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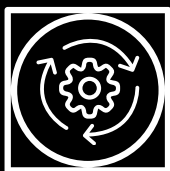
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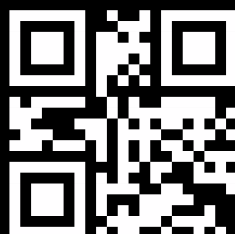
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# climate control MIDDLE EAST

KEY PERSPECTIVES ON THE REGION'S HVACR INDUSTRY

December 2024

14TH ANNUAL CLIMATE CONTROL AWARDS 2024

# As *outcomes* go

AS ALWAYS, KEY RESULTS THROUGH OUTSTANDING SYSTEMS AND PROCESSES GET THE NOD DURING THE 14<sup>TH</sup> EDITION



**PHOTO-FEATURE:**

Big 5 Global Dubai 2024

**NEWS**

AHRI names 2025 Leadership

Daikin celebrates 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary

Eurovent ME, AMCA to conduct Middle East Industry Congress

Hisense in global 'Lighthouse Factory List'



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 14TH ANNUAL CLIMATE CONTROL  
**AWARDS 2024**  
27<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2024 | DUBAI, UAE

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### Climate Control Awards

The 14<sup>th</sup> Edition recognises ethos, intent, systems and processes that underpin outstanding outcomes related to energy efficiency and Indoor Air Quality, among other sustainable development and socio-economic development targets

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**Surendar Balakrishnan**  
Editor  
@BSurendar\_HVACR



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Also available at



# Into 20

**B**EFORE I start, I ask you to excuse me for the indulgence, but it is not every day that a magazine touches a major milestone – of stepping into its 20<sup>th</sup> year. Yes, it was in December 2005 that we set out to publish the inaugural issue of *Climate Control Middle East*.

With the mind's eye and ear, we can still see the flurry and hear the din of activity all those years ago – the months spent meeting a cross-section of the stakeholder community that eventually would become the readers, and listening to their thoughts on what the contents ought to be; writing and editing the stories; simultaneously designing the masthead and having it critiqued; establishing the first template of the entire stretch of pages and, finally, proofreading, as part of other pre-press activities, before sending it off to the Press. What a thrill! What excitement!

Today, it is hard to believe we are 228 magazine issues old. And we are able to reveal that since January 2006, with an average of 52 pages per issue, we have provided nearly 6,400,000 words of text on the happenings in our exciting industry, with each word painstakingly edited and proof-read against multiple parameters.

And since January 2006, we, as CPI Industry – the mother company – have also produced directories & guidebooks, supplements, editorial campaigns and books, for example, *Al Jalees*, the first-of-its-kind English-to-Arabic technical HVACR Dictionary. And we have grown in size and in our ability to suggest and persuade action. Some readers have been incredibly kind in labelling us as the 'Voice of the HVACR Industry'. Thank you for that! Really!

As for our Events Division, to date, we have produced over 90 conferences and awards ceremonies.

A few years ago, a global media association conducted a survey to see how media organisations around the world and over the years have sustained their coverage on climate change. We have never publicised our efforts, but we can safely say that not a single issue goes by where we don't have the words energy efficiency (in the context of climate change), reliability or IAQ, to name three attributes.

We treat our position with a deep sense of responsibility. Producing every issue of the magazine is about listening to a voice of conscience and navigating an ethical minefield. It is the same with the awards programme, which has completed 14 years and has executed 17 awards ceremonies, including bespoke ones.

Today, the urge and compulsion to communicate is as deep-felt as ever. It is this urge that is the basis of the Editorial Campaign that we shall be launching in January 2025. Called Refrigerants Review, it shall run the entire course of the year.

"What's there to talk about for an entire year?" you might ask. Well, sample this statement Nabil Shahin, the Managing Director of AHRI MENA made on December 4 while moderating AHRI's event, 'Convening HVACR Leaders: Shaping the Future of the Industry': "Shockingly, 60% of all global refrigerants sold are used to replace leaks in existing systems rather than getting used in new equipment, underscoring the environmental implications of inadequate refrigerant handling. To minimise environmental harm, technicians need solid training in refrigerant handling, recovery, recycling and proper disposal."

We have much to discuss, and we are highly motivated to carry on in the same spirit as 20 years ago.

**climate control** MIDDLE EAST  
KEY PERSPECTIVES ON THE REGION'S HVACR INDUSTRY

*Climate Control Middle East magazine proudly supports the UAE President's initiative of extending the 'Year of Sustainability' to the whole of 2024.*

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Dominic De Sousa (1959-2015)

**EMPANELLED COLUMNISTS**

**Dr Iyad Al-Attar**



*Independent air filtration consultant, writes on specific science and technology issues relating to Indoor Air Quality, including airborne particles.*

**Jeremy McDonald**



*Principal of Guth DeConzo Consulting Engineers, in New York, writes on IAQ and building tracing. He served as the technical consultant to the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority in development of an IAQ guideline for Higher Education in NY: "Covid-19 Response Guide, State University of New York".*

**Omnia Halawani**



*Co-Founder & Co-CEO, GRFN Global, writes on MEP consultancy-related issues.*

**Dan Mizesko**



*Managing Partner/President, US Chiller Services International, writes on issues relating to chilled water systems, including operation & maintenance.*

**Krishnan Unni Madathil**



*Auditor, Bin Khadim, Radha & Co. Chartered Accountants, carrying out an analysis of the market, writes on business opportunities for the HVACR industry.*

**Nabil Shahin**



*Managing Director, AHRI MENA, writes on HVACR-specific regulation issues.*

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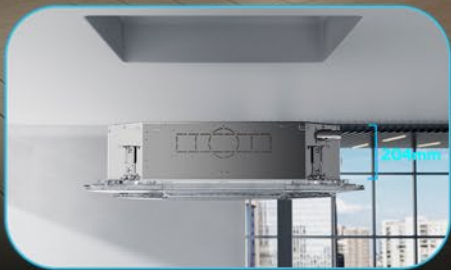
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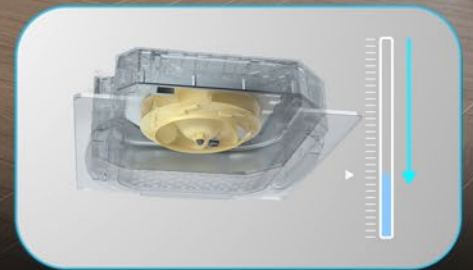
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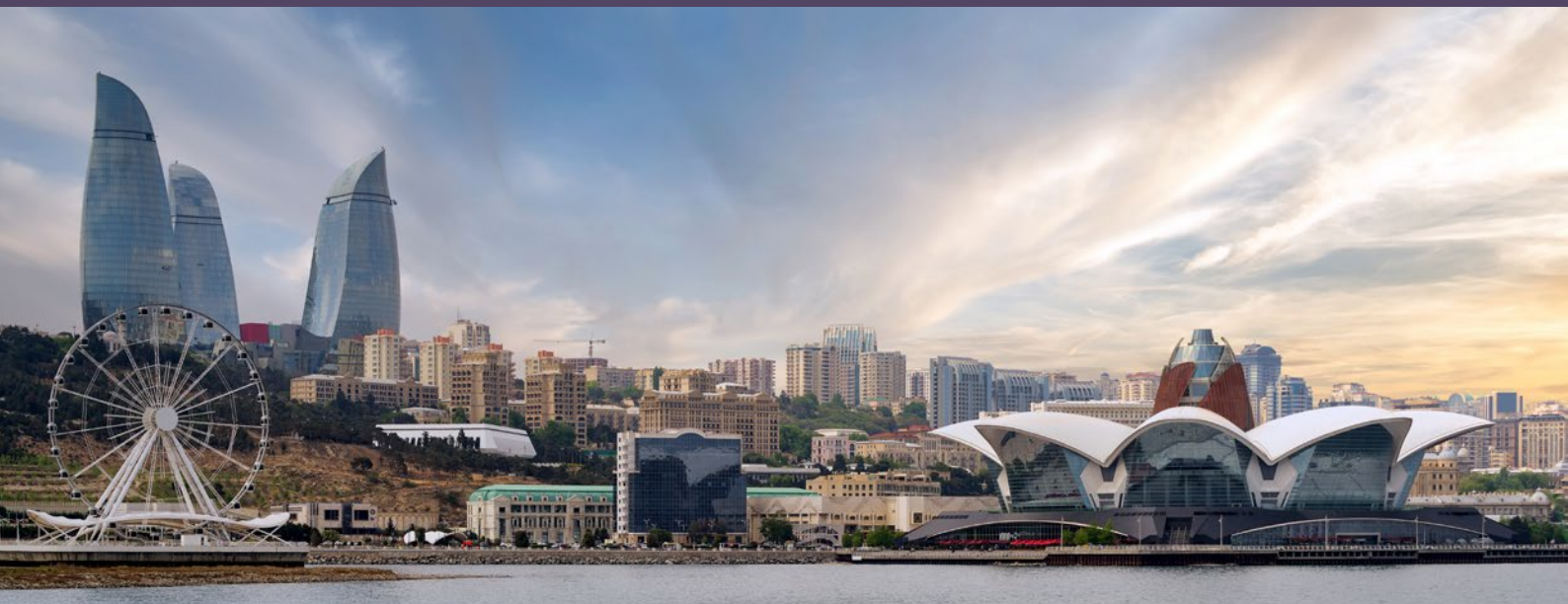


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# SCOUTING FOR (C)OPTIMISM

Benjamin Bonnevie of Denmark's State of Green says one of the redeeming features of COP29 was the importance given to climate finance in the form of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement...



