



Message from the Editor of the MFN Committee and Document Review Sub-Committee

An ASHRAE "Position Document" is a BOD-approved document expressing the views of the Society on a current issue of importance to ASHRAE and its members. It includes a concise summary statement as well as supporting documentation, analysis and/or rationale, and recommendations.

The purpose of these documents is to provide objective, authoritative background information to persons interested in issues within ASHRAE's expertise, particularly in areas where such information will be helpful in drafting sound public policy.

Any ASHRAE officer, member, committee or council, or any responsible outside entity may suggest issues for which ASHRAE position documents should be developed or may suggest whether existing ASHRAE documents should be revised or rescinded. There are specific requirements for submitting proposals that can be found in the ROB as well as a form (Attachment A in Section 1.300.001) that can be used as a guide.

Technology Council will be responsible for development of the PD, considering recommendations from the cognizant committee(s) or their chair(s) and the Director of Government Affairs and will consider recommendations of any ASHRAE entity.

Technology Council shall appoint a qualified chair, who is a member of ASHRAE and willing to remain in the position until the project has been completed and the committee discharged. Members of the committee shall be selected by the PDC chair with the approval of Technology Council. Membership shall satisfy knowledge and expertise of the subject matter.

The PDC membership shall be "balanced" among the following classifications of members so that no classification shall constitute a majority of the PDC membership:

Producer	User
Public	General

The draft, approved by PDC, will be submitted to Technology Council at least 30 days prior to the meeting at which it will be considered with information copies sent to the chair(s) of the cognizant committee(s) and the Director of Government Affairs.

The PDC shall complete its work within a period of less than 18 months, unless the PDC chair has received approval from Technology Council for an extension.

The PDC shall be discharged upon approval of the PD by BOD.

The following are active Position Documents:

- Ammonia as a Refrigerant
- Airborne Infectious Diseases
- Building Safety and Security
- Climate Change
- Energy
- Environmental Tobacco Smoke
- Indoor Air Quality
- Legionellosis
- Limiting Indoor Mold Growth and Managing Moisture in Building Systems Problems
- Ozone Depleting Substances
- Natural Refrigerants
- Refrigerants and Their Use in the Built Environment
- Use of Unvented Combustion Devices Indoors

Ross Montgomery, Vice Chair Tech Council

STANDARDS COMMITTEE (STDC)

The Standards Committee has approved a contractor to update the Standards Online Comment Database to improve its use and functionality for the volunteers and staff. One of the major revisions will add an export and import capability to permit the offline use of the database by the project committees.

The Standards Committee approved a major revision of the Project Committee Manual of Procedures (PC MOP) that will speed up the overall standards development process. The major revisions include the following: 1. Addition of an advisory public review (allows all or portions of a document that is controversial to be placed out for public review for public feedback); 2. Allows for public reviews of non-code intended standards to occur outside the current twice a year time table; 3. Allows project committees the option to invite unresolved commenters to a meeting and complete the resolution process at the meeting; 4. Decreases the number of approvals for membership changes; 5. Allows for more publication approvals beyond the twice-a-year cycle that has been used.

The following new projects have been approved:

1. Standard 201P, *Facility Smart Grid Information Model*
2. Standard 202P, *Commissioning Process for Buildings and Systems*
3. Standard 203P, *Method of Test for Determining Heat Gain of Office Equipment Used in Buildings*
4. Standard 204P, *Method of Test for Rating Micro Combined Heat and Power Devices*
5. Guideline 33P, *Guideline for Documenting Indoor Airflow and Contaminant Transport*

ASHRAE Technology is for ASHRAE members. The **Members First!** newsletter is issued after each Technology Council meeting to provide highlights of ASHRAE technical activities and keep members informed. Our goal is to make the work of the technical side of ASHRAE open to all ASHRAE members. If you have technical questions for ASHRAE, please contact Steve Hammerling, Assistant Manager of Research and Technical Services, at 678 539-1158 or via email at shammerling@ashrae.org.

Your feedback is welcome and encouraged! Please write to Ross Montgomery, Vice Chair, Technology Council via email at TechCViceChair@ashrae.net



STDC Cont.

The Code Interaction Subcommittee (CIS) will be preparing a Seminar Presentation for the Winter Conference in Las Vegas to detail what is involved in the code development process. CIS will be working with SSPC 189.1 to review the public comments of the first draft of the IgCC prior to the code hearings being held August 14-22, 2010 in Chicago.

This year the International Standards Advisory Subcommittee will be working on the International Standards Implementation Plan with an emphasis on executing specific items, such as: 1) increasing international participation in the ASHRAE standards development process; 2), communicating with ASHRAE's international membership and associate societies regarding demand for ASHRAE standards; 3) promoting of international standards activities in ASHRAE; and 4) harmonizing development rules among international standards developers.

