



Press Coverage

Launch Announcement: DOE Hospital Energy Alliance

April 29, 2009, National Building Museum, Washington, D.C.

HIGHLIGHTS



“Hospitals are among the nation’s most complex and energy-intensive facilities. The Hospital Energy Alliance was created to spur energy efficiency and lower costs in the healthcare sector by accelerating the adoption of high-performance technologies while preserving or enhancing healthcare delivery. Under the new alliance, hospitals and organizations will have access to the resources and technical expertise available at DOE and its national laboratories to develop and deploy innovative solutions to cut costs, lower energy usage, and reduce pollution across the country.”

—Richard F. Moorer, Associate Undersecretary of Energy, U.S. Department of Energy



American Hospital Association

“The AHA welcomes the U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) launch of the Hospital Energy Alliance (HEA), with its goal of achieving energy savings while preserving and enhancing healthcare delivery. ... America’s hospitals stand ready to help lead this public/private partnership. The HEA will bring together hospital leaders and provide important insights into how to improve energy conservation while maintaining quality care for patients. Hospitals understand that building an environmentally sustainable future is important.

“We look forward to working with hospitals, others committed to this effort, and the DOE on next steps.”

—Rich Umbdenstock, President and CEO, American Hospital Association



“We’ve already been creating, with some of our private-sector association partners, a series of advanced energy design guides, and one is under way right now for smaller healthcare, and we’re working on one for larger healthcare—working directly with some of the hospitals again to make sure that we are accurately portraying their energy use now and giving them a way to do 30 percent energy reduction.”

—Dru Crawley, Commercial Building Team Lead,
U.S. Department of Energy’s Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

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- *Fierce Healthcare*, “Coalition forms to promote energy efficiency in hospitals”: <http://www.fiercehealthcare.com/story/coalition-forms-promote-energy-efficiency-hospitals/2009-05-01>
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COVERAGE (Continued)

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** UPI story pickup

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY ANNOUNCES THE LAUNCH OF THE HOSPITAL ENERGY ALLIANCE TO INCREASE ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN THE HEALTHCARE SECTOR

The following information was released by the Department of Energy:

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced today the launch of the Hospital Energy Alliance (HEA), an industry-led partnership between DOE and national healthcare sector leaders to promote the integration of advanced energy efficiency and renewable technologies in hospital design, construction, retrofit, operations, and maintenance.

DOE's Richard F. Moorer joined American Hospital Association President and Chief Executive Officer Richard J. Umbdenstock and other national industry and association leaders at the Alliance's first Executive Roundtable on Energy Efficiency and Sustainability at the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C., to discuss strategies to dramatically reduce the sector's energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.

"Hospitals are among the nation's most complex and energy-intensive facilities," Moorer said. "The Hospital Energy Alliance was created to spur energy efficiency and lower costs in the healthcare sector by accelerating the adoption of high-performance technologies while preserving or enhancing healthcare delivery. Under the new alliance, hospitals and healthcare organizations will have access to the resources and technical expertise available at DOE and its national laboratories to develop and deploy innovative solutions to cut costs, lower energy usage, and reduce pollution across the country."

Hospitals use 836 trillion BTUs of energy annually and have more than 2.5 times the energy intensity and carbon dioxide emissions of commercial office buildings, producing more than 30 pounds of CO₂ emissions per square foot. Reducing the energy intensity of this sector will decrease its carbon footprint and also alleviate stress on America's electric power infrastructure. Additionally, new energy efficiency strategies hold the promise of reduced costs for the sector, as U.S. hospitals spend more than \$5 billion annually on energy, often equaling 1 to 3 percent of a typical hospital's operating budget, or an estimated 15 percent of profits.

HEA is the third energy alliance launched by DOE as part of its Net-Zero Commercial Building Initiative. In 2008, the Department also joined with large retail stores to form the Retailer Energy Alliance, and in April 2009, DOE joined with commercial real estate companies to introduce the Commercial Real Estate Energy Alliance (CREEA).

The energy alliances are designed to connect building owners and operators with research, advanced technologies, and analytical tools emerging from DOE and its national laboratories. They serve as forums for creating and sharing evidence-based strategies and best practices, thus ensuring greater consistency in energy-efficiency program design and delivery. Each alliance's collective buying power will also encourage the production of more energy-efficient equipment by providing manufacturers greater clarity on the business needs for that sector.

DOE's Net-Zero Energy Commercial Building Initiative (CBI) aims to achieve market-ready, zero-energy commercial buildings by 2025. CBI was mandated by the Energy Independence and Security Act (EISA 2007), which authorizes the Department to collaborate with the private sector, DOE's national laboratories, other federal agencies, and nongovernmental organizations to advance high-performance commercial green buildings. Other components of CBI include the National Laboratory Collaborative on Building Technologies, which concentrates the efforts of five national laboratories toward the Net-Zero energy goal, and the Commercial Building National Accounts, which conducts cost-shared research, development, and deployment for new building technologies among major national companies.

COVERAGE (Continued)

Members of the HEA Steering Committee have been instrumental in setting the direction and goals of the alliance and driving the creation of a consistent and compelling voice to national manufacturers and distributors. Current members include representatives from Catholic Healthcare West; Department of Veterans Affairs; Gundersen Lutheran Health System; Hospital Corporation of America; Kaiser Permanente; NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital; Providence Health & Services; TECO/Texas Medical Center; University of Pittsburgh Medical Center; American Society for Healthcare Engineering (ASHE); American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE); Global Health and Safety Initiative (GHSI); and Illuminating Engineering Society of North America (IES).

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