**W**ITH COP29 behind us, the search for optimism following this year's agreement text has been a challenge. Yet, amidst the debates over missed transformative wins, one breakthrough in climate finance could redefine global climate action in the years to come.

I am referring to carbon credits and a global market for carbon trading. These are not new ideas; yet, their significance has only grown year by year. Now, after a decade of negotiations, Article 6 of the Paris Agreement has finally been established, more specifically the Paris Agreement Crediting Mechanism (PACM). This breakthrough sets the stage for a global system of carbon trading – one that promises real, measurable emissions reductions.

Here's why this is good news: By enabling countries to trade carbon credits across borders, Article 6 can

unlock funding for renewable energy, reforestation and climate adaptation projects. It is a mechanism that supports developing countries while giving wealthier nations a practical path to meet their targets.

Strong safeguards against double counting and new transparency measures will make carbon credits more reliable. This could encourage governments and businesses to set more ambitious climate goals ahead of COP30, knowing they have dependable tools to meet them.

As global climate discussions shift toward COP30 in Brazil, Denmark, together with the EU, is doubling down on its leadership for ambitious climate action. As Lars Aagaard, Denmark's Minister for Climate, Energy, and Utilities, puts it: "We will strive to improve the outcome in the further negotiations next year, to lay the groundwork for

the real progress needed at COP30 in Brazil, where Denmark, together with the European Commission, will lead the EU."

At State of Green, we see partnerships as the way forward. That is why we are proud to have joined forces with the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) through a new collaborative agreement signed at the Denmark Pavilion during COP29. Together, we are aiming to expand Denmark's approach to public-private collaboration globally in the lead-up to COP30. [ccme](#)

*The writer is with the Communications Division at State of Green, Denmark. He may be contacted at [info@stateofgreen.com](mailto:info@stateofgreen.com).*

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# AS OUTCOMES GO

By Surendar Balakrishnan | Editor, *Climate Control Middle East*

Everything about the Climate Control Awards is a recognition of key outcomes through outstanding systems and processes, and the 14<sup>th</sup> Edition was no different

**T**HE 14th Edition of the Climate Control Awards, on November 27 in Dubai, was about recognising key outcomes through outstanding systems and processes, based on a methodical and regimented evaluation approach, established since the inception of the Awards programme.

The runup to the night of the Awards ceremony was familiarly systematic and included several days spent deliberating on the entries. And at the end of the evaluation exercise, it boiled down to a shortlist and, in that, the names of winners – organisations as well as individuals.

In all, the ceremony was about presentation of trophies in 25 categories. Some of the categories had joint winners in them, and some had ‘honourable mentions’.

Choosing the winners and ‘honourable mentions’ in the 25 categories, save for one, involved a

competitive process; as always, the exception was the Editor’s Choice Award. In addition, as per tradition, the ceremony featured a ‘Country of Honour’, with the privilege going to the Italian Republic.

Italy came to be chosen for its remarkable run in the past several decades. The Italian HVAC market is a critically important one from a global standpoint for its contribution of diverse technologies. In the last three years, the market in Italy has grown at two per cent digit levels, also thanks to the fiscal incentives defined by the Italian government to improve energy efficiency in buildings.

Italy has a very long history, and most of the residential buildings have been built between the 1960s and the 1970s; and that is why they need energy refurbishment. Keeping this in mind, the Italian government decided to invest in those areas to give funds to citizens



to renovate their homes to get better consumption of energy and better comfort, in terms of air quality, etc.

Speaking of air quality, the pandemic highlighted systemic problems, and Italy as a country systematically began to fortify its defences and renovate specific buildings – especially schools. The government undertook a massive-scale investment as part of the country's 'National Recovery and Resilience Plan'.

The Plan is part of the Next Generation EU (NGEU) programme, namely the €750 billion package – of which about half is in the form of grants – that the European Union negotiated in response to the pandemic crisis. The main component of the NGEU programme is the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF), which has a duration of six years – from 2021 to 2026 – and a total size of €672.5 billion – of which €312.5 billion is in the form of grants, and the remaining €360 billion is in the form of low-interest loans.

The Editor's Choice Award recognises and honours those individuals or entities that have evolved HVACR-related initiatives and implementation strategies towards helping achieve socio-economic development and sustainable development goals. The awardee is chosen based on such ideals as vision, collaborative effort, earnestness and intellectual honesty.

As per tradition, the winner or winners are selected by the Editor of *Climate Control Middle East* magazine, in consultation – if necessary – with a technical peer review committee and with the consent and approval of the auditing firm, Bin Khadim, Radha & Co, which moderated the entire Awards exercise.

The Editor's Choice Award in the 14<sup>th</sup> Edition went to Eurovent Middle East.

Since its inception, Eurovent Middle East, as an association representing the HVACR industry in the region, has been steadfast in building an ecosystem that has served as the collective voice of the industry towards the objectives of streamlining regulations and raising awareness on critical issues. One such recent initiative is its HVACR Leadership Academy, established in October 2023, with the aim of providing sustained, certified training to technicians, supervisors, managers and others in the value chain responsible for better energy efficiency, and building and occupant safety, among other parameters.

The emphasis on training cannot be overstated in a region that acutely needs aware and skilled personnel to translate sustainable development targets into reality. Indeed, there is an urgent and much-felt need to raise understanding on technologies available in the marketplace, regulations and standards. Eurovent Middle East's

HVACR Leadership Academy is an open platform that enables trainees to navigate, design, install and operate HVACR products and systems correctly and more efficiently.

It is Eurovent Middle East's belief that 25% energy savings can be achieved through simple preventive maintenance, 15% through better installation and 20% through better operations of HVACR equipment. With these objectives in mind, Eurovent Middle East has designed courses that meet real needs. An equally important course is the F-Gas Certification Technician course, which focuses on the correct handling and treatment of HVACR equipment containing fluorinated greenhouse gases. It covers best practices associated with installing and performing maintenance, repairing, recovery, leak checking and dismantling RAC systems containing F-Gases. The importance of the course cannot be overstated in the context of urgent climate action that the world is demanding to mitigate global warming.

The Editor's Choice Award for 2024 was to honour and recognise Eurovent Middle East for its training-related initiative in the form of the Academy. Markus Lattner, Managing Director, Eurovent Middle East, received the trophy.

Here, we present a montage of stakeholders present during the ceremony, including the winners and 'honourable mentions'...





**Kandasamy Anbalagan**



**Dr Iyad Al-Attar**



**Joanne Knox Awale**



**Larbi Behloul**



**Holley Chant**



**Shivaji Chakraborty**



**Robert Davies**



**Dr P.R. Jagannathan**



**Mansour A Kharoub**



**Vasudevan Kidambi**



**Sougata Nandi**



**Biren Patel**



**Sanjeev Sinha**



**Rehan Shahid**



**Mohamed Yassen**



**Krishnan Unni Madathil**

## Gavel in hand, gravity of thought

Here are the men and women upon whom was entrusted the formidable responsibility of identifying the winners and 'honourable mentions'...

- **Kandasamy Anbalagan**, Managing Partner, Proleed Engineering Consultants, UAE
- **Dr. Iyad Al-Attar**, Independent Indoor Air Quality and Air Filtration Consultant, Kuwait; Visiting Academic Fellow, at the School of Aerospace, Transport and Manufacturing, Cranfield University, UK; and Strategic Director, Waterloo Filtration Institute, Canada
- **Joan Knox Awale**, Technical Director (Fire & Life Safety), AESG, UAE
- **Larbi Behloul**, Director, Facilities Management, Unified Asset & Property Management, Saudi Arabia
- **Holley Chant**, Chief Sustainability Officer, Salva, United States
- **Shivaji Chakraborty**, M&V Portfolio Head, Tarshid, Saudi Arabia
- **Robert Davies**, Senior Director - Advisory Services, WSP in the Middle East, UAE
- **Dr. P.R. Jagannathan**, Senior General Manager – Sustainability, at Sobha Realty, UAE
- **Mansour A. Kharoub**, Director, Mechanical Engineering, Khatib and Alami, UAE
- **Vasudevan Kidambi**, Managing Director, Navo Management Consultants, UAE
- **Sougata Nandi**, Founder & CEO, 3e Advisory, UAE; Author of the book, *Energy Management in Real Estate: Secrets to Success*; and Chairperson of the Jury, 2024 Climate Control Awards
- **Biren Patel**, C-Level Executive
- **Rehan Shahid**, Director, P&T Architects and Engineers Limited, UAE
- **Sanjeev Sinha**, President – IT & Digitization, India Power Corporation Limited, India
- **Mohamed Yassen**, President, Saudi ASHRAE Chapter; Mechanical Engineering Consultant, Khatib & Alami, Saudi Arabia
- **Krishnan Unni Madathil**, Chartered Accountant and Audit Partner, at Bin Khadim Radha & Co. Company – the auditing firm that monitored the entire Awards exercise

*(Some of the judges could not be present during the ceremony, given the fact that they were either travelling, based outside the UAE or faced unavoidable circumstances that prevented them from attending.)*



## Special Recognition Honour

Trophy goes to a key creative mind associated with the Awards programme

**T**HE 14<sup>th</sup> Edition saw yet another non-competitive category – a Special Recognition Honour. And it went to Rey Delante, former Design Director, CPI Industry. Delante designed the iconic CCA trophy that many in the industry have been privileged enough to lay their hands on, In 2011, when CPI Industry decided to institute the Climate Control Awards, the publishing house spent a significant stretch of time on arriving at the design of the trophy. The brief to Delante was

that the trophy must be compact, comprehensive in its communication of the name of the Awards, and reflect the colours commonly associated with HVACR, and socio-economic and sustainable development.

