



NEWS RELEASE

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LINC SERVICES HELPS HCDE CUT ENERGY COSTS

Harris County Department of Education Will See \$5.4 Million in Savings

HOUSTON – March 25, 2009 – Linc Services is implementing a bundled energy solutions project for the Harris County Department of Education (HCDE) that will save \$5.4 million over the next 10 years.

The project, which was presented to the HCDE Board of Education in December and began in January, will reduce energy consumption in nine buildings. The scope of work covers the installation of new HVAC units, centralized control systems, and high efficiency lighting, as well as water savings technology and solar energy solutions. Linc will also provide the necessary energy reduction to help the HCDE comply with State House Bill #3693.

The program also includes monitoring, recording, and posting utility consumption on a customized web site. During the 10-year life of the project, the HCDE will save more than 36% on their existing utility budget and more than 29% on the HVAC operating budget. The upgrades are being financed through the existing operating budget, thus eliminating the need for new taxpayer funds.

“We are very excited to be providing this self-funding program for the Harris County Department of Education,” said Linc Services Senior Vice President Doug Smyers.

“Since the project pays for itself using the existing operating budget, there are no additional costs to the taxpayers and no risks to the HCDE. This program is a win-win for everyone!”

Prior to starting the project, Linc’s energy experts surveyed HCDE buildings to analyze existing HVAC, controls, lighting, and water equipment. They also collected utility bills and compiled operating costs to compare them with national benchmarks. This process enabled Linc to present the HCDE with a comprehensive energy program, which will ensure that the savings can pay for the infrastructure improvements.

“Going green is an objective toward which all schools are striving, and now we’ve put a project in place that will help us achieve that goal,” said Les Hooper, executive director of facilities support services for Harris County. “The age of the equipment in our facilities was not allowing for peak operational efficiency, so we’re looking forward to the energy and operational savings that Linc will provide with newer systems.”

Linc Services also plans to help the Harris County Department of Education achieve certification from ENERGY STAR, a joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy that works to protect the environment through energy efficient products and practices. The ENERGY STAR program scores the energy performance of commercial and industrial facilities on a 1-100 scale, with those facilities achieving a score of 75 or higher being eligible for the ENERGY STAR distinction. Widely considered as the national symbol for energy efficiency in America, earning ENERGY STAR certification means that a building is among the top 25% of facilities in the country for energy performance.

“The ENERGY STAR certification will distinguish the Harris County Department of Education as an energy-conscious school system,” said Linc VP of Bundled Energy Solutions Bill Maurer. “By decreasing its utility costs and showing greater environmental awareness, the HCDE is doing its part to go green.”

Based in Houston, Linc Services, LLC is a member of the Linc Service® Network, a growing organization of mechanical contractors with more than 145 members across the United States, Canada, Bermuda, and Mexico.

As a Linc Service® Contractor, Linc Services follows the disciplines of the Linc System® in delivering preventive maintenance – as well as heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) service and bundled energy solutions – to the commercial market. Bundled Energy Solutions (BES) refers to a comprehensive package of energy conservation services, provided by Linc, which maximizes facilities' energy efficiency while lowering their cost of operations.

“In today’s economy, public schools are facing many challenges to operating their facilities,” said Linc Network, LLC President & CEO Scott Giacobbe. “This project shows how Linc can help customers in the education market save money and improve comfort for students and faculty. Our solutions are very green and environmentally friendly as well.”

Founded in 1979, the Linc Service Network provides energy solutions to commercial building owners worldwide. For more information, visit Linc’s Web site at www.lincservice.com. Linc Network, LLC, is part of The Linc Group (TLG), one of the nation’s most successful, single source providers of high-value facilities management and building system services. TLG maintains its corporate office in Irvine, Calif. Collectively, TLG companies service more than 20,000 facilities in 45 states and 15 international markets through a professional workforce totaling more than 4,100 employees. For more information about TLG and its companies, visit www.thelincgroup.com.

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