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Welcome to InTheNews - covering all the FM news you may have missed over the last week:

With the Christmas period in full swing, new research by <u>Mitie</u> has revealed that over half (54%) of office workers are excited to be back in the office over the festive period this year following two years of disruption due to COVID. Nearly two thirds (64%) say they appreciate the festive cheer in the office even more this year following the pandemic.

More than half (53%) of people surveyed said that they love being in the office to share festive cheer with their colleagues, with a similar number (51%) loving the feeling of their workplace at this time of year. One in five (19%) office workers said they prefer being in the office over working from home during the festive season due to the general good mood and almost two thirds (62%) feel in a better mood at work when it gets near to Christmas.

Simon Venn, Chief Government & Strategy Officer, Mitie, said: "The pandemic gave workers a chance to reassess how much time they spend in the workplace, but with Christmas around the corner, it's hard to resist the festive spirit the office offers."

The <u>Building Engineering Services Association</u> (BESA) says support from the UK's Chief Medical Officer for more investment in indoor air quality (IAQ) could unleash a wave of ventilation improvements in buildings.

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The Association praised Professor Chris Whitty for making air quality the focus of his <u>2022 annual report</u> and for making better IAQ a medical priority.

"Poorly ventilated indoor spaces were shown to significantly increase the risk of infection transmission," said BESA Chief Executive David Frise. "Better ventilation and air filtration are also proven to enhance health and well-being (including mental health), improve sleep quality, and boost productivity."

<u>Sodexo</u> has renewed its five-year agreement with Tetra Pak, a world leading food processing and packaging solutions company, to provide integrated facilities management ("IFM") services on a global scale.

The successful collaboration between Sodexo and Tetra Pak, initiated in 2018 on a 22-country geographic scope, covers 65 sites in Europe (Nordics, Benelux, France, UK & Ireland, Iberia), Brazil and APAC. This encompasses a joint mission to deliver efficient, innovative solutions that improve the work experience every day.

Karen Pleva, Sodexo CEO for Global Strategic Accounts said: "The past 5 years together have shown that our vision of our industry's impact on the environment and on people's quality of life are in perfect alignment. We are delighted to continue this partnership and to continue to offer effective and innovative solutions to improve the lives of employees every day."

Finally, we'd like to wish all our subscribers and readers a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.