Delante, who also designed the masthead of *Climate Control Middle East* magazine and set down the template for its pages, prepared several studies of the trophy. What followed was a protracted period of discussion and, eventually, the trophy in its present state.

The trophy, over the years, has come to symbolise credibility, authenticity, grace and elegance. With its distinct characteristics, it is one of the most easily recognisable and unique HVACR-related trophies in the world.

Delante received the Special Recognition Honour during the ceremony for his invaluable contribution to the HVACR industry, for being the creative mind behind such a vital element of the Awards programme.





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## MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR (AIR TREATMENT)

### SHORTLISTED COMPANIES:

- Betec Cad Industries FZC
- Desiccant Rotors International/Bry-Air (Asia)
- Seeley International
- Windmason Arabia Co.

**WINNER**  
**Seeley International**



## MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR (AIR TREATMENT)

**HONOURABLE MENTION**  
**Betec Cad Industries FZC**



**MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR**  
(AIR MOVEMENT, VENTILATION)

**SHORTLISTED COMPANIES:**

- Betec Cad Industries FZC
- Leminar Air Conditioning Industries LLC
- Windmason Arabia Co.

**WINNER**

**Leminar Air Conditioning  
Industries LLC**



**MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR**  
(AIR MOVEMENT, VENTILATION)

**HONOURABLE MENTION**  
**Windmason Arabia Co.**





**MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR  
(FIRE & LIFE SAFETY)**

**SHORTLISTED COMPANIES:**

- Betec Cad Industries FZC
- Hira Walraven Metal Industry LLC
- Leminar Air Conditioning Industries LLC

**WINNER**

**Leminar Air Conditioning  
Industries LLC**



**MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR  
(FIRE & LIFE SAFETY)**

**HONOURABLE MENTION**

**Hira Walraven Metal  
Industry L.L.C.**





**DISTRICT COOLING CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR**

**WINNER**

**AG Engineering and Power Contracting LLC**

**DISTRICT COOLING UTILITY PROVIDER OF THE YEAR**

**WINNER**



**DISTRICT COOLING UTILITY PROVIDER OF THE YEAR**

**WINNER**

**City Cool**





**O&M PROVIDER OF THE YEAR  
(CHILLED WATER SYSTEMS)**

**SHORTLISTED COMPANIES:**

- City Cool
- Dalkia US Chiller Services LLC

**WINNER**  
**Dalkia US Chiller  
Services LLC**



**INNOVATIVE MANUFACTURER/  
SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR  
(CHILLERS)**

**SHORTLISTED COMPANIES:**

- Johnson Controls Arabia
- Taqeef

**WINNER**  
**Johnson Controls Arabia**



**INNOVATIVE MANUFACTURER/  
 SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR  
 (CHILLERS)**

**HONOURABLE MENTION  
 Taqeef**



**MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR  
 (CHILLED WATER SYSTEM EQUIPMENT AND  
 COMPONENTS, LESS CHILLERS)**

**SHORTLISTED COMPANIES:**

- Danfoss FZCO
- Grundfos Gulf Distribution FZE
- Hira Walraven Metal Industry L.L.C.
- Honeywell
- SKM International Spare Parts and Trading

**WINNER  
 (JOINT)**

**Grundfos Gulf Distribution FZE**



**MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR  
(CHILLED WATER SYSTEM EQUIPMENT AND  
COMPONENTS, LESS CHILLERS)**

**WINNER  
(JOINT)  
Danfoss FZCO**



**MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR  
(VRF SYSTEMS)**

**SHORTLISTED COMPANIES:**

- Rheem Manufacturing
- Taqueef

**WINNER  
Rheem Manufacturing**



**MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR  
(VRF SYSTEMS)**

**HONOURABLE MENTION  
Tageef**



**MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR  
(STANDALONE DX)**

**SHORTLISTED COMPANIES:**

- Rheem Manufacturing
- Tageef
- Trane Technologies

**WINNER**  
**Rheem Manufacturing**





**MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR  
(STANDALONE DX)**

**HONOURABLE MENTION  
Taqeef**



**MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR  
(STANDALONE DX)**

**HONOURABLE MENTION  
Trane Technologies**



**ESCO OF THE YEAR**

**WINNER  
(JOINT)**

**Dalkia US Chiller Services LLC**

**ESCO OF THE YEAR**

**WINNER  
(JOINT)  
Reset Mena**







**EDITOR'S CHOICE AWARD**

**WINNER**  
**Eurovent Middle East**

**GCC REGION MANUFACTURER  
OF THE YEAR**

**WINNER**



**GCC REGION MANUFACTURER OF THE YEAR**

**SHORTLISTED COMPANIES:**

- Betec Cad Industries FZC
- Güntner Middle East FZE
- Leminar Air Conditioning Industries LLC
- Rheem Manufacturing
- Windmason Arabia Co.

**WINNER**  
**(JOINT)**  
**Güntner Middle East FZE**





GCC REGION MANUFACTURER OF THE YEAR

**WINNER**  
(JOINT)  
Rheem Manufacturing



MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR  
(WATER HEATERS)

**WINNER**  
(JOINT)  
A.O. Smith





**MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR  
(WATER HEATERS)**

**WINNER  
(JOINT)**

**Rheem Manufacturing**



**HVACR ACCESSORIES MANUFACTURER/  
SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR**

**SHORTLISTED COMPANIES:**

- Betec Cad Industries Fzc
- Full Gauge Controls
- Hira Industries LLC
- Hira Walraven Metal Industry L.L.C.
- Kinetics Group
- Leminar Air Conditioning Company LLC
- MACS Group
- SKM International Spare Parts and Trading

**WINNER**

**Leminar Air Conditioning Company LLC**





**PROJECT OF THE YEAR, NEW CONSTRUCTION – IEQ**  
(HEALTHCARE, ACADEMIC, HOSPITALITY,  
COMMERCIAL, RESIDENTIAL)

**WINNER**  
**Sobha Constructions LLC**

**HVAC TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR**  
(ENERGY EFFICIENCY)



**HVAC TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR**  
(ENERGY EFFICIENCY)

**SHORTLISTED INDIVIDUALS:**

- Muhammad Islam, South Energy
- Siva Pillai, Armstrong Fluid Technology
- Ishiyaque Shaikh, Sobha Constructions LLC
- Atul Walekar, MAICO GULF LLC

**WINNER**  
**Siva Pillai,**  
**Armstrong Fluid Technology**





## IoT INTEGRATION INITIATIVE OF THE YEAR

### SHORTLISTED COMPANIES:

- Adeeb Group
- FortyGuard
- Nordatec Smart Energy
- Rheem Manufacturing

**WINNER**  
Rheem Manufacturing



## DIGITAL SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR

### SHORTLISTED COMPANIES:

- FortyGuard
- Rheem Manufacturing

**WINNER**  
FortyGuard





**DIGITAL SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR**

**HONOURABLE MENTION**  
**Rheem Manufacturing**



**MEP CONSULTANT OF THE YEAR**  
(LARGE PROJECTS: > AED 100M)

**WINNER**  
**PNC Architects**





**MEP CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR**  
(LARGE PROJECTS: > AED 100M)

**WINNER**  
**Sobha Constructions LLC**



**HVAC CONSULTING ENGINEER OF THE YEAR**

**SHORTLISTED INDIVIDUALS:**

- Rahul Shetty, Consistent Engineering Consultants
- Abdul Zameer, AtkinsRealis

**WINNER**  
**Rahul Shetty, Consistent Engineering Consultants**



**HVAC ENGINEER OF THE YEAR  
(CLIENT SIDE)**

CLIMATE CONTROL  
AWARDS 2024

HVAC Engineer of the Year (Client Side)  
**Jalal Zafar,**  
Codes Construction Dubai



**SHORTLISTED INDIVIDUALS:**

- Muhammad Islam, South Energy
- Jalal Zafar, Codes Construction Dubai

**WINNER**  
**Jalal Zafar,**  
**Codes Construction Dubai**



**YOUNG HVAC CONSULTING ENGINEER OF THE YEAR**

**SHORTLISTED INDIVIDUALS:**

- Rushikesh Dale, Consistent Engineering Consultants
- Mohammed Fazil Kashmirji, Black & White Engineering

**WINNER**  
**Rushikesh Dale,**  
**Consistent Engineering  
Consultants**





**YOUNG HVAC CONSULTING ENGINEER OF THE YEAR**

**HONOURABLE MENTION  
Mohammed Fazil Kashimji,  
Black & White Engineering**



*The winners pose for a group photograph during the Grand Finale*





**DOMINIC DE SOUSA AWARD FOR INNOVATION**

**SHORTLISTED COMPANIES:**

- AG Engineering and Power Contracting LLC
- FortyGuard
- MACS Group
- Rheem Manufacturing

**WINNER**  
**FortyGuard**





## SEELEY INTERNATIONAL: REVOLUTIONISING COOLING SOLUTIONS ...with innovation and sustainability



Mina Tent City project, Saudi Arabia

**F**OR OVER 50 YEARS, Seeley International has been at the forefront of designing and manufacturing world-class, energy-efficient cooling solutions. As Australia's leading air treatment manufacturer, Seeley International has built a reputation for delivering innovative products that redefine industry standards. Through cutting-edge technology, sustainable practices and an unwavering commitment to quality, the company continues to lead the HVACR sector, both in the Gulf and globally.

