EMERION are

outstanding," says AP Sharma, Director, VRV Product Marketing at Daikin. "They are designed for simple startup, while providing facility managers and building owners outstanding monitoring tools to optimize performance, like HERO Cloud Services, and limit costs compared to traditional systems."

The new VRV EMERION with R-32 allows reuse of existing R-410A piping for retrofit applications, along with field settings, and includes larger capacity, single-module units, compared to VRV EMERION with R-410A. This helps limit the space required for mechanical equipment, while minimizing electrical and piping connections. The systems support up to 361 ft. of vertical separation, with possibilities up to 720 ft. For phased installation or tenant fit-out, systems can be expanded from single- to dual-module without changes to installed main pipe sizes. For retrofit applications, a new field setting allows reuse of the R-410A piping network for R-32, helping eliminate the need to replace piping.

Daikin R-32 VRV EMERION helps cut installation and commissioning time using an auto address feature with D4 communications protocol, compared to VRV EMERION R-410A systems. New D4 net provides larger data volume and faster communication speeds – up to 30 times faster, compared to D3 net.

"Exceptional control, monitoring and connectivity are core benefits of Daikin R-32 VRV EMERION, along with ease of servicing," explains Sharma. "Daikin isn't just 'adapting' to these codes – we are advancing the technology, using this shift to make our systems smart."

A new remote option with HERO Cloud Services enables data retrieval and field-setting changes from virtually anywhere – no equipment access required. The built-in recorder stores up to 40 minutes of operational data. Daikin VRV EMERION also integrates with the Daikin HERO Ecosystem, an IoT-based remote monitoring and diagnostics platform. The systems are built for what's next, providing connectivity to an expanding catalogue of controls, ventilation and indoor units.

The convenient drop-down, electrical box service window provides quick access to configuration buttons and multifunctional, digital display showing refrigerant pressures and temperatures. The sealed, IP55-rated electrical box provides high dust and moisture protection. Easy-to-access mechanical, electrical and airflow sections can be quickly removed. The need for a base pan heater can be eliminated with a hot gas defrost circuit. For commercial building tenants, inverter-driven, variable-speed scroll compressors help Daikin R-32 VRV EMERION run quietly – down to 58 dB(A).

Johnson Controls Named One of America's Best Employers for Company Culture by Forbes

Johnson Controls has been awarded a place on Forbes' list of America's Best Employers for Company Culture 2026. This listing is presented in collaboration with Statista, a statistics portal and industry ranking provider.

America's Best Employers for Company Culture 2026 were identified in an independent survey of over 217,000 U.S.-based employees working for companies employing at least 1,000 people nationally. The evaluation was based on personal evaluations, public evaluations, and company culture-related indicators around topics like fairness, acceptance, and opportunity.

Inclusion on the list highlights Johnson Controls ongoing efforts to create a workplace where all employees are valued, regardless of their background or identity. Through targeted initiatives, policies, and programs, the company has built a culture that embraces positive company culture in all its forms and strives to ensure equal opportunities for all employees.

"Our culture is built on clear expectations for what winning looks like and how we show up every day," said Marina Williams, Vice President of Engagement and Inclusion, Johnson Controls. "Being recognized again as one of America's Best Employers for Company Culture is a testament to our incredible team who come to work each day with a focus on winning the right way for our customers, colleagues and communities."

Johnson Controls efforts have led to measurable progress, particularly in increasing representation across all categories, creating policies that support a fair and inclusive work environment, and implementing ongoing training programs to ensure all employees feel empowered and supported. This recognition further establishes the company as a leader in workplace culture within the energy efficiency, decarbonization, thermal management and mission-critical performance sectors, demonstrating that a company culture of fairness and opportunity is not only a moral imperative but also a strategic advantage that drives success and innovation.

Bryant Hosts First Factory Authorized Dealer National Meeting, Celebrating Dealer Excellence and a Return to Brand Legacy

INDIANAPOLIS, IN – May 22, 2026 – Bryant brought dealers from across North America together for the first ever Bryant Factory Authorized Dealer (BFAD) National Meeting, marking a new chapter in how the brand engages and supports its dealer network. Bryant is a part of Carrier Global Corporation, global leader in intelligent climate and energy solutions.

The inaugural BFAD National Meeting centered on open dialogue, hands-on learning, and direct dealer input. Across the multiday event, attendees took part in immersive training, interactive mainstage sessions, and candid feedback discussions, reinforcing Bryant's commitment to listening to its dealers and building what's next together.

Training was a central focus of the event, with structured sessions designed to build technical and operational expertise. Over two days, 158 students from 94 companies representing 25 distributorships completed more than 1,600 hours of instructor-led training across 13 classes. The sessions delivered practical, actionable insights to help dealers strengthen technical expertise, improve efficiency, and better serve customers in their local markets.

The meeting also included a meaningful brand moment with the return of the Bryant Pup, unveiled on the mainstage as a symbol of trust, dependability, and the hardworking spirit that has defined Bryant for more than a century.