Mike Newman, Standards Committee Chair

REFRIGERATION COMMITTEE (REF)

The REF committee is changing the procedures for the Milt Garland Refrigeration Award for Project Excellence and the Comfort Cooling Award for Project Excellence. Beginning with the new calendar year, award materials and schedules will be complementary to the Technology Awards. The due date for nomination packages will be May 1st, the coversheet will be a form similar to the short form for the Technology Award, and winners will be recognized at the Winter meetings. Watch the REF webpage in January for the updated instructions. Until the new procedures are in place, there is still time to submit nominations for this year. Nominations are due to the REF committee by November 1st. See the REF webpage for specific instructions: www.ashrae.org/refrigeration.

REF is the cognizant committee for several of ASHRAE's Position Documents. At the annual meeting in Albuquerque the *Ammonia as a Refrigerant* position document was reaffirmed with editorial changes including updated references and research figures. The *Natural Refrigerants* position document which was completed last year was also reaffirmed. In addition a new position document on *Refrigerants and the Built Environment* is under development. When completed, this document will address all classes of refrigerants including the ozone depleting refrigerants and their replacements, HFCs and HFOs. All of ASHRAE's Position Documents can be found at www.ashrae.org/positiondocuments.

This society year REF will undertake a review of its role within ASHRAE to ensure that going forward we continue to provide the services needed by the Society and the Chapters. In parallel, REF is performing a comprehensive review of ASHRAE's refrigeration-related products and services. As part of this project, REF will be surveying the Technical Committees and the Chapters to identify gaps. For example, what guidelines, test standards, or training could you use to address the refrigeration-related tasks you encounter in your work?

Watch for future communication from the REF Committee later this year about this request! In the meantime if you have suggestions about how REF can be more supportive of your needs, please e-mail REFChair@ashrae.net.

Cynthia Gage, REF Chair

RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (RAC)

Every five years RAC is asked to assemble a Research Advisory Panel (RAP) to develop a Strategic Plan for ASHRAE Research. The development cycle typically begins 3 years before the strategic plan is to be delivered. The latest cycle ended at the ASHRAE summer meeting in Albuquerque and a final ASHRAE Research Strategic Plan for 2010-2015 was delivered to RAC and approved by Technology Council. This was a major effort that was led by Dr. Jeffrey Spittler of Oklahoma State University with contributions from 11 other members having a wide range of technical expertise while representing companies, government organizations/laboratories, and universities. The purpose of the plan is to identify key HVAC&R research needs and to provide that information to ASHRAE members and Technical Committees as guidance while they develop research projects and to the Research Administration Committee as it approves and funds research proposals. The Research Plan is not meant to take the initiative for research development from the technical committees within ASHRAE, but rather to use input from ASHRAE members to identify strategic research needs that are appropriate for many committees to collaborate on, that may require larger budgets, and for which additional outside funding may be available to supplement ASHRAE's budget.

The work of the panel was organized into the following activities:

- Review of 2005-2010 Research Strategic Plan
- Environmental Scan
- Membership Survey
- Goal topic formulation and assignment of goal champions
- Formation and work of ad hoc goal topic committees
- Review and editing cycles

The environmental scan involved review of research planning documents produced by other societies such as USGBC and government agencies such as the Department of Energy and the California Energy Commission. The member survey was web based. It was completed by 311 people and partially completed by an additional 78 for a total of 389 respondents. Thirty-five percent of those who stated their current job function are in design/application, 24% in research, 11% in management and the rest in a range of other positions. The country in which the survey was completed was available for 366 respondents and included 287 from the U.S. and 79 from other countries. Three quarters of respondents identified energy/ sustainability as the most important issue. In terms of allocation of ASHRAE funds for research, on average respondents thought that Energy and Resources should receive the largest share of funds, 33%, about double that for each of the other categories of Indoor Environmental Quality (16%), Tools and Applications (15%),



RAC Cont.

The member survey results were instrumental in establishing eleven strategic goals that address technical challenges that limit our ability to maximize building performance, energy efficiency, and indoor environmental quality. The draft RSP was sent out for public comment in early January of 2010. About 40 comments were received and distributed to RAP members according to the relevant goal topic. This process resulted in revised goals that were included in a final RSP that is available at <http://www.ashrae.org/technology/page/39>.

The RSP was developed because we are trying to make sure that members' research contributions are used effectively and efficiently. Input and feedback from the membership was essential in developing and revising the RSP. As we move forward, research priorities can change. As a result, RAC will continue to solicit members' input to adapt the RSP to changing realities.

James Braun, RAC Chair

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE (EHC)

EHC Keeping Focus on IEQ

Not wanting our industry to repeat the experience of the 1970s where reduced ventilation and increased building tightness resulted in a dramatic increase in building-related symptoms and diseases, Environmental Health Committee will be raising the attention level to indoor environmental quality (IEQ) and the health of building occupants in building performance metrics, labels, and "dashboards" that are being developed and disseminated. In fact, EHC was created in the mid-1980s to provide guidance to ASHRAE's BOD in response to the experience of the '70s.