### Sustainability and innovation at the core

Sustainability is a cornerstone of Seeley International's mission. By using water for cooling instead of chemical refrigerants, the company's premium evaporative systems provide an eco-friendly alternative to traditional air conditioning. The proprietary WaterManager™ system further enhances sustainability by maximising water reuse, with discarded water repurposed for applications

such as irrigation, thereby reducing environmental impact.

Thanks to advancements in manufacturing and engineering, Seeley International's evaporative cooling products save up to 80% in energy consumption. Notably, their performance improves as temperatures rise – a critical advantage for the extreme heat of Middle Eastern climates. The company's Climate Wizard technology, the only patented multi-cycle indirect evaporative cooling system, cools below the wet bulb temperature of outside air without adding moisture to the supply air. The breakthrough innovation sets new standards in cooling efficiency.

### Pioneering automation in manufacturing

Seeley International's embrace of robotics and automation in production has significantly enhanced its capabilities. This technological leap ensures consistent product quality and reliability while improving manufacturing speed and flexibility. A remarkable demonstration of this efficiency was the delivery of the world's largest evaporative cooling installation in Mina Tent City, Saudi Arabia, in 2018.

The mega-project involved the production, shipment and installation of approximately 50,000 Breezair direct evaporative air conditioners across 20 square kilometres, cooling over 100,000 tents housing three million pilgrims during Hajj. With temperatures exceeding 45 degrees C, the Breezair units provided fresh, naturally cooled air. Thanks to automated production lines, Seeley International completed the project well ahead of schedule, showcasing its ability to execute large-scale projects with precision and speed.

### Breezair: A benchmark in cooling technology

The Breezair evaporative air conditioners exemplify Seeley International's innovative spirit. The units outperformed over 200 competing air conditioning brands during a rigorous three-year evaluation process conducted by the Saudi Government and Ministry of Hajj. Breezair systems excelled in energy efficiency, reliability, performance and environmental impact, making them the ideal choice for the Mina Tent City project.

The achievement underscores Seeley International's commitment to delivering sustainable, efficient cooling solutions designed for harsh climates.

### Award-winning excellence

Seeley International's dedication to innovation and quality was recognised at the prestigious Climate Control Middle East Awards 2024, where the company received the 'Manufacturer of the Year (Air Treatment)' award. Held on November 27, in Dubai, the accolade highlights Seeley International's leadership in the HVACR industry.

"We are deeply honoured to receive this recognition," said Sam Peli, General Manager EMENA, Seeley International. "This award reaffirms our commitment to pushing the boundaries of what's possible in air conditioning technology."

### Shaping the future of cooling

Seeley International's groundbreaking technologies, such as the multi-cycle Climate Wizard indirect evaporative cooling core, reflect its unwavering dedication to innovation.

With a presence in over 100 countries and a proven track record of reliability, Seeley International continues to set new benchmarks in the air conditioning industry. By improving indoor air quality and reducing operational costs, the company's solutions align with modern sustainability goals. As Seeley International looks to the future, its commitment to innovation and sustainability ensures it remains a global leader in cooling and heating solutions.

More info at [www.seeleyinternational.com](http://www.seeleyinternational.com)



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COMMERCIAL HVAC SOLUTIONS

**Climate Control Middle East Awards 2024 Winner**  
Manufacturer of the year (Air treatment)



## GÜNTNER STRIKES IT BIG AT CLIMATE CONTROL AWARDS 2024

“GCC Region Manufacturer of the Year Award”  
a strong validation of Güntner’s focus on excellence

**GÜNTNER**, a global leader in refrigeration and heat exchange technology, received the “GCC Region Manufacturer of the Year” award at the prestigious Climate Control Awards, on November 27 in Dubai. The accolade recognises the company’s exceptional business performance and innovative product offerings in the GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) region throughout the year.

The Climate Control Awards, a renowned benchmarking ceremony associated with the Middle East region’s HVACR industry, has been held for 14 years, featuring a rigorous and transparent selection process. Applicants must provide detailed responses and supporting documents, which are then thoroughly reviewed by a panel of industry leaders, experts and scholars. This year, the evaluation

criteria for the GCC Region Manufacturer of the Year award were more challenging, focusing on practical problem-solving, investments in “digitalisation and inverterisation”, considerations for aftermarket operation, data application and protection, energy efficiency benefits for customers and contributions to the Circular Economy, among other factors.

Guided by the motto, “Always a solution ahead”, Güntner has taken proactive measures over the past year to address these concerns within the industry, yielding satisfactory results.

In 2024, Güntner launched **aicore™**, an advanced controller system that connects with cloud-based IoT and analytics. It not only monitors heat exchangers for preventive diagnostics but also boosts the energy efficiency of refrigeration systems. **aicore™** can adjust dry cooler operations on the fly and switch the whole refrigeration system to free cooling, where heat dissipation is solely managed by the dry cooler.

While fostering internal product innovation, the company equally emphasises collaboration with suppliers and partners, aiming to embed circular economy practices across its entire supply chain. A prime example of this commitment is its partnership with **CIRCULAR REPUBLIC**, an organisation that calls itself a pacesetter for the transformation to a circular economy.

The award acknowledges Güntner’s strong Middle East presence and solid technical foundation, testifying to its dedication to supporting advancements. Leveraging cutting-edge offerings, Güntner is poised to continue delivering unparalleled solutions and support to regional customers, ensuring their success.

For more information about Güntner, visit <https://guntner.com/>.



# aicore™

BY GÜNTNER

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Photographs: Surendar Balakrishnan, Co-Founder & Editorial Director, CPI Industry

# BIG 5 GLOBAL DUBAI MARKS 44 YEARS OF EXISTENCE

dmg::events, the organisers of the Big 5 Global Dubai 2024, say the annual meeting hub for the global construction industry in the Middle East, Africa and South Asia attracted 85,000 participants and 2,500 exhibitors from over 165 countries

**BIG 5** Global Dubai, into its 44th year, and regarded as the annual meeting hub for the global construction industry in the Middle East, Africa and South Asia, attracted 85,000 global participants and 2,500 exhibitors from over 165 countries, dmg::events, the organisers, revealed.

Supported by the UAE Ministry of

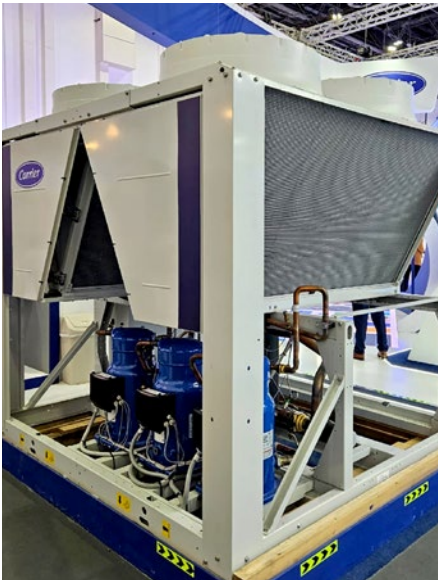
Energy and Infrastructure, Big 5 Global brought together industry stakeholders and policymakers for networking and viewing of exhibits in spaces dedicated to HVACR, marble and Stone World, and urban design and Landscape, among others.

Here, we bring to you in pictures the HVACR element of the event that was...



Team AHRI





Carrier Corporation



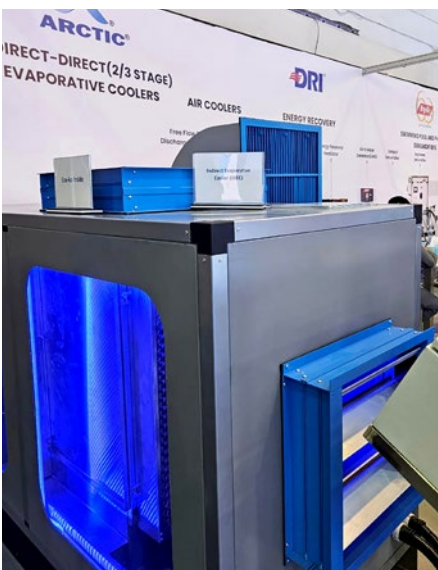
Fawaz



SKM Air Conditioning



Shakti Pumps



DRI



Rime





Blauberg Group



Euroklimat



Bradford White



Harp



Leo Pump



AUX



A musician enthralls visitors



WORLD EnC



Quantum Prime VOC Sensor





Frogen



K-Flex



Honeywell



TICA

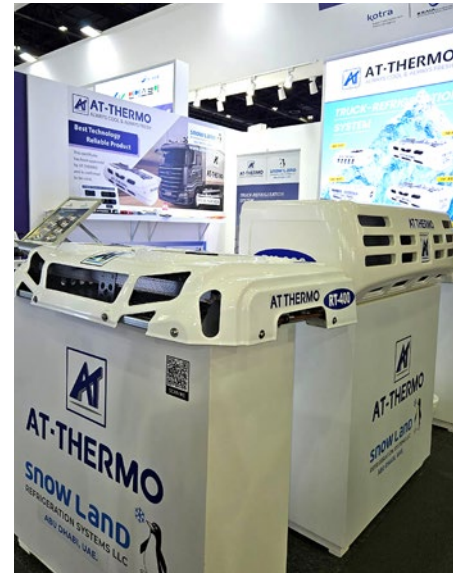




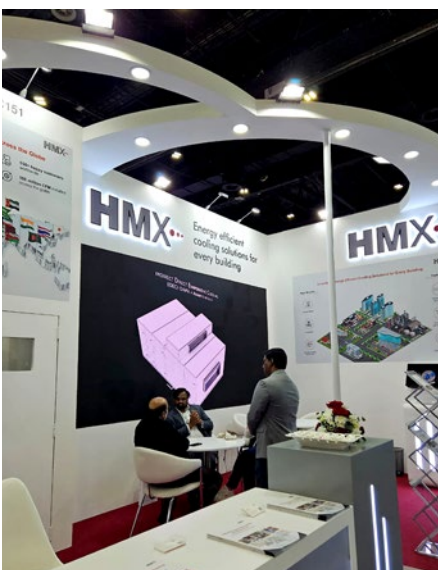
Raj



Cooler



AT-Thermo



HMX



Seeley International





Quantum CO<sub>2</sub> Sensor and other devices at the SKM stand



BAPI



Thermoguard



Dantherm Group





# RAK Energy Summit furthers global conversation on decarbonisation

Event fosters strong government commitment to advance climate action

By CCME Content Team

**R**AK Energy Summit concluded with a global conversation on sustainability, renewable energy and decarbonisation. The event, on November 27 and 28 at Al Hamra International Exhibition & Conference Center in Ras Al Khaimah, featured energy- and HVACR-related stakeholders from the region and from around the world.

