



# TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

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# MEMBERS FIRST!

2005-06, Volume 2

## **TECH COUNCIL NEWS** *ASHRAE Technology is for ASHRAE Members. Members come first.*

This is the second of Tech Council's quarterly briefings. You will find information from all the committees that report to ASHRAE's Technology Council. Our goal is to make the work of the technical side of ASHRAE open to all ASHRAE members. Page 2 of this newsletter lists the questions we received from our first newsletter and our responses. [We ask that you look this over and give us feedback. Please direct any questions on any topic or feedback on this newsletter to Hugh McMillan, Vice-Chair, Tech Council at \[hugh\\\_mc@mail.ashrae.org\]\(mailto:hugh\_mc@mail.ashrae.org\).](#)

## **STANDARDS NEWS**

How can you tell what is the latest version of any of Code-Intended continuous maintenance standards? Under the new policy of the Standards Committee, you will always know when these documents are updated. Since July 1, the code-intended standards under continuous maintenance have been on a three year re-publication schedule. The next fully published version of Standards 15, 34, 52.2, 62.1, 62.2, 90.1, 90.2 and 140 will occur in 2007. Next March, a supplement of all addenda approved since the 2004 versions were released will be published. These addenda will become effective with the supplement date of approval by the ASHRAE BOD and ANSI. This means you can expect something to be coming out on these standards every 18 months. We are striving to make the business of keeping up with code-intended standards more predictable and less costly for our Members and the public.

## **TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES NEWS**

TAC is considering a proposal to form a new Task Group (TG) that is concerned with all exergetic aspects of energy and power consumption of building comfort and service systems and equipment, assessment of their impact on the environment, and development of analysis techniques, methodologies and solutions for environmentally safer low-exergy buildings. Exergy is defined by ASHRAE as an expression for the loss of available energy due to the creation of entropy in irreversible systems or processes. The energy loss in a system or component is determined by multiplying the absolute temperature of the surroundings by the entropy increase. This TG will help pave a road for a more comprehensive set of scientific and technical actions in order to further develop a more environmentally safe building technology and new HVAC systems while the commitment of ASHRAE towards sustainability is facilitated.

## **RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION NEWS**

A color brochure summarizing ASHRAE's 2005-2010 Research Strategic Plan is now posted on the "Research" page of [ashrae.org](http://ashrae.org). The brochure details all five Opportunity themes, 28 goals associated with the five themes and a partial listing of potential project topics that may help address these goals. The strategic plan is primarily intended to help guide the 98 TCs within ASHRAE towards achieving broad and ambitious goals set by the Society as a whole for research. How well a particular topic supports the strategic plan will count towards forty-five percent of the review criteria used to evaluate all research topics proposed by the TCs. Find the Research Strategic Plan at: [http://www.ashrae.org/content/ASHRAE/ASHRAE/ArticleAltFormat/2005928112649\\_347.pdf](http://www.ashrae.org/content/ASHRAE/ASHRAE/ArticleAltFormat/2005928112649_347.pdf)

## **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH NEWS**

Planning for the Ventilation Workshop to review research that has been or is being conducted on the effect of ventilation rates on health in multiple types of indoor environments, including offices, schools, residences and day care is well underway. The purpose of the project will be to determine the current state of knowledge to develop priorities for additional research that may be needed.

## **REFRIGERATION NEWS**

REF has posted two documents to our website: "Tips on Hosting a Successful Refrigeration Focused ASHRAE Chapter Meeting" and "Training in Refrigeration". The first was written to provide chapter level people help on setting up a refrigeration focused chapter meeting that would draw more than 3 people by giving contacts at other organizations and a list of timely topics. The latter document is a continuously updated list of all North American based training programs on industrial (ammonia) refrigeration. REF intends to keep both up-to-date and promote their use at regional and local levels.

# **MEMBERS FIRST! FEEDBACK**

## **QUESTION 1**

CTTC has liaison assigned to each TC Section. Liaisons attend section breakfasts but are not respected. The purpose of CTTC is to strengthen the ties between the grassroots and technology side of ASHRAE.

## **RESPONSE**

The Technical Activities Committee (TAC) will work with TCs to insure that liaison relationship is respected. While time is limited at the section breakfasts, the TCs understand the importance of this liaison. In the interest of time, it would be helpful if the CTTC liaison could bring any information they wish to share in written form to distribute to the TC chairs.

## **QUESTION 2**

A significant proportion of ASHRAE members do not know how to join a TC.

## **RESPONSE**

There is a good discussion on how to join a technical committee on [ashrae.org](http://www.ashrae.org). It can be accessed at:

<http://www.ashrae.org/template/AssetDetail/assetid/23231>

## **QUESTION 3**

Research Promotion RVCs do not understand the process by which a research proposal becomes a project and how the results of the research are implemented. The result of this lack of knowledge is lack of focus in the Research Promotion campaign.

## **RESPONSE**

Certainly we want all members to understand how the ASHRAE research process works. An overview is reported here, but we strongly recommend that RVCs and other interested parties visit the [www.ashrae.org](http://www.ashrae.org) website. Choose the "Standards and Technology" link on the home page and scroll to "Research." *Within the research section, you will find the "Research Digest" along with several interesting references to all the research activities - past, present, and future. The Digest contains a complete flow chart that will elaborate on what we are reporting with this note.*

ASHRAE *Technical Committees (TC) play the lead role in all research projects*, whether generated within the TC, an Unsolicited Research Project (URP), or requested from an individual through his local Chapter and Region. If the research request comes from outside TC membership, and it falls within the Strategic Research Plan (also on the website), one or more TCs are asked to champion the work. There are 98 TCs organized into 10 Sections.

Key documents requiring RAC, Tech Council, and, in some cases, ASHRAE Board of Director approval are (1) the Research Topic Acceptance Request (RTAR); (2) the Work Statement prepared as a result of the approved RTAR in the Implementation Plan; (3) the Tentative Research Proposal (TRP) which leads to obtaining bids from contractors; and (4) the recommendation of contractor from a Project Evaluation Subcommittee (PES) appointed by the TC. Once the project is initiated with an entity, the TC has a Project Monitoring Subcommittee (PMS) that ensures the work remains on course toward the objectives, timely, and within the contracted costs. *Technology Transfer is achieved through publication in ASHRAE Handbooks, ASHRAE Standards, special publications, ASHRAE transactions and/or Research Bulletins.*

Very recently, our society has prepared and published a Strategic Research Plan that was prepared with input from the broad membership. This plan will be updated every five (5) years. A big factor in evaluating the merits of proposed research will be its fit in the Strategic Research Plan. The plan is organized into five (5) research opportunity themes: (1) Energy and Resources, (2) Indoor Environmental Quality, (3) Tools and Applications, (4) Equipment, Components and Materials, and (5) Education and Outreach. To understand some of the specific goals within these themes, we urge you to visit the research link at the [www.ashrae.org](http://www.ashrae.org).

You will find much more detailed information on how research projects are chosen and how they are implemented and used in the vastly improved research website. We urge all interested parties to take a look.