We want ASHRAE to continue and enhance its leadership role by using its highly respected voice in building energy matters to provide the most effective and meaningful metrics and tools to evaluate IEQ, particularly in existing buildings, in any programs intended to reduce energy. EHC will be initiating this effort immediately with a goal to developing tools in the next six months.

EHC is also developing a title, purpose and scope (TPS) for a PD related to Environmental Health in Green Building Programs. A chair and PD committee members have been identified and are preparing the TPS for presentation at the Winter Meeting.

Lawrence Schoen, EHC Chair

TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE (TAC)

TAC goals for this Society year include the standard goal of assuring committee rosters are updated in a timely manner. This is an important goal because the vitality of committees becomes evident during this process. Committees that are struggling to meet quorum at meetings, attracting new and former members, or simply trying to cope with changes to the scope of their committee and the effect of changes in the work of the committee. In addition TAC is emphasizing the need for committees to network with other committees when they have a project that needs expertise outside of the committee membership. In this way, ideas can be exchanged and perhaps new ideas or missions can be explored.

TAC receives committee requests for Scope changes. This occurs because a committee evolves and see their mission going in a new direction. Then the existing Scope does not fit their needs any longer and a new proposed Scope is forwarded to TAC for approval. TAC reviews these requests and will either approve the change or will refer it back to the committee for further clarification or advise the committee that the new Scope is overlapping the Scope of another committee or committees. Several committees submitted Scope changes at the Albuquerque Annual Meeting and some were approved and others were referred back for further work or clarification.

Another TAC goal this year is to ask committees to utilize outreach to new members for their committee. It is important to seek assistance when needed from the membership in general. Additional resources for review of Handbook chapters, new members for the vitality of their committee, and the new ideas that can come from unknown sources are always helpful.

Remember that TAC is available to assist committees when issues arise. Contact your TAC Section Head whenever the need arises. It is TAC's goal to help you.

Charles Wilkin, TAC Chair

SPECIAL PROJECTS SUBCOMMITTEE

The new Special Project/Research Project, *Ventilation and Indoor Air Quality in Retail Stores*, is getting underway. Bids were reviewed by TC 4.3 at the Annual Meeting in Albuquerque, and the project was awarded to the University of Texas at Austin with subcontracted work provided by Penn State. Jeffrey Siegel is the principal investigator. As described in ASHRAE's RFP, "This project will establish a reliable methodology for simultaneously measuring ventilation rates and key aspects of air quality in retail building spaces. It will use this methodology in several types of retail spaces to obtain data that can be used to inform possible revisions to the relevant ventilation requirements in Standard 62.1. Since retail buildings in the USA represent approximately 20% of commercial sector energy consumption, if the retail rates in general are found to be higher than reasonable minimum rates, this project has the potential to result in substantial energy savings." The project is funded by a major grant to ASHRAE from the National Institutes of Standards and Technology.

Technology Council has authorized \$30,000 in seed money toward development of a *Design Guide for Sustainable Refrigeration*. Efforts to identify co-funding and develop the guide are being spearheaded by



Special Projects Cont.

by ASHRAE's Refrigeration Committee.

A number of special projects have been completed in the past six months. Two of interest are:

Performance Measurement Protocols for Commercial Buildings, now available from the ASHRAE bookstore. This document provides protocols at three levels – basic, intermediate and advanced – for six performance categories: energy, water, thermal comfort, indoor air quality, lighting and acoustics. *Evaluation of the Market Impact of the ASHRAE Advanced*

Energy Design Guides, available for free download from the ASHRAE website at http://www.ashrae.org/docLib/20100518_AEDG_FinalReportApp_04_14_10.pdf. This project was funded by the U.S. Department of Energy and conducted for ASHRAE by the Energy Center of Wisconsin. It assessed the market impact of the AEDG series, including awareness, use and energy savings impacts. The majority of the 716 ASHRAE members surveyed rated the AEDGs favorably in terms of credibility, technical content and effectiveness in reducing energy use.

Martha Hewett, Special Projects SubC Chair

ASHRAE's WEBCAST 2011 IS TAKING SHAPE

The title for the April 21, 2011 program is "Ground Source Heat Pump Systems: Putting the Earth to Work for You". This webcast features three excellent presenters: Kirk Mescher, PE, Mick Schwedler and Dr. Jeffrey D. Spittler.

Following the live webcast, ASHRAE will archive the program for 2 weeks on the internet via StreamLogics (Crawford Communications). The program will be viewable by registrants via an email link. This should give the International members an opportunity to view the program at a suitable time for them.

CTTC is actively pursuing sponsors for the program. At this time, there are two sponsors - Climate Master, Inc. and Mammoth, Inc.

Visit www.ashrae.org/GHPwebcast for information about the program, continuing education credits, speakers, sponsorship levels, and registration.

To sign up for the Members First! Newsletter Listserv, please use the following link:

<http://www.ashrae.org/publications/detail/16150>