The Summit, inaugurated by His Highness Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi, UAE Supreme Council Member and Ruler of Ras Al Khaimah, highlighted local and international efforts and best practices in approaching the energy transition. Speakers included H.E. Suhail Mohamed Al Mazrouei, UAE Minister of Energy and Infrastructure, who shared the federal government's perspective on energy transition, and H.E. Yousif Al Ali, CEO, Etihad Water and Electricity, who shared his vision for developing the Northern Emirates' grid.

H.E. Al Mazrouei said: "As the world strives to reach net zero by

mid-century, developing and adopting the latest sustainability practices and solutions that support the energy transition has become a top priority on the world's agenda. In its second edition, the RAK Energy Summit is growing to become a world-class platform for integrating sustainability in the energy sector. The Summit is an ideal opportunity for stakeholders to network, form partnerships and develop sustainable energy solutions that can further cement the UAE's position as a global driver of the energy transition.

"In line with the UAE's ambitious vision for the energy sector, the country works relentlessly towards improving resource efficiency with a focus on leveraging state-of-the-art smart technologies and investing in research and development to devise innovative solutions to energy and water challenges. Inter-sectoral local and international collaboration is key to achieving future energy objectives."

H.E. Al Ali said, "As we proudly stand as the lead partner for the second edition of RAK Energy Summit, under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi, we at EtihadWE are committed to leading the transition towards renewable and sustainable energy in the UAE and beyond. This summit provides an exceptional platform to showcase our pivotal projects, such as the high-efficiency Naqa'a RO Plant, Khurajjah Water Distribution Centre, the Distributed Solar System (DSS) and our groundbreaking AMI Smart Meters project. These initiatives, along with others, are at the heart of our strategy to achieve the goals of the climate neutrality strategy and enhance energy efficiency across the GCC, propelling

sustainable energy goals into the future."

The Summit featured a strong international presence, with presentations by Ahmed Ali Al-Ebrahim, Chief Executive Officer, GCC Interconnection Authority from Saudi Arabia, on regional grid integration; Lucas Boehlé, Energy Efficiency Analyst, International Energy Agency (IEA) from France, on global energy efficiency trends; and Anne Dekeukelaere, Executive Director, CWSC (Center for Worldwide Sustainable Construction) - EPFL University, Switzerland, on decarbonisation of the cement industry.

Andrea Di Gregorio, Executive Director, Energy Efficiency and Renewables Office, Ras Al Khaimah Municipality, elaborated on Ras Al Khaimah's plans for the energy transition. He announced significant upgrades to Ras Al Khaimah's energy and sustainability strategy, aimed at increasing the scope as well as the impact of interventions. Key announcements included a revised strategy with a broader focus on decarbonisation and environment protection alongside energy efficiency and renewables, and new mandates to promote accelerated intervention for the government in the fields of energy efficiency and green procurement.

Additionally, the event was an occasion for the UAE Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure to announce the winners of the 8th edition of the UAE Energy Management Awards for 2024. Abu Dhabi Distribution Company earned first place honour, while ENOC Corporate Real Estate and Al Futtaim Real Estate achieved second and third places, respectively. The award is



H.E. Yousif Al Ali



Session Chair, Razan Al Ghoussein, in conversation with H.E. Suhail Mohamed Al Mazrouei

align with the vision of RAK Energy Summit, and we are dedicated to raising awareness about sustainable material alternatives that offer a significantly lower carbon footprint and environmental benefits. Promoting awareness and market education is essential to encouraging adoption, and we look forward to showcasing the future of sustainable advertising and graphic films at this year's summit."

Ras Al Khaimah Municipality hosted the Summit with the support of Etihad Water and Electricity (EtihadWE), as Lead Partner, and of the UAE Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure, the UAE Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, the Environment Agency Abu Dhabi, the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and 15 local government entities in Ras Al Khaimah.

based on an assessment conducted by the UAE Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure and the Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM), and recognises implementation of best practices in energy management.

The Summit also marked a significant milestone with the announcement of the National Industry Sustainability Initiative, a collaborative initiative between MoEI & MoIAT. Central to the initiative was the launch of the UAE Industry Registry Platform, to support the implementation of the Federal Energy Management Regulation in Industrial Facilities. The ministerial initiative, presented by H.E. Sharif Al Olama, Undersecretary for Energy and Petroleum Affairs, UAE Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure, and H.E. Omar Ahmed Suwaina Al Suwaidi, Undersecretary, Ministry of Industry and Advanced Technology, underscores the UAE's drive to sustainability and energy efficiency in the industrial sector.

The programme also included a presentation from Environment Agency Abu Dhabi and RAKGAS, technology showcases from EDF Group and Schneider Electric, along with panel discussions on fuels and energy carriers of the future and energy-intensive industries. The event concluded with a roundtable session on sustainability in the hospitality sector, led by the Advancing Net Zero Volunteering Team.

Speaking on the event, Dharmesh Sawant, General Manager, Hisense HVAC, said: "Sustainability drives innovation at Hisense HVAC, empowering us to deliver eco-friendly,

high-performance solutions aligned with Ras Al Khaimah's vision. We proudly support RAK Energy Summit and look forward to collaborating with stakeholders to advance sustainability in future projects across the emirate."

Simon Huber, Managing Director Europe, Innovia Films, said: "We

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## Empower achieves second entry in Guinness World Records

District Cooling utility company announces earning the honour for “Largest Cooling Plant Coverage” in its Business Bay District Cooling project

By CCME Content Team

**E**MIRATES Central Cooling Systems Corporation (Empower) said it has achieved a second entry in the Guinness World Records within just two months. Making the announcement through a Press Release, Empower said the latest recognition is for the “Largest Cooling Plant Coverage (Number of Buildings)” in its Business Bay District Cooling project in Dubai. The project serves 188 buildings, including residential, commercial, hospitality and other facilities, Empower added.

The utility company said the Business Bay District Cooling project is one of the largest District Energy projects globally, with an ultimate capacity of 451,540 refrigeration tons (RT). The project includes nine District Cooling plants – four of which are currently operational and two are in the design stage – to meet the cooling demand of a total of 325 existing and upcoming buildings. Empower said it serves 188 multi-use buildings and skyscrapers across Business

Bay, Sheikh Zayed Road and the Dubai Water Canal through a single distribution pipeline network of 52.4 kilometres. The plants are equipped with advanced thermal energy storage (TES) technologies and operate using treated sewage effluent (TSE), along with other advanced and innovative technologies, it said.

The latest achievement marks the second record-breaking milestone for its Business Bay District Cooling project. Previously, the company earned recognition for the “Highest Capacity District Cooling Plant” (DCS) for the project with a total connected capacity of 241,272 RT, it said.

H.E. Ahmad Bin Shafar, CEO, Empower, said: “This certification is a global accolade for Empower, made possible by the dedication of our engineering, technical and administrative teams. We work tirelessly around the clock to deliver our services that meet the highest standards of efficiency and quality, in alignment with the vision and directives of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE, and Ruler of Dubai. We will continue to provide world-class District Cooling services, as we believe our success reflects the nation's success as a whole. We are moving forward confidently, preparing for the next 50 years and building a sustainable future, in line with the UAE Centennial 2071 goal to make the UAE the best country in the world by 2071.”

H.E. Bin Shafar emphasised that the new achievement reinforces Empower's global leadership in the District Cooling sector and reflects its commitment to innovation and sustainability in its services. He highlighted that achieving the Guinness World Records represents a pivotal milestone in the company's history and strengthens Dubai's position as a global leader in environmental protection and resource sustainability. It also celebrates Empower's pioneering role in developing and delivering sustainable District Cooling systems and services.



H.E. Ahmad Bin Shafar receives the certificate

## Phase 1 of Empower's JBH District Cooling Plant becomes operational

Company says the plant's total production capacity will reach 48,000 RT total capacity upon completion of all phases

By CCME Content Team

**E**MIRATES Central Cooling Systems Corporation (Empower) said it has commenced operations of the first phase of its new District Cooling plant in Jumeirah Beach Hills (JBH). Making the announcement through a Press Release, Empower said the plant's total production capacity will reach 48,000 refrigeration tons (RT) upon the completion of all phases, which will enable it to serve the wider Jumeirah area.