A cornerstone of the event was the awards celebration, recognizing standout Bryant dealers for excellence in performance, leadership, customer experience, and community impact. Honors such as Dealer of the Year, the Charles Bryant Award, and the Pinnacle Award celebrate businesses that consistently bring Bryant's Whatever It Takes philosophy to life.

2026 Bryant Dealer of the Year - Flow-Tech Plumbing and Heating (Columbia City, IN) – Recognized for its exceptional commitment to customer satisfaction, operational excellence, and brand leadership.

2026 Charles Bryant Award Recipients - Air Tech Heating (Fond du Lac, WI), HVAC Services Unlimited (Salisbury, MD) 2026 Pinnacle Award Recipients

The Pinnacle Award Recipients - Family Heating & Air (Pensacola, FL), The Weather Changers (Denver, CO)

In addition to these top honors, Bryant recognized 18 Medals of Excellence recipients and 80 Circle of Champions nationwide for their dedication to quality, professionalism, and continuous improvement. "This first Bryant Factory Authorized Dealer National Meeting represents more than a new event, it reflects how our dealer network is evolving," said Nick Arch, Vice President and General Manager, Residential HVAC Solutions at Bryant. "Our dealers are the heart of the Bryant brand and bringing them together strengthens the relationships that will carry us forward."

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And be gracious to you**

Numbers 6:24-25

UPCOMING EVENTS



1ST ANNUAL FISHING TOURNAMENT

FRIDAY, JUNE 26TH

6:30AM CHECK-IN
 7:00AM LINES IN
 3:45PM LINES OUT
 4:00PM - 5:00PM WEIGH-IN
 5:00PM - 8:00PM WEIGH-IN RECEPTION



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TODAY'S A/C NEWS

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 P0 BOX 451821,
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 Ph: 954-674-1580
 E-mail: jeff@todays-ac.com
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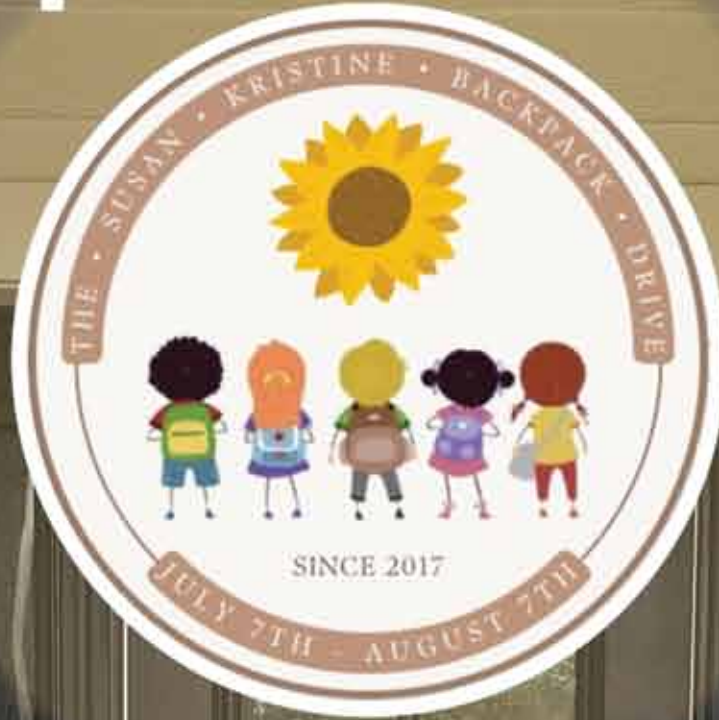
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 Jeff Schlichenmeyer 954-674-1580
jeff@todays-ac.com

Help Support A Great Cause!

2017 - 57 Backpacks
 2018 - 119 Backpacks
 2019 - 219 Backpacks
 2020 - 457 Backpacks
 2021 - 472 Backpacks



2022 - 719 Backpacks
 2023 - 1742 Backpacks
 2024 - 1807 Backpacks
 2025 - 2207 Backpacks
 2026 - ??? Backpacks

10th Annual Susan Kristine Backpack Drive

We are starting our 10th Annual Susan Kristine Backpack Drive!
 This year your backpack donations will be going to:

- The Christian Sharing Center in Longwood
- Seminole County Public Schools (FIN) Families in Need
- Tools for Seminole County Schools
- The Rescue Mission for Women and Children in Sanford
- Hope Helps in Oviedo

All of these programs help kids and families in our community. So many families are in need and/or have fallen on hard times. Our mission is to provide all of these local kids a brand new backpack so they can start the school year with something new that brings them confidence and a positive outlook for the school year ahead. I also offer to personal shop for anyone if you would like to donate a monetary donation. Venmo - @Kristine-Litton

This Backpack Drive is to honor of my Aunt Susan Harrell and my Grandmother Kristine Stockstill!
 Both of these women had an incredible impact on my life and had such giving hearts.
 Thank You for your continued support in making this drive so successful! God Bless Ya'll!
 Backpacks needed for Elementary - High School Age

Call Blacks Supply if you would like us to come to your location to pick up your donations

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