

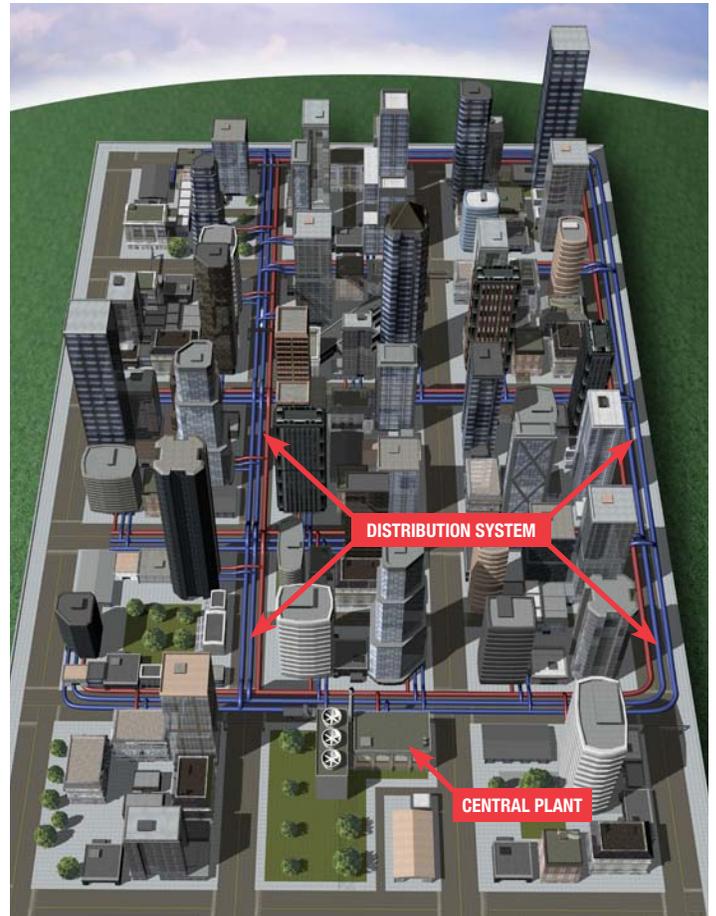
# in the Loop

## Making the Connection: District energy and its benefits

What do the Empire State Building, the White House and the Louvre all have in common with Hartford's Old State House? In addition to being renowned landmarks in their respective cities, they are all served by district energy systems such as those operated by The Hartford Steam Company.

Ever since the first commercial steam system was launched in Lockport, N.Y., in 1877, district energy technology has been used to heat and eventually cool an ever-increasing number of buildings in cities and campuses across the United States and around the world. It's also getting the attention of a growing number of property owners and managers who realize that connecting to district heating and cooling is a comfortable, reliable, easy and energy-efficient choice that can save them time, trouble – and money too.

Whether in Hartford, Seattle, Copenhagen or Abu Dhabi, all district energy systems operate on the same basic principle: They produce steam, hot water or chilled water at a central plant, then deliver it via an underground piping network to individual buildings for their use in space heating, domestic hot water service, humidification, dehumidification, air conditioning and industrial processes. This method of supplying heating and cooling is ideally suited for building-dense settings such as downtown business districts, university



Courtesy International District Energy Association.

**As shown in this conceptual diagram, district energy systems are most often located in urban areas or on college campuses where there is a high building density that showcases the technology's many benefits.**

or medical campuses, airports and military bases.

While some systems produce district heating or district cooling only – depending on the local weather and space conditioning needs – Hartford Steam provides both services. In fact, when our operation began in 1962, we were the nation's first downtown district energy operation to do so. Today, from our two district heating and cooling systems – Downtown and the South End – we serve more than 14 million sq ft of customer building space, including 85 percent of downtown Hartford's Class A buildings.

Property owners and managers choose district energy for its many valuable benefits. They no longer need their own boilers or chillers on site, freeing up capital and operating dollars as well as valuable building square footage that can be better used to serve tenants. They also benefit from a district



**All these landmarks are served by district energy systems such as those operated by The Hartford Steam Company.**

energy system's efficiencies: Hartford Steam, for example, can use natural gas, oil or electricity at its plants – depending on which is most economical. Plus, since we have multiple boilers and chillers supplying our large system, we can run each unit in optimal condition.

With district energy, customers improve their building's sustainability too. They enjoy increased energy efficiency because they buy only the heating and cooling they need – no burning or wasting of fuel on site. In Hartford, that district heating and cooling is produced with especially high efficiency because of our combined heat and power (CHP) system. We generate electricity to produce chilled water and run plant equipment, then we use the exhaust heat from that process to make steam for our district heating system. In

addition, the natural gas used in the CHP plant is provided under a special program for distributed generation systems resulting in lower fuel costs than fuel for a typical building boiler. And because our CHP plant incorporates the latest emissions controls, there are also fewer emissions.

These energy-efficiency and environmental benefits are why district energy is helping more and more connected buildings earn the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's ENERGY STAR label or LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification from the U.S. Green Building Council.

To learn more about district energy and Hartford Steam, visit [www.hartfordsteam.com](http://www.hartfordsteam.com) or contact Jeff Lindberg, [jefflindberg@hartfordsteam.com](mailto:jefflindberg@hartfordsteam.com), (860) 860-548-7348.

## A Profile in Caring

She's the voice and face of The Hartford Steam Company to callers and visitors – and her name is Cornelia (Connie) Rose.

Connie has been with Hartford Steam since 2009. In addition to her reception duties, she assists the operations and marketing departments. She assists with newsletter production, maintains material safety data sheets and tracks medical and safety data to ensure compliance.



**Connie Rose**

She previously worked for Community Renewal Team Inc. in Hartford, which is the state's largest nonprofit provider of human services. Its mission is to help people and families become self-sufficient while making sure basic needs are met. Prior to her work there, she was at Community Solutions, a Hartford-based organization that promotes the well-being of individuals and families involved in the child welfare, juvenile justice and criminal justice systems.

Outside work, Connie's focus is on family. Born and raised in Connecticut, she has a son, a daughter and two grandsons – ages 8 and 11, who are her pride and joy. Connie looks forward to time with her grandsons, whether it's taking them whale watching or for a day at the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts.

We're pleased Connie is a part of the Hartford Steam team!

## We Can Help You Keep Your Cool

When you see a string of hot days is ahead, you can plan to keep your building cool and comfortable by pre-cooling your space.

To help ensure you're able to meet desired building setpoints, first purge the building of warm daytime air using the cool night air. Then early in the morning, say between 1 a.m. and 4 a.m., start up chilled-water air handlers and pre-cool to the desired temperature before temperatures begin to rise. This will allow for comfortable and consistent air temperatures during the day and may avert setting a new chilled-water peak demand later in the day.

During these hot summer days, Hartford Steam may call customers to ask if they will pre-cool their buildings. This helps us better keep up with system load while maintaining cool supply temperatures when needed during the warmest times of the day.

Pre-cooling can help keep you and your fellow customers cool – no matter how high the temperatures soar!

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