According to Empower, among the most prominent hospitality projects the plant will serve are the Burj Al Arab, Jumeirah Beach Hotel, Marsa Al Arab, Madinat Jumeirah Living and Jumeirah Al Naseem Hotel. In the future, the plant will serve other projects such as Souk Madinat Jumeirah, Jumeirah Al Qasr Hotel and Jumeirah Mina A'Salam Hotel, Empower said.

Empower pointed out that the construction of the Jumeirah Beach Hills

plant adheres to the highest international standards, aligning with sustainable green building practices and the latest urban development trends in Dubai. The architectural design of the plant has been tailored to blend seamlessly with the area's overall aesthetics and the architectural identity of its buildings, Empower highlighted.

Commenting on the launch, H.E. Ahmad Bin Shafar, CEO, Empower, affirmed the company's commitment to fulfilling its promises: "Empower continues to advance

its expansion strategy, delivering District Cooling services to major and mixed-use projects across Dubai, and strengthening Empower's leadership in the industry while offering environmentally friendly and high-quality services to its customers.

"Jumeirah is one of the most luxurious and sought-after residential and tourist areas in the UAE and worldwide. Empower has never hesitated to provide these iconic projects with world-class cooling services. This new plant aligns with the ongoing growth of the Jumeirah area, which hosts the globally renowned Burj Al Arab, Dubai's global icon of international luxurious hospitality. The recently launched plant will provide unparalleled cooling solutions to its hotels, resorts and residential buildings, reinforcing Jumeirah's status as a beacon of refinement and hospitality."



## Empower announces diamond sponsorship of District Cooling events

Utility company says it will be associating with the International District Energy Association's conferences and exhibitions for a second consecutive year in 2025

By CCME Content Team

**E**MIRATES Central Cooling Systems Corporation (Empower) announced its diamond sponsorship of the International District Energy Association's (IDEA) conferences and exhibitions in 2025 for the second consecutive year. Making the announcement through a Press Release, Empower said the sponsorship comes under its Sustainable Sponsorship Program and includes major IDEA events, such as IDEA Campus Energy 2025 and IDEA 2025.

H.E. Ahmad Bin Shafar, CEO, Empower, said: "Our continued partnership with the International

District Energy Association reflects our unwavering commitment to promoting innovation and sustainability in the District Cooling sector. By supporting these events, we aim to showcase our expertise and innovative solutions that contribute to greater resilience in urban, campus, and community energy and District Cooling systems, worldwide. This sponsorship underscores Empower's role as a strategic partner in advancing a sustainable future for the energy industry."

Rob Thornton, President, IDEA, said: "Empower has been, and continues to be, a trusted partner and strong supporter of IDEA's events. Their ongoing

commitment reflects a strategic vision and dedication to advancing more efficient and sustainable cooling systems. We are grateful for their support and look forward to their prominent contributions at the 2025 events."

Empower said the sponsorship offers it the opportunity to highlight its best practices and innovative solutions that enhance the efficiency of energy and District Cooling systems. It also serves as a platform to showcase the UAE's efforts and visionary leadership in addressing energy and climate challenges, while advancing sustainability on international platforms.



## AHRI, dmg join hands to launch HVACR exhibition in Dubai

“HVAC R World” to take place from November 24 to 27, 2025

By Surendar Balakrishnan | Editor, *Climate Control Middle East*

**A**HRI and dmg::events said they are coming together to launch HVAC R World from November 24 to 27, 2025, in Dubai. Josine Heijmans, Senior Vice President – Construction, dmg::events, announced the collaboration during



“Convening HVACR Leaders: Shaping the Future of the Industry” an event AHRI organised on December 4 in Dubai.

Heijmans said HVAC R World, in its inaugural year, would be held alongside Big 5 Global, thereby giving visitors the benefit and synergy of the existing platforms of Big 5 Global. At the same time, HVAC R World would be a unique space for HVACR industry stakeholders.

Speaking on the factors that prompted the collaboration between AHRI and dmg::events,



## ASHRAE Falcon Chapter to conduct HVAC design programme

Course to focus on sizing and energy efficiency, and psychrometrics and system design essentials, among other topics

By CCME Content Team



**T**HE ASHRAE Falcon Chapter (AFC) said it will be conducting HVAC Design: Levels I & II (MENA), a five-day training programme that it added will equip stakeholders with the essential skills and knowledge to excel in HVAC design. Level 1 will take place from January 27 to 29, 2025, while Level II will take place from January 30 to 31, 2025, AFC said. The programme will take place in Dubai, AFC added.

The programme is tailored to the design requirements of the Middle East, Africa and parts of Asia, AFC said. The courses will not only increase HVAC knowledge of stakeholders but will also accelerate the rate at which they will be able to increase their knowledge in the future, AFC said.

According to AFC, the programme will enable stakeholders to make a significant impact in their HVAC designs, in terms of sizing and energy efficiency; psychrometrics and system design essentials; controls, automation and optimisation; comprehensive System Knowledge; and system selection for sustainability.

► she said: “Your industry is playing a key role in sustainable environment, Being in the MEA region, you are at the heart of development. That also means massive opportunities for your industry. With that development, it

is becoming very important for key decision makers across the value chain. That is why AHRI and dmg decided to join hands.”

Heijmans said a further reason is the fact that a large number of new AHRI members are establishing

factories in the region.

She said that through HVAC R World, AHRI and dmg do not want to be just an exhibitor but that would like to foster conversations at a more strategic level and also at a practical level.



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## Daikin celebrates 100th anniversary

Company hosts '100 Years of Innovating Tomorrow's Comfort' conference at Dubai's Museum of the Future to mark the occasion

By CCME Content Team

**D**AIKIN celebrated its 100th anniversary in Dubai with a conference at the Museum of the Future, followed by a drone show at the Palm Jumeirah.

Making the announcement through a Press Release, Daikin said the event highlighted a century of groundbreaking technological innovations. The conference, titled '100 Years of Innovating Tomorrow's Comfort', hosted speakers and panelists who discussed the company's innovations,

as it embarks on the next 100 years, Daikin said. The evening culminated in a 10-minute drone show over Dubai's skyline, with the Daikin logo illuminating the night sky.

Daikin said the event highlighted its commitment to innovation, showcasing its pivotal role in supporting sustainable growth across the MEA region. Discussions focused on the company's contributions to regional infrastructure, and energy-efficient solutions for sectors like food security, urban development



At Dubai's Museum of the Future

and data centre cooling, Daikin said. The event explored emerging trends, such as consumer demand for greener products, customer-centric strategies and the role of AI in enhancing operational efficiency, it added.

Hasan Onder, President, Daikin Türkiye and Daikin Middle East and Africa, said, "As Daikin marks 100 years of innovation, we celebrate our journey of advancing HVAC-R solutions that have transformed the way people live and work around the world. Our legacy is built on a commitment to sustainability and technological leadership, and we continue to lead the change in providing energy-efficient, environmentally friendly solutions. Looking ahead, we remain dedicated to creating healthier, more comfortable spaces for communities across the globe, while driving further progress in the industry."

Tuna Gulenc, Regional Vice President of Daikin Middle East & Africa, said: "Daikin has achieved a remarkable growth and market leadership particularly in the Middle East and Africa region through a strong commitment to innovation and energy-efficient solutions. By embracing local citizenship and adapting to the unique cultural and environmental needs, we at Daikin ensure that our solutions and products are finely tuned to the specific demands of each region. As we mark this extraordinary milestone, we remain focused on shaping Daikin's next century of advancing sustainable solutions and innovating products. Looking ahead, we will continue to collaborate with regional partners to support economic growth and knowledge transfer and ensure healthier and more comfortable environments through our efforts."



The Daikin drone show



L-R: Tuna Gulenc and Hasan Onder

## Sobha Realty scores 91 in ESG performance assessment exercise

Real estate company says it has reached new heights in 2024 GRESB assessment

By CCME Content Team

**S**OBHA Realty said it has achieved a score of 91 in the 2024 Annual GRESB Assessment, marking a significant improvement from its 2023 score of 72. Making the announcement through a Press Release, Sobha said the achievement highlights its steadfast commitment to Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) pillars, strengthened by its second consecutive year of voluntary participation in the GRESB ESG benchmarking. The company said the advancement positions it among the top four per cent of global entities striving for excellence in

ESG performance and sustainability leadership.

GRESB, Sobha said, is an independent organisation providing validated ESG performance data and peer benchmarks, enhancing industry-wide engagement, decision-making and business intelligence.

Sobha said that in the 2024 GRESB Development Benchmarking Assessment, it outperformed global and peer averages, attaining an exceptional development score of 65 out of 70. Sobha said that it ranked ninth among its peer group of 23 participants from

over 14 countries, including Australia, Europe (as a collective), United Kingdom and the United States.

Francis Alfred, Managing Director, Sobha Realty, said: “Our significant progress in the GRESB Assessment exemplifies Sobha Realty’s dedication to sustainability and climate leadership. By centring our ESG goals on sustainable developments, we create meaningful and positive impact, especially in environmental sustainability. Our ambition is to set new standards for sustainable development that benefits our communities, stakeholders and the planet.”

Sobha said the success it encountered with the GRESB Assessment exemplifies its leadership in sustainability and further reinforces its commitment to UAE’s vision for a sustainable future, such as the UAE Net Zero by 2050 strategic initiative, UAE circular economy policy and UAE’s Green Agenda. Over the past years, Sobha said, it has continuously pioneered high-quality climate reporting with its three comprehensive ESG reports and two Greenhouse Gas (GHG) assessments, which form the basis of its systematic emissions reduction strategy, further supporting the UAE’s climate goals.

Moreover, the company said, its Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) report provides valuable insights into climate change impacts, outlining robust governance and risk management strategies for a sustainable future.



