



## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Architecture Students at Ball State University Learn How Green Design Affects the Environment and the Economy** *Trane Leader Shares Industry Insights on Today's "Green" Careers*

**Muncie, Ind., Sept. 23, 2009** — Architecture students at Ball State University will learn how designing and building green impacts both the environment and a business' bottom line as Dave Sommer, business leader for the Trane commercial business in Indiana, discusses energy efficient technologies for buildings.

Green building starts at the design board, putting today's architecture students at the front line in creating environmentally responsible buildings.

"Green buildings are becoming more and more coveted in today's environment," said Sommer. "Not only do they save businesses money on energy and operating costs, but they are responsible to the environment and to building inhabitants. In hospitals, healing environments are enhanced; in schools, student test scores and attendance are improved; and in offices, productivity is increased."

Sommer will present twice on Sept. 25 in room 101 of the Architecture Building, from 9 – 9:50 a.m. and again from 10 – 10:50 a.m. He will give students an overview of:

- Energy-efficient technologies available today
- Benefits of green buildings
- Case studies/ examples of how green technologies are currently being used
- Careers that bring green building from conception to reality

While on campus, Sommer will meet with faculty and students to discuss the issues important to them such as the future of the HVAC industry, green building and energy efficiency and the job opportunities that impact these issues. Even in today's challenging economy, the need for these "green" jobs continues to grow.

#### **About Sommer**

Sommer is responsible for providing building owners and their influencers with energy efficient heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems and services. He has delivered economically and environmentally responsible solutions to colleges and universities, K-12 schools, industrials and other businesses throughout the state. He leads 150 sales, service and parts associates in delivering premier customer service.

Sommer is active in Indiana with industry associations including the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), Buildings Owners Management Association, Association of Heating and Refrigeration Engineers (ASHRAE) and ACE. Sommer earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and has a LEED accredited professional designation from the USGBC.

**About Engineering Better Careers, Engineering Better Environments.**

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Through the “Engineering Better Careers. Engineering Better Environments.” program, Trane senior executives collaborate with faculty and administrators to inspire the next generation of HVAC engineers. Trane executives visit campuses in person to share information and insights with students about real world engineering and business issues and the impact that engineering students can have today.

Along with these visits, Trane supports students and faculty by enriching engineering curriculum and creating clubs that encourage hands-on and experiential learning. Trane often offers software and lab equipment at a low and reduced cost; guides classroom curriculum, student projects and clubs; sponsors field trips to sales and manufacturing locations; and offers student internships.

### **About Ball State University**

Ball State University is a state-assisted doctoral institution located in Muncie, Indiana, a mid-sized Midwestern city one hour northeast of Indianapolis. The dynamic residential campus is home to 20,000 undergraduate and graduate students from across the country and abroad. Ball State University's nationally recognized academic programs, immersive learning experiences, innovative technology, expert faculty and supportive campus environment prepares students for professional careers and leadership roles in many specialized fields. The university's numerous community projects throughout the state help to spur economic development and advance the quality of life in Indiana.

### **About Trane**

Trane, a business of Ingersoll Rand - the world leader in creating and sustaining safe, comfortable and energy efficient environments - improves the performance of homes and buildings around the world. Trane solutions optimize indoor environments with a broad portfolio of energy efficient heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems, building and contracting services, parts support and advanced controls for homes and commercial buildings. For more information, visit [www.Trane.com](http://www.Trane.com).

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