

ASPE Newsletter

Chartered July 10, 1968

February 2023

Houston, Texas



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ASPE Houston Chapter honors the life of the Past President and Stalwart of the engineering community.

MAY 9, 1951 - JANUARY 20, 2023



Kim Bruce Gaskey, age 71, of Spring, Texas passed away on Friday, January 20, 2023.

A celebration of life for Kim will be held Friday, February 10, 2023 at 2:00 PM at Memorial Oaks Funeral Home, 13001 Katy Fwy, Houston, Texas, followed by an inurnment at 3:00 PM.

IN THE CARE OF

[Memorial Oaks Funeral Home & Cemetery](#)

Click image for full Obituary

President



**Jeremy Charmchizadeh, PE,
GPD, LEED Green,**

ASPE Houston,

Hello everyone. I have to start out this month's article with sad news. Longtime member and past president Kim Gaskey passed away a week ago. He was a staple in the Houston plumbing community for decades. The Houston Chapter keeps his family in their prayers. The chapter Board is working to establish a scholarship in his name for those in the plumbing industry. That said, we have many things on the horizon. The biggest of those is the Product Show. I hope to see everyone there as it is always a good time. The next AYP event is on February 2nd so be sure to register quickly for that as it is just after our chapter meeting on the 1st. I hope everyone has a wonderful month and Superbowl.

Thank you,
Jeremy Charmchizadeh
President



VP Technical



Jaime Cruz
VP, Technical

Hello Houston Chapter members! The January Plant Tour at Grundfos came off as a huge success. The event was well attended, a special thanks to the whole Cougar Sales team for helping set this up. A big thank you to Ryan Howse and his team for hosting and showing us around their facility. There was a lot of positive feedback from designers and engineers that attended. The mini central plant had all MEP&F components that most of us deal with on a day-to-day basis.

For February, find us going back to Dukessa for our general monthly meeting. Our technical speaker will be Mr. Brian O'Keefe with Oasis International. The topic will be Drinking fountains and bottle fillers in a Post-Covid-19 world.

All technical speaker slots for our general meeting are full at this point. You can still contact me with any suggestion regarding speakers or topics for future openings. ASPE is a great way to obtain CEU's and network with many of the most knowledgeable people in the plumbing industry. Meetings are also being posted on our Houston ASPE-Meeting section as we secure speakers for the month.

If you are interested in presenting or have a technical topic in mind, please contact me at Jcruz@wylieeng.com, or at 346-341-2138.

Stay safe!

Thanks,
Jaime Cruz
VP, Technical

January Plant Tour







Curtis Dady



Welcome new members: Dawson Schuller, Dakota Upshaw, Mario Pernas, Carolyn Browne, Luis Hernandez Nava, Justin Adams, Damion Sandford.

Region 5 membership standings:

CHAPTER	Jan 7 2022	Jan 7 2023	% Change
Chicago	248	269	8%
Dallas/Ft. Worth	196	225	15%
Houston	171	214	25%
Minnesota	155	159	3%
Wisconsin	133	149	12%
Kansas City	119	121	2%
Central Texas	107	120	12%
St. Louis	108	110	2%
Omaha	70	75	7%
Oklahoma	61	73	20%
Arkansas	26	37	42%
Central Illinois	28	33	18%
Lubbock High Plains	13	11	-15%
Region 5 Total:	1435	1596	11%

The Houston Chapter Board of Directors appreciates help from each of you for recruiting colleagues and contacts to the ASPE Houston Chapter!

Member Benefit Tips

BOOST YOUR INDUSTRY VISIBILITY

Demonstrate your abilities to lead and boost your industry visibility by volunteering to join your Chapter Board of Directors or apply to join the Society Board of Directors. Employers, clients, and coworkers respect and look up to ASPE Chapter and Society Officers. Without our leaders, we would not have a Society; it's worth the work.

