#### August 2014

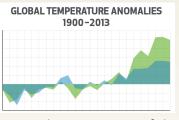
### In This Issue

DOE Invests \$14M in Building Efficiency Projects Cooling Systems: A Mid-Summer Checkup



Cumulative investment in commercial building energyefficiency retrofits will total \$959 billion from 2014 through 2023, according to a recent report from <u>Navigant Research</u>.

Record Breaking Temperature Highs: Hottest June in Recorded History



View a larger version of this graph, <u>here</u>.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration report global temperatures are hitting record highs this year, compared to records dating back to 1880. Not only was June the world's hottest June on record, but June's ocean

#### Greetings,

2014 is heating up, as June was recently declared the world's hottest June in recorded history and January through June tied for third place as the hottest such period on record. What are you doing to keep cool?

HOT TOPICS & COOL SOLUTIONS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM YOUR LINC SERVICE® CONTRACTOR

This month's newsletter teaches you how to perform a mid-summer checkup on your company's cooling systems and how to save money on HVAC costs. Call <u>Air Temp Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.</u> today to learn other adjustments you can make to stay cool.

## DOE Invests \$14M in Building Efficiency Projects

The U.S. Department of Energy is set to fund up to \$14 million to support energy-efficient solutions for buildings and homes. These projects will help building managers and homeowners reduce energy demand, save money, and accelerate the deployment of clean energy technologies.

Seven incubator projects will be funded with nearly \$6 million to improve heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC), water heating, sensors and controls, and building energy modeling. Additionally, eight frontier projects will receive \$8 million to address energy efficiency in advanced clothes dryers, windows, and building thermal insulation. Frontier projects seek to improve the efficiency of existing technologies by incorporating new, innovative materials or components.

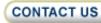
"Investments in advanced energy-efficient technologies will help families and businesses reduce energy costs, while reducing carbon emissions," said Kathleen Hogan, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency. "These innovative approaches will improve smart-building technologies, including lighting, lighting controls, highly insulated walls and windows, as well as temperature departure from average is also the highest for any month on record.

<u>Click here</u> to read more.



QUESTION: How can I lower energy and operating costs of HVAC equipment?

**ANSWER:** Equipment age and proper maintenance are important factors of energyefficiency in HVAC systems. Proper maintenance can provide energy savings of 10 to 30 percent, while you should consider replacing HVAC systems more than 14 years old. Depending on the current condition of your system, investing in new, improved HVAC technology can be a worthwhile investment that will pay for itself in maintenance and energy cost savings for years to come.



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increase efficiency measures that complement a building's entire energy management system."

For the full list of projects selected for funding, read the complete announcement <u>here</u>.

# Cooling Systems: A Mid-Summer Checkup

Cooling accounts for nearly 15 percent of annual electrical use in commercial buildings. In summer, increased consumption for cooling can add considerably to



peak demand charges. While an annual inspection and cleaning of your cooling system is important at the beginning of the season, proper operation and maintenance is critical in optimizing performance. The following checklist will help to ensure that your system operates at peak efficiency all summer long:

- Check time and temperature settings on programmable thermostats or energy-management controls and adjust to current cooling needs and occupancy schedules.
- Determine if window treatments are being used correctly to block out solar heat gain, especially in areas with varying occupancy.
- Ensure that air filters are checked monthly and replace if necessary.
- Check for unusual compressor operation, including continuous running or frequent stopping and starting.
- Look for evidence of mold and mildew. Indoor humidity levels of 70% percent and higher, combined with temperatures above 70°F, provide an ideal environment for the growth of mold.

Always follow manufacturer's recommendations regarding proper maintenance and operation. This article previously appeared in the <u>Duke Energy -</u> <u>Energy Today</u> newsletter and is used with permission.

