newsline

BBB AND IAQ COUNCIL FIGHT FRAUD ■ CONTRACTOR AWARDED ■ BIODIESEL FUEL FOR HEAT PUMPS ■ MORE AT ACHRNEWS.COM

Humidity Research Begins in U.S. Homes to Provide Increased Measurable Data

OURNE, Mass. — Although unsuitable relative humidity (rh) levels in homes can be unhealthy, increase heating and cooling costs, damage building components, and affect comfort levels, there is little to no measured data available on actual indoor humidity levels in homes across the United States. Concerned about the effect that rh has on a building's performance, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development paired up with Steven Winter Associates Inc. (SWA), an architectural and engineering research and consulting firm, to gather temperature and humidity data in more than 50 homes across the country this summer.

Three different regions are being targeted for the study — the warm and humid Southeast, the cold Northeast, and the Pacific Northwest. To complete the study, household characteristic data will also be collected during the initial site-visit to the home, including occupancy levels, insulation levels, equipment efficiencies, envelope leakage, and duct leakage. To monitor temperature and humidity levels, SWA engineers will use HOBO® U12 data loggers from Onset Computer Corp. in Bourne, Mass.

The battery-powered devices will measure and record humidity levels around-the-clock — even during power outages. The accompanying HOBOware® Pro software will convert the data

into time-stamped graphs that can be displayed on a PC or Mac.

The data collected from this study is expected to support efforts already underway by the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) Standard Committee 160P on "Design Criteria for Preventing Moisture Damage in Buildings" and others to develop moisture modeling tools and related technical standards. Test homes for this study are currently being identified, and most initial site visits and data logger installations have already been completed.

For more information, visit www.onsetcomp.com or www. swinter.com.

BBB Helps Fight Fraud

LENDALE, Ariz. — The American Indoor Air Quality Council (IAQ Council) is welcoming assistance in its fight against consumer fraud from the Better Business Bureau (BBB). Local BBBs around the country are contacting the IAQ Council office to verify claims of certification found on company Websites. In cases where the claims are inaccurate, some BBBs are giving companies as little as 14 days to correct the errors or risk an unfavorable rating. The IAQ Council has responded by encouraging its certificants to make sure that their Websites are accurate and up to date.



In the few years since its inception, Carolina Controls Depot has become an opinion leader for the distribution industry and a strong advocate for Honeywell in the Carolinas, said Molin, pointing out that, "their business results and their service of customers are truly exceptional."

"We are honored to have been chosen in only our second year as an Authorized Systems Distributor," said Gordon Harrington, president of Carolina Controls Depot. "We have been fortunate to align ourselves with superb contractor partners who share our dedication to growth."

The distributor, which also has an additional office in Lake Wylie, S.C., was honored with the announcement during a special awards dinner hosted by Honeywell representatives.