SPECIAL-INTEREST GROUPS

ASPE Young Professionals (AYP) is designed for young industry professionals looking to meet with peers to share experiences, exchange ideas about the plumbing design industry, and network with other Chapter members. The focus of AYP is to help young plumbing engineers, design professionals, and practitioners establish contacts and further the mission of the Society. ASPE members 35 years old and younger are all included in this special-interest group.

The core mission of the Women of ASPE (WOA) is to engage, retain, and advance women in the plumbing design industry, through education, leadership development, and networking opportunities. WOA is committed to bringing together women and assisting them to achieve their professional and personal goals.

MEET POTENTIAL CLIENTS/MEMBERS

If you are an Affiliate member, in sales, who steps up and takes on a membership role, you are in a unique position to promote ASPE and your company. Your leadership role is a valuable way to place yourself in front of prospective clients and members. Talk to your Chapter Board of Directors and see what you can do to promote yourself and ASPE.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Despite vaccinations, social distancing, masks and other precautions, COVID-19 continues to ravage parts of the globe. New learnings on how the virus spreads is leading to profound changes in how hydration will be delivered in the future.

Health experts recommend drinking between 7-10 cups of water per day to stay properly hydrated. That's one reason why more school districts, public and private universities, hospitals and corporate offices are replacing traditional water fountain bubblers with touch-free electronic bottle fillers (EBFs).

This course will provide an overview of important considerations when specifying drinking fountains and touch-free EBF's in your projects.



LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1. What design offers the best overall solution for your project.
2. Why electronic bottle fillers are a popular new addition for new construction, renovation and replacement projects.
3. Become more familiar on plumbing code and ADA requirements for your design.
4. Why filtration and UVC-LEDs are new considerations.

COURSE DETAILS:

Course Title: Drinking Fountains and Bottle Fillers in a Post-Covid-19 World

ASPE CEU Provider: Education Units Issued 0.10 CEU or 1.00 PDH

THE INSTRUCTOR: Brian O'Keefe, National Strategic Account Manager, OASIS International
Mr. O'Keefe has over 30 years of experience in the plumbing industry. During this time, he has trained over 1,000 industry professionals while presenting 75+ CEU classes. Mr. O'Keefe is a highly sought-after instructor because of his plumbing design knowledge and engaging presentation skills.

Mr. O'Keefe has a B.B.A. degree from Georgia State University and an M.B.A. from Kennesaw State University.



CERTIFIED IN PLUMBING DESIGNSM

CERTIFIED IN PLUMBING DESIGN (CPD), administered by the American Society of Plumbing Engineers (ASPE), is the only international certification program specifically for engineers and designers of plumbing systems. Professionals who have the CPD credential are considered to have the highest level of skills in the design and specification of plumbing systems.

EARNING & MAINTAINING THE CPD CREDENTIAL

Am I eligible?

Route 1:

4 year engineering degree + 4 years of work experience designing plumbing systems

Route 2:

8 years of work experience designing plumbing systems

Other eligibility options:



Current CPDT certification counts toward 1 year of experience

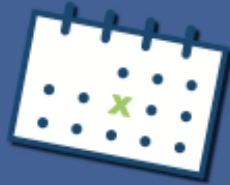


PE license counts toward 2 years of experience

When can I take the exam?



The exam is held **annually** in the spring



Registration typically opens in December prior to the exam date



You can register online at education.aspe.org

Where do I take the exam?

The CPD exam is held at **online testing centers** around the world



Did I pass or fail?

