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**RSES JOINS 2 DEGREE PLEDGE CAMPAIGN PARTNERS  
IN EFFORT TO REDUCE HOME HEATING AND COOLING COSTS**

Des Plaines, Ill. (Oct. 21, 2008) – RSES has announced a commitment to help educate consumers on how to reduce their home heating and cooling costs by becoming a 2 Degree Pledge campaign partner.

“It only takes a little bit of change for the average homeowner to greatly improve their energy consumption. RSES is committed to helping them understand that, and the 2 Degree Pledge is a great way for consumers to learn how and for contractors to obtain the resources to teach them as well,” explains Mark Lowry, RSES executive vice president.

RSES, through its voluntary partnership with the 2 Degree Pledge program, will help homeowners achieve lower energy bills through greater energy efficiency by directing them to the campaign’s Web site at [2degreepledge.org](http://2degreepledge.org). Here they can obtain energy saving tips on how to reduce their energy costs by using their heating and cooling systems wisely, making sure they are maintained properly, and if it is time to upgrade, how to make sure installations are performed correctly.

Because residential heating can account for up to 50 percent of total energy bills during the winter months, the 2 Degree Pledge calls on homeowners to contact a heating professional today to have their heating system serviced and optimized for efficiency and comfort.

Central, forced-air systems that are improperly installed or maintained can be up to 50 percent less efficient than they should be. In fact, more than half of all heating systems in U.S. homes do not perform to their rated efficiency as a result of improper installation, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

To further save energy, the campaign encourages consumers to change filters, seal ducts and windows, and insulate walls. These steps can result in savings of up to 20 percent on energy bills.

The 2 Degree Pledge urges consumers to think about their heating system efficiency now, before the winter heating season. With just a couple degrees of change, such as installing a programmable thermostat and setting the thermostat a few degrees lower when they leave the house for the day in the winter, homeowners can simply and significantly reduce their energy costs, without compromising their comfort.

Consumers can learn more about the 2 Degree Pledge and make their commitment official by signing up at [2degreepledge.org](http://2degreepledge.org). The Web site includes tools and calculators to help homeowners determine if an upgrade to more efficient heating or cooling systems makes sense for them in an era of high energy bills. It also features maintenance and quality installation checklists to review with their heating and cooling system technician or contractor to make sure their system’s performance is being optimized for efficiency and comfort.

RSES is the world’s leading education, training and certification association for heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration professionals. RSES credentials include its Certificate Member and Certificate Member Specialist categories, as well as one of the largest EPA Section 608 certification programs in the industry. Founded in 1933, RSES is a non-profit organization of more than 15,000 members in 434 chapters in the U.S. and Canada, as well as affiliate organizations worldwide. For more information on RSES call 800-297-5660 or 847-297-6464, or visit our Web site at [www.rses.org](http://www.rses.org). RSES, 1666 Rand Road, Des Plaines, IL 60016.

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