
Editorial

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Biographical notes: Changzhi Yang is a Professor in College of Civil Engineering, Hunan University. His research interest is about indoor thermal comfort and energy conservation of buildings and HVAC system. He is Guest Editor of *Journal of Energy Conservation and Built Environment* and website of www.chinabee.com

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The main purpose of buildings is to provide a comfortable living environment to their occupants, which includes, among others, thermal, visual and acoustic comfort as well as indoor air quality. As for modern society, humans spend a majority of their time living and working indoors, so that indoor environment quality and human health are fundamental factors to implement building development sustainability. Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning system & Refrigeration (HVAC&R) bring indoor occupants to comfortable status. However, due to the unprecedented growing scale of building construction, the energy consumption has been raised sharply for building environment. The increasing energy demand, limited energy-sources and environmental consciousness all over the world have made it imperative that energy sources should be used a lot efficient and energy saving has become compulsory.

The purpose of this special issue is to offer a platform for HVAC&R researchers and experts to exchange ideas, latest research results and practical experiences relevant to the field of energy conservation and built environment. It provides readers with the most recent advances in related filed worldwide and the advances in developing countries, where the research and work in related field have been developing more quickly than ever before. The special issue contains 13 papers in the field of energy conservation and built environment. These papers mainly concern on: Energy demands and Energy Conservation, Thermal Comfort, Health and Indoor Environment, Sustainable Buildings, High Efficient HVAC&R Systems, Renewable and Recycled Energy Utilization.

Great appreciation goes to Inderscience publishers, the IJETP committee. Also, we express our thanks to the authors who enthusiastically presented their papers and all the individuals who made contributions to this issue. We hope that the special issue of *Energy Conservation and Built Environment* can provide a valuable reference source for the coming year.