Scores are **mailed** 6 to 8 weeks after the exam



Maintaining your CPD credential

- ✓ You must earn 24 hours of continuing education every 2 years
- ✓ You can find recertification details at aspe.org/education-credentialing/cpd/recertification/

For more info:

aspe.org/education-credentialing/cpd
certification@aspe.org



Click Book to Download



2023 Bulletin of Information

AN INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM
FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF
PLUMBING ENGINEERING
PROFESSIONALS



The 2023 CPD Exam fees are:

ASPE Members \$450

Nonmembers \$675

Special Interest Groups

Women
of ASPE®



Ashley Moon

The Women of ASPE The mission of Women of ASPE (WOA) special-interest group is to engage, retain, and advance women in the plumbing design industry through education, leadership development, and networking opportunities. It is open to women who have an active membership with the American Society of Plumbing Engineers. Some of the activities include:

- 3 Mentoring programs
- 3 Membership growth outreach efforts
- 3 Fostering partnerships with industry-related associations
- 3 Various educational offerings

ASPE
YOUNG
PROFESSIONALS



Joe Brewer

The ASPE Young Professionals (AYP) special interest group is designed for young industry professionals looking to meet with peers to share experiences, exchange ideas about the plumbing design industry, and network with other chapter members. The focus of AYP is to help young plumbing engineers, design professionals, and practitioners establish contacts and further the mission of the Society. ASPE Members 35 years old and younger are all included in this special interest group.

Congratulations!

**ERICK AND
EMILY
GARCIA**

Married December 10th, 2022



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- BSD SpecLink to get Microban® integrated into the platform.
- MasterSpec to get Microban® integrated into the platform.
- Specification section on the Bradford White website (scan the code to access).

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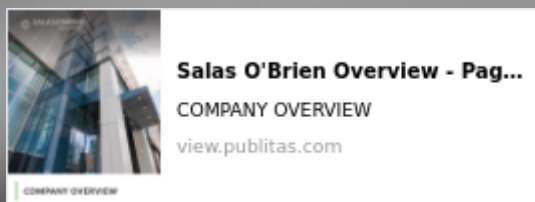
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Who We Are

Salas O'Brien is an employee-owned firm providing building and facility solutions to clients across North America. Our team of engaged experts focuses on achieving high quality, great relationships, and a sustainable future.

We help clients in a variety of industries by providing mechanical and electrical engineering as well as consulting for district utilities, site planning, technology, fire protection, industrial process engineering, architecture, and more. Our specialized experience includes design for data centers, healthcare, science and technology, high-rise buildings, clean energy, education, and other building types.





Save the Date!

The 2023 ASPE Tech Symposium is a two and one-half-day conference held at the Hyatt Bellevue, Bellevue, Washington. This is a premier opportunity for plumbing engineers and designers at all career levels to engage in productive technical exchanges and networking.

At the ASPE Tech Symposium, attendees can choose from a variety of professional development sessions in several tracks to customize their learning experience. Classes are designed to teach participants how to integrate the most current design techniques into their projects, with hands-on calculation and application examples.

To further immerse plumbing industry professionals in the latest engineering innovations, a product show will be running from Thursday afternoon to Friday morning. The industry's top manufacturers will be showcasing their newest products and teaching attendees how to apply them in their plumbing system designs.

ASPE MedGas Workshop: February 23-26, 2023

Hosted by Georg Fischer LLC

This 32-hour workshop is based on the parameters outlined in [ASSE 6060: Medical Gas Systems Designer](#), a new professional qualification standard that sets forth the training requirements for designers who wish to earn the ASSE 6060 personnel certification. Those who complete the workshop will receive a certificate of training and will have fulfilled the requirements to take the ASSE 6060 certification exam. The ASSE 6060 certification exam is not included as part of this workshop. 1.2 ASPE CEUs will be awarded upon successful completion of this workshop.

The workshop includes:

- Certificate of completion that proves the recipient fulfilled the required training to take the ASSE 6060 exam
- Team-based, hands-on activities, and calculations with actual design exercises
- ASSE 6060 practice exam
- Copy of NFPA 99-2021: Health Care Facilities Code
- Quizzes to test knowledge retention
- Design tables and exercises document
- [Justification letter](#) for your employer
- Calculator and supplies for hands-on exercises
- Lunch, drinks, and snacks are provided each day

What to Bring

A laptop/iPad loaded with [Adobe Digital Editions](#) (which will be located in your download links after you register). Students will need to use [Bluebeam](#) or other software for marking up pdf design exercises.