## GCC Lab to establish testing facility for HVAC equipment

The HVAC lab, a collaborative initiative with AHRI, will serve the needs of manufacturers, installers and building owners

By Surendar Balakrishnan | Editor, Climate Control Middle East

**G**CC Lab announced plans of establishing a 1,500-square-foot HVAC lab in Dammam, Saudi Arabia, dedicated to testing HVAC equipment. Khalaf Masaeed, Chief Business Development Officer, GCC Lab, said the lab, a collaborative

initiative with AHRI, will serve the needs of manufacturers, installers and building owners. The lab is expected to have a positive impact on costs and time efficiency, significantly enhancing research and development capabilities in the region, Masaeed said.

GCC Lab made the announcement during the annual “Convening HVACR Leaders: Shaping the Future of the Industry” event that AHRI organised on December 4 in Dubai. The lab is scheduled for commissioning in May 2025.

Nabil Shahin, Managing Director, AHRI MENA, said the lab would not just undertake testing and certification but also surveillance. “If we don’t do surveillance and certification,” he said, “products that fail to meet quality and minimum energy performance standards will enter the market.”



## Eurovent Middle East, AMCA to conduct Middle East Industry Congress: 'HVACR Next Generation'

Riyadh event will focus on sustainability in extreme conditions, Eurovent Middle East says

By CCME Content Team

**E**UROVENT Middle East said it is joining hands with AMCA International in organising the second edition of the Middle East Industry Congress, titled HVACR Next Generation, on April 29 at the InterContinental Durrat Al Riyadh, in Riyadh. Making the announcement through a Press Release, Eurovent Middle East said the event will focus on sustainability in extreme conditions.

Sustainability, energy efficiency, the pending refrigerant transition as well as Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) are among the most pressing issues of our times, Eurovent Middle East said. In view of rising temperatures in a region which already faces extreme environmental conditions, the HVACR industry stands front and centre in the fight to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while providing affordable ventilation,

cooling and refrigeration solutions for the benefit of all, Eurovent Middle East said. Regular exchange among the industry, and between industry and government, is key to driving awareness and understanding for the needs and challenges, and for making use of the opportunities arising from the latest technical advancements, the organisation said.

Eurovent Middle East said the event follows the “resounding success” of its first edition in Dubai, in 2022. The Congress is once again supported by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and will gather high-level government representatives and industry executives from within the region, Eurovent Middle East said.

Andrea Cavalet, President, Eurovent Middle East, said: “The 2nd ‘HVACR Next Generation’ Congress will gather high-

level representatives from government, industry and other stakeholders to discuss and showcase the latest developments set to shape a sustainable pathway into the future of cooling. The event will set a new benchmark in addressing the most essential issues we are confronted with to achieve the region’s sustainability targets.”

Ed Rizk, President, AMCA International, added: “We strongly believe that attending this conference will provide all our members, Government, building and HVACR industry executives, investors, developers, planners, consultants and academia with an opportunity to gain insights and learn from the best in the field, while providing opportunities to network with other professionals who are passionate about HVACR and sustainability.”



## Rheem's ducted inverter AC units win innovation award

*Company says the units, designed to withstand high-ambient temperatures in the region, comply fully with all GCC region standards*

By CCME Content Team

**R**HEEM MEA said it has received the 'Sustainable HVAC Product of the Year' award at the Sustainability Innovation Awards 2024 for its range of ducted inverter air conditioning units. Making the announcement through a Press Release, Rheem MEA said the Sustainability Innovation Awards exercise shines a spotlight on outstanding achievements in sustainability across the Middle East. The event recognises pioneering projects that are driving the region towards a greener future, Rheem MEA said.

Rheem MEA said the units use advanced inverter compressors, which offer significantly higher efficiency than traditional on/off air conditioners. This results in a reduced operational carbon footprint, Rheem MEA added.

Additionally, Rheem MEA said, multiple protective sensors across the refrigeration system continuously monitor key parameters, ensuring reliable and efficient performance under various conditions. Designed to withstand high-ambient temperatures in the region, the units comply fully with all GCC region standards, Rheem MEA added.

The units are also equipped with smart Wi-Fi controls, which allow the user to easily manage and schedule the unit's operation remotely while tracking its energy usage, Rheem MEA said.

Brian Hempenstall, VP and GM, Rheem MEA, said: "We are honoured to receive the 'Sustainable HVAC Product of the Year' for our ducted inverter air conditioning units at the Sustainability Innovation Awards 2024. Innovation has always been integral to what we do as a company, particularly when it comes to improving our environmental impact. From our stringent sustainability assurance processes to our ambitious green targets, we remain committed to designing, developing and delivering premium HVAC products that are built with both efficiency and reliability in mind."



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# Hisense in global 'Lighthouse Factory List'

Company says it is the first time ever that a VRF manufacturer has received the global honour

By CCME Content Team

**H**ISENSE said the World Economic Forum (WEF) on October 8 officially announced that the Hisense Qingdao Factory has been selected for the global 'Lighthouse Factory' list. Making the announcement through a December 4 Press Release, Hisense said it is the first time ever that a VRF industry representative has received the global honour pertaining to the manufacturing sector.

According to Hisense, by introducing advanced 4IR (the 4th Industrial Revolution) technologies and concepts, the Hisense Qingdao Factory has realised the leap upgrade on agile R&D, flexible production and agile delivery. Over 40 advanced manufacturing scenarii have been created here, with more than 20 technologies being industry firsts, increasing product development speed by 37%, improved labour productivity by 49%, and reduced production costs by 35%, Hisense said.

Based on machine vision guidance, AI algorithms and equipment interconnection, Hisense said, it has overcome 20+ automation challenges in the industry, establishing the industry's first dark production workshop for heat exchangers, introduced adaptive welding automation and multi-stage integrated automation and implemented unmanned

packaging. In the automated welding process, Hisense said, it has pioneered multi-spot welding, non-uniform heating, high-precision visual guidance and parameter compensation solutions, achieving a 63% increase in labour efficiency and a 57% reduction in welding defects. And in the logistics segment, Hisense said, it has creatively introduced the overhead crane into the VRF industry to enhance logistics quality and efficiency.

The advancement of Hisense factory lies not only in manufacturing, the company said. With the goal of intelligence and efficiency, its supply chain built an AI-driven end-to-end intelligent decision-making and agile delivery operation system, it said. Using AR and VR technology, Hisense has made employees' learning more intuitive, greatly improved the training efficiency and enhanced employee skill levels, the company claimed. In order to enhance the operational efficiency, Hisense said, it has established a KPI-driven digital twin operation platform, achieving real-time transparent management of KPIs, developing comprehensive alert perception and automated tracking capabilities. And through IoT technology, Hisense said, it has successfully achieved digital energy management and accurate control of

energy consumption. Moreover, by implementing energy-saving technology for high energy consumption equipment, the factory achieved AI intelligent control for production and testing equipment and reduced the unit energy consumption by 38%, Hisense said.

Kiva Allgood, the head of the WEF Centre for Advanced Manufacturing and Supply Chains, said: "The lighthouse factories are improving the standards of the digital transformation. These advanced technologies are not only to improve the production efficiency of the company but also to create an inclusive and sustainable future for employees and society."

Hisense said winning the honour of the world's first VRF lighthouse factory is not only an indication of the successful practice of Hisense's digital transformation strategy, but is also a reflection of the firm commitment to technology and quality. In the future, Hisense said, it will continuously improve its manufacturing level, establishing a digital model for the development of the HVAC industry, and contributing Hisense's strength to promote the prosperity of the global manufacturing industry.

Dharmesh Sawant, GM of Hisense HVAC, UAE Branch, said: "At Hisense HVAC, our team always strives to add value in the design of HVAC system of our customers' homes with not only product innovations but also with design and aftersales process innovation. With this, we are aligned to make Hisense HVAC as the most reliable brand, globally. In design, we always find ways to add redundancy factor, reduce the operating power consumption and lower life cycle cost. Through product innovations, we address some challenges of customers with features like humidity control/setting, demand control, self-cleaning function, high EER and IOT-based controllers. With aftersales process, we are always carefully monitoring the installation process, commissioning and start up with the help of our distributors, authorised service providers and authorised installers."



# Frascold joins the European InterHeat Project on heat pumps

## Manufacturer of semi-hermetic compressors says the project demonstrates high-temperature heat pumps at different integration levels

By CCME Content Team

**F**RASCOLD said it has joined the European InterHeat project, an initiative led by the Danish Technological Institute (DTI) that demonstrates high-temperature heat pumps at different integration levels. Making the announcement through a Press Release, Frascold said the initiative aims to showcase the effectiveness of ultra-high-temperature heat pumps in cutting-edge industrial applications, advancing energy efficiency and decarbonising production processes.

Frascold said it has supplied two compact CX ATEX screw semi-hermetic compressors, capable of operating at over 100 degrees C. Designed to meet the most advanced requirements, the compressors are ideal for the food, pharmaceutical and industrial sectors, where high temperatures are essential for generating steam and enabling sterilisation or drying processes.

Marco Perri, R&D Manager, Frascold, said: "Frascold sees the InterHeat project as an opportunity to accelerate the adoption of more sustainable and efficient technologies in the industrial sector. Our strong commitment to innovation is evident in our development of high-performance compressors and experimentation with low-impact refrigerants. Our goal is to offer solutions that address every challenge while improving the overall efficiency of processes, as demonstrated by this project, which aims to establish industrial heat pumps as a viable alternative in energy-intensive applications."

