



Press Release

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Superintendents Say Stretched Funds Stifling School Security

American Association of School Administrators (AASA)/Ingersoll Rand Security Technologies “National School Safety Study” Finds Many Schools Could Enhance Security at Little to No Cost

CARMEL, IND. — February 19, 2009 - Ingersoll Rand Security Technologies, in conjunction with AASA and RETA Security, today released the results of the 2008 National School Safety Study, which assesses the status of security in the nation’s K-12 public schools, based on a survey of school leaders nationwide. The information within the Study is especially timely as the United States starts implementing the economic stimulus package, which includes the school modernization bill.

“School leaders are dedicated to making sure students, teachers and staff are in the safest possible learning environments,” notes AASA Executive Director Daniel A. Domenech. “To that National School Safety Study end, we welcome the opportunity to use the data presented in this landmark study to ensure all schools have the best security resources available.”

The 2008 National School Safety Study is based on the Risk Mitigation Assessment, a survey instrument created by Ingersoll Rand Security Technologies and RETA Security Inc. The assessment, which can be accessed at www.safeschools.ingersollrand.com, identifies potential threats and determines action items to ensure the security of school systems. Overall, schools are doing a decent job, considering the budgets they have. However, in other instances, much more needs to be done.

Among the findings are:

- While two-thirds of all responding districts lock public entrances to buildings, one-third reported that exterior doors are occasionally or often propped open.
- Almost 60 percent of school buildings have no “panic” exit devices installed in strategic locations, a potential violation of the Fire and Life Safety Code.
- When queried about funding, approximately 80 percent of administrators describe their situation as “stretched” or “inadequate.”

“Ingersoll Rand Security Technologies undertook this initiative in keeping with our corporate stewardship responsibility,” explains Beverly Vigue, vice president of the Company’s Education Solutions group. “Our Risk Mitigation Assessment is an excellent example of the ways public-private partnerships can be used for the common good. This Study shows the tremendous value in getting the most accurate pulse on trends in school security in order to remain at the forefront in developing truly effective solutions that keep learning environments safe and productive.”

“It is important for schools to place first priority on improving the areas of access control and communications,” adds Paul Timm, PSP, president of RETA Security. “Demonstrating that there are low-cost, common-sense measures each school district can implement is a significant first step in providing a safer learning environment for students, staff, and visitors.”

As a follow-up to the study, AASA, Ingersoll Rand Security Technologies and RETA Security are discussing how to best leverage the results of this study to the advantage of America’s school communities. Grant tool kits are already on the www.safeschools.ingersollrand.com website. Plans include regional training initiatives, including common sense tips schools can implement to increase the safety of students at little to no cost. For example, school districts can organize school safety committees with broad-based stakeholder representation that meet regularly to review safety policies and needs.

“We are in a unique position to respond to schools,” stressed Vigue. “For instance, we have education specialist representatives located in 18 Security and Safety Consultant offices across the nation who can help schools with a host of products and services, including alternative funding programs such as our grant funding program to help them pay for improvements. Our customer grant consultants are also finding that

funding is available from a variety of programs for those districts needing to migrate to more sophisticated, district-wide school security and safety systems.”

The full survey results are available on the AASA website at www.aasa.org.

About the Study

AASA invited 9,260 AASA members to complete the Risk Mitigation Assessment online over the course of nine weeks (June 4-Aug. 11, 2008). A total of 445 responses were received, yielding a response rate of 4.8 percent.

About Ingersoll Rand Security Technologies

Ingersoll Rand Security Technologies is a leading global provider of products and services that make environments safe, secure and productive. The sector’s market-leading products include electronic and biometric access control systems; time-and-attendance and personnel scheduling systems; mechanical locks; portable security; door closers, exit devices, architectural hardware, and steel doors and frames; and other technologies and services for global security markets. Website is www.securitytechnologies.ingersollrand.com.

Ingersoll Rand Security Technologies is a sector of Ingersoll-Rand Company Limited, a global provider of products, services and solutions to industries as diverse as transportation, manufacturing, food retailing, construction and agriculture. For more information, visit ingersollrand.com.

About AASA

The American Association of School Administrators (www.aasa.org), founded in 1865, is the professional organization for more than 13,000 educational leaders across the United States. AASA members range from chief executive officers, superintendents and senior-level school administrators to cabinet members, professors and aspiring school system leaders. AASA’s mission is to support and develop effective school system leaders who are dedicated to the highest quality public education for all children.

About RETA Security, Inc.

For 25 years, RETA Security Inc. (www.retasecurity.com) has provided the highest level of independent, non-product affiliated, school security consulting services. Solutions include physical security assessments using patented methodology, training, and comprehensive planning strategies to prevent and prepare for crises. RETA Security’s mission is to assist educational leaders in providing a more secure learning environment.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: A high-resolution photograph of Beverly Vigue is available at www.brighamscully.com. Click Photo Downloads/Ingersoll Rand Security Technologies – Locking Systems and Software.

The Study itself and the Executive Summary are also at www.brighamscully.com. Click Press Room/Ingersoll Rand Security Technologies – Locking Systems and Software.

To interview Beverly Vigue, please email Tom Brigham at tbrigham@brighamscully.com or phone 1-869-469-0734. You can also email beverly_vigue@irco.com directly. Please copy Brigham.

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Division Profile: Overhead Door Company of Kansas City

Overhead Door Company of Kansas City is family owned and operated by DH Pace Company, Inc. and the only local authorized distributor of Overhead Door Corporation Products. We strive to put our customers first in providing a complete line of door and door related products and services.



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