What To Expect

- Classroom Hours: 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. each day (Thursday – Sunday) *Please plan flights accordingly. Students must be present for the entire class.*
- Attire will be business casual (No Shorts or T-shirts)
- Evenings are on your own
- Full days with lots of learning

Investment

- \$2,000 for ASPE members
- \$2,350 for nonmembers

[click here for more info](#)



Carrer Opportunities



Infinity MEP+S is looking for **Plumbing Designers** to join our team in Houston! If you're interested in becoming a part of our team and building a career, we want to talk to you!

At Infinity, we are committed to building a culture of growth and development within our team. Our employees are our greatest asset, and we strive to give them the resources and training to reach their full potential.

Check out our job post for more information!

Or send resumes to nbadke@infinitymep.com

Spread the word and connect us with anyone that is looking for this new opportunity!



Entry Level Plumbing Engineer in Houston, TX

Position available for a mechanical engineer with a primary focus on plumbing, hydronics, and fire protection system design. Market focus will be commercial, corporate office, healthcare, and industrial facilities. Specific areas of responsibility include the following:

Designing plumbing and fire protection systems for a fully operational facility.

REVIT based design production.

Assisting in the coordination of project designs with other disciplines.

Attending construction site observation and construction administration meetings.

Maintaining positive client relationships.

Production of project-specific plumbing, hydronics, and fire protection specifications.

Minimum Criteria

Bachelor's degree in Architectural or Mechanical Engineering.

E.I.T. is preferred, but not required.

Strong quality control of documents.

Please submit resume to career@teliospc.com.



TELIOS

Mid-Level Plumbing Engineer in Houston, TX

Position available for a mechanical engineer/plumbing designer with a primary focus on plumbing, hydronics, and fire protection system design. Market focus will be commercial, corporate office, healthcare, and industrial facilities. Specific areas of responsibility include the following:

Designing plumbing and fire protection systems for a fully operational facility.

REVIT based design production.

Assisting in the coordination of project designs with other disciplines.

Attending construction site observation and construction administration meetings.

Maintaining positive client relationships.

Production of project-specific plumbing, hydronics, and fire protection specifications.

Minimum Criteria

3 to 7 years experience in plumbing systems design

Bachelor's degree in Architectural or Mechanical Engineering is preferred, but not required.

E.I.T. is preferred, but not required.

Strong quality control of documents.

Please submit resume to career@teliospc.com.

If you or your company would like to post a job on our ASPE news letter please email zed@championsmarketing.net



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Francisco DeHoyos

Society legislation committee co-chair, Society education committee member, Society long-range committee member Region 5 legislation representative, Houston Chapter Education Chair