According to Frascold, the high-temperature heat pump is currently undergoing testing at DTI's laboratory to assess its capability to deliver pressurised water at production temperatures between 150 degrees C and 160 degrees C. Upon successful testing, the heat pump will be integrated

into a drying process at a factory producing powdered proteins, Frascold said. The system, the company said, features a dual-stage cascade setup, with each stage equipped with its semi-hermetic compressors, specifically designed for high-temperature applications – up to 170 degrees C – using hydrocarbons such as isobutane and isopentane.



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# Epta announces positive results from the installation of its refrigeration system

Commercial refrigeration manufacturer says its installation of its XTE system in Hungary hypermarket has yielded an average measured savings of 15% up to ambient temperatures of 42 degrees C

By CCME Content Team

**E**PTA said it is celebrating the positive results achieved at the Auchan Korzó hypermarket, in Maglód, Hungary, in the months following the installation of its XTE (Extra Transcritical Efficiency) refrigeration system, in collaboration with Energy Recovery Inc. Making the announcement through a Press Release, Epta said the XTE, which is patented with IT granted application IT202200020811, is set to revolutionise the cold chain in the large-scale retail sector.

According to Epta, the store features a customised transcritical CO2 system, consisting of two modular ECO2Large units for large spaces, one of which is integrated with the XTE system, thus featuring enhanced refrigeration capacity, and reaching a total of 285 kW.

Stefano Trabucchi, Epta System Engineering Group Manager, said: "The data collected and analysed over a



significant range of operating conditions, accounting for various seasonal outdoor temperatures, showed performance beyond expectations, with an average measured savings of 15% with the XTE system in operation, up to ambient temperatures of 42 degrees C. This achievement is the result of continuous Research and Development efforts aimed at making the technology increasingly cutting-edge, beginning with the optimisation and standardisation of the refrigeration circuit."

According to Epta, the installation in Maglód represents one of the first applied studies of XTE, carried out as part of the European project, ENOUGH, of which Epta is one of the supporters participating to demonstrate of new technologies. Funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 programme and coordinated by SINTEF Ocean in Norway, the plan aims to decarbonise technologies for large-scale distribution and make the cold chain climate-neutral and more efficient, Epta said.

Specifically, the Hungarian site demonstrates the feasibility and field performance of XTE, with an assessment of the system in operation, Epta said, adding that the integration of the Energy Recovery's PX G1300 pressure exchanger, suitable for use with CO2, has proven to be effective, even at an operational level, for recovering expansion work and reducing the energy consumption of the system.



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## AHRI presents awards

### Names 2025 Leadership at its 2024 Leadership Forum

By CCME Content Team

**A**HRI at its 2024 Leadership Forum in Palm Springs, California, recognised several HVACR industry leaders for their contributions to the HVACR and water heating industry, and also named its 2025 leadership.

AHRI presented awards in three categories: The Richard C Schulze Award, which recognises the industry-wide achievements of individuals also pursuing AHRI goals; the AHRI Public Service Award, for deserving individuals or organisations making a significant contribution to the HVACR industry and in furthering AHRI goals; and the AHRI Distinguished Service Award, the association's highest honour, recognising industry leaders who

have made considerable contributions throughout their careers.

AHRI said the Richard C Schulze Award winners include Robert Glass, Daikin Comfort Technologies North America; Josh Greene, A.O. Smith Corporation; Darcy Lee, Trane Technologies; and Eric Truskoski, Bradford White Corporation.

The Public Service Award went to Joel Owen, who recently retired from Alabama Power after spending more than 50 years actively involved in the HVACR industry, AHRI said.

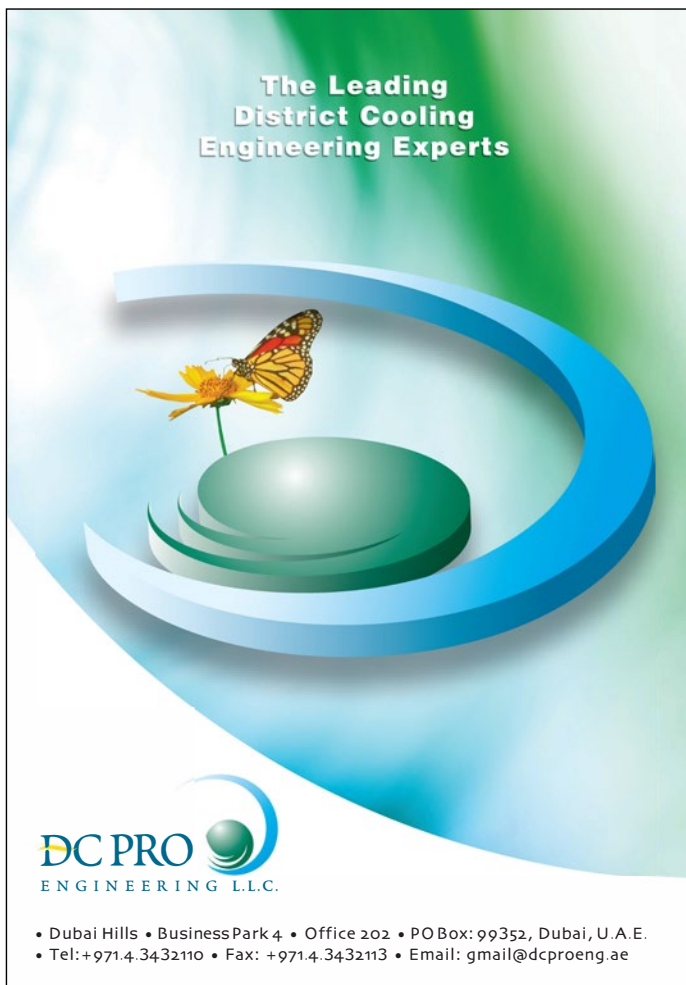
The Distinguished Service Awards, AHRI said, went to Morrison Carter, Beckett Thermal Solutions and William Rafferty, Mestek, who are well-known

industry leaders for their contributions.

AHRI said its Nominating Committee also named the association's Officer and Board of Directors for 2025.

The Officers are Megan Fellingner, Chairperson, Morrison Products; Mike Branson, Vice Chairperson, Rheem Manufacturing Company; R Bruce Carnevale, Vice Chairperson, Bradford White Corporation; Kevin Beckett, Treasurer, R.W. Beckett; and Gary Bedard, Immediate Past Chairman, Lennox International.

The Board of Directors are Dennis Appel, Danfoss, David Budzinski, Johnson Controls, Inc.; Tim Figge, Hussman Corporation; John Kramer, Cambridge Air Solutions; Gaurang Pandya, Carrier Corporation; Holly Paeper, Trane Technologies; John Schneider, Copeland; Steve Shafer, A.O. Smith Corporation; John Thomas, WaterFurnace International; and Yogi Uemura, Daikin U.S. Corporation.



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## JCI announces quarterly dividend

### BoD approves a regular quarterly dividend of USD 0.37

By CCME Content Team

**T**HE board of directors of Johnson Controls International (JCI) has approved a regular quarterly dividend of USD 0.37 per share of common stock, payable on January 17, 2025 to shareholders of record at the close of business on December 23, 2024. Johnson Controls said it has paid a consecutive dividend since 1887.





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- Lead generation through active networking and introduction to new customers.
- Manage and collaborate closely with the team of application engineers to achieve sales targets.
- Provide technical expertise and support to clients
- Keep up-to-date with industry trends and competitor products to stay ahead in the market.

### Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering
- 5-7 years of experience in sales engineering within the HVAC industry within the UAE.
- Fluent in English.
- Sales and networking skills
- Strong knowledge of HVAC equipment, including Chillers, VRF, AHUs, Rooftop Units, Splits, etc. ( compulsory )
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Proven track record of meeting or exceeding sales targets.
- Preferable connections with key stakeholders in the UAE market

## SALES MANAGER (DUBAI)

### Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering
- 5+ years of experience in sales engineering within the HVAC industry within the UAE.
- Fluent in English. Work history: HVAC (with direct or indirect contact with fans motors).
- Sales and networking skills
- Strong knowledge of HVAC equipment, motors & Fans (compulsory)
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Proven track record of meeting or exceeding sales targets.
- Preferable connections with key stakeholders in the UAE market

## SALES MANAGERS

2 POSITIONS (DUBAI & ABU DHABI)

### Key Responsibilities:

- Develop and maintain relationships with distributors, clients, contractors, and key stakeholders in the UAE.
- Promote and sell our range of HVAC products, including Chillers, VRF, AHUs, Rooftop Units, Splits, and related equipment.
- Lead generation through active networking and introduction to new customers.
- Manage and collaborate closely with the team of application engineers to achieve sales targets.
- Provide technical expertise and support to clients
- Keep up-to-date with industry trends and competitor products to stay ahead in the market.

### Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering
- 7- 12 years of experience in sales engineering within the HVAC industry within the UAE.
- Fluent in English.
- Sales and networking skills
- Strong knowledge of HVAC equipment, including Chillers, VRF, AHUs, Rooftop Units, Splits, etc. ( compulsory )
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Proven track record of meeting or exceeding sales targets.
- Preferable connections with key stakeholders in the UAE market

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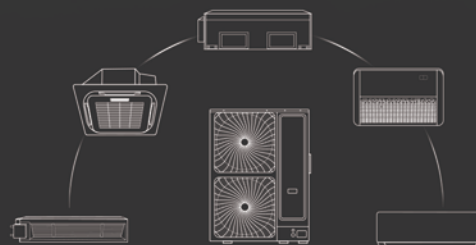


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