Donald Taylor, CPD

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Zed Hernandez

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Greg Salter / Jaime Cruz

Product Show Chair/ Co-chair

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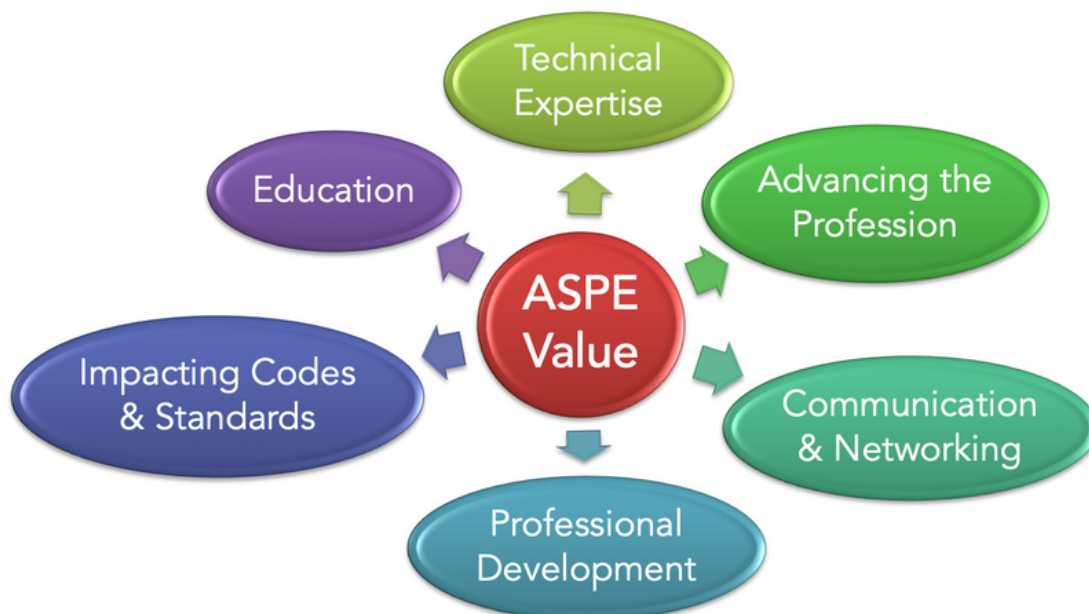


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on Social Media!



ASPE Purpose

The core purpose of the American Society of Plumbing Engineers is to continually enhance and promote the profession of plumbing engineering design while assisting in improving the health, welfare, and safety of the public on a global scale.





F E B R U A R Y

Vanessa Aguilar
Luinita Bondar
Joe Clark
John Garner
Anthony Jaspal
Chris Johnson
Geoffrey Lussier
Dwight Mains
Ron Nevil
Lawrance Richardson
Vince Roach
Michael Rostvold
Victor Schneider
Jay Stenklyft
Zach Wehner



Back To Basics - Nitrogen

Let's talk about Nitrogen (N₂). In our industry this gas is almost used as commonly as natural gas. Nitrogen has been replacing Oxygen or regular atmosphere air in multiple applications across the engineering disciplines.

The name origin comes from the Greek word Nitron, that stands for "native soda" and the second part Genes for "forming". The Nitrogen Atom symbol is N; however, our industry works with molecules therefore, it is represented as N₂.

Nitrogen is the 5th most abundant element in the known universe.

~78.% of Earth's atmosphere is known to be Nitrogen; moreover, the air that we breathe in an average is: 78% Nitrogen and ~21 percent oxygen. [(Atmosphere-air also contains small amounts of other gases, such as Argon, Carbon-Dioxide (CO₂), Neon (Ne), Helium (He), Methane (CH₄), Krypton (Kr), Hydrogen (H₂), Nitrous-Oxide (NO), Xenon (Xe), Ozone (O₃), Iodine (I₂), Carbon-Monoxide (CO), and Ammonia (NH₃)].

Nitrogen in gaseous stage is expressed as N₂, this type of stage is the one that "We" as plumbers will be piping the most. There is also Liquid Nitrogen LN₂ with a temperature of negative-320 °F that is commonly used for instantaneous cooling or freezing.



N₂ is a gas system required in most laboratories or hospitals, its main application is to operate precision tools due to the lack of water or oxygen. Moisture will interfere with the tools' internal components creating rust, or corrosion. In addition, Nitrogen is not flammable. This property is one of the reasons that make it the right substance to be used pressurized in fire protection dry systems to keep the dry piping array free of corrosion. Nitrogen is also one of the main components of a dry chemical extinguishing system. Other uses for this gas are:

- Food Packaging equipment – Nitrogen gas is used to displace oxygen in the packaging process. To preserve the food for a longer time. N₂ is also used as an impact cushion around the food to keep it from breaking during packing distribution or transportation.
- Chemical Process Plants – Nitrogen gas is used to displace oxygen and prevent explosions in highly dangerous places such as manufacturing shops or chemical treatment plants.
- Race cars -Tire Inflation – Nitrogen gas offers many benefits when used in tires. Nitrogen keeps them cooler as the temperature is raised inside due to friction keeping the flat side of the tire attached to the pavement and in consequence obtaining more speed with less fuel consumption.
- Electronics – When electronics are being assembled, nitrogen gas is used for soldering to reduce surface tension in the process.
- Pharmaceuticals – Nitrogen is found in many medications, even antibiotics. In addition in form of nitrous oxide, is commonly used as an anesthetic.

- Compressed Air replacement – Most precision pneumatic tools work better with N2 due to the lack of water in it reducing oxidation consequences. And due to the lack of oxygen there is hardly any corrosion inside the tool and/or mechanism mechanisms.

There are N2 generators that are used for huge demands and Cylinders of multiple sizes for defined consumption applications. N2 Cylinders are the most common application in Plumbing. And within those cylinders size K (No.2) is the most common used in our industry

The industry has standardized a color deification code to recognize the contains of a cylinder. Cylinders may come in multiple colors; however, the labels on cylinders and piping must follow the color coding as indicated on Table 2-8. (RE: ASPE PEDH books)

Table 2-8 Color Coding for Piped Medical Gases

Gas Intended for Medical Use	United States Color	Canada Color
Oxygen	Green	Green on white ^a
Carbon dioxide	Gray	Black on gray
Nitrous oxide	Blue	Silver on blue
Cyclopropane	Orange	Silver on orange
Helium	Brown	Silver on brown
Nitrogen	Black	Silver on black
Air	Yellow*	White and black on black and white
Vacuum	White	Silver on yellow ^a
Gas mixtures (other than mixtures of oxygen and nitrogen)	Color marking of mixtures shall be a combination of colors corresponding to each component gas.	
Gas mixtures of oxygen and nitrogen		
19.5 to 23.5% oxygen	Yellow ^a	Black and white
All other oxygen concentrations	Black and green	Pink

Source: Compressed Gas Association, Inc.

^a Historically, white has been used in the United States and yellow has been used in Canada to identify vacuum systems. Therefore, it is recommended that white not be used in the United States and yellow not be used in Canada as a marking to identify containers for use with any medical gas. Other countries may have differing specific requirements.

Not everyone gets into Lab-Systems, however Nitrogen, is a good general knowledge to have. As mentioned before, the use of Nitrogen is becoming more and more common across multiple disciplines in our industry.

Sizing a system is very similar to the rest of the systems, is based on the pressure demand at each outlet, friction loss sue to the length of the system and friction. On the ASPE PEDH Volume Three Chapter 12 Laboratory Gases, system sizing procedures and pipe sizing tables for Nitrogen and other Lab-gases can be found.

References:

- ASPE Design Handbooks, IPC (International Plumbing Code), & UPC (Uniform Plumbing Code)
- Los Alamos National Laboratory, U.S. Department of Energy

J. Francisco DeHoyos, CPD, FASPE.
Senior Plumbing Designer.



jfdehoyos@gmail.com



ASPE Central Texas Chapter, VPL.
ASPE Houston Chapter, Education Chairman.
ASPE Society Legislative Committee, Co-Chairman.
ASPE Society Education Committee, Member.
ASPE Society Long Range Committee, Member.





August

- 08/20/22 **Summer Outing at Skeeters Game**
- 08/12/22 **ASPE Houston BoD Meeting**

September

- 09/07/22 **Houston Chapter Meeting**
- 09/12/22 **ASPE Houston BoD Meeting**
- TBD **Houston AYP Event**
- TBD **Houston WOA Event**
- TBD **Product Show Committee Meeting**
- 09/16/22 -
- 09/22/22 **ASPE Convention & Expo**

October

- 10/05/22 **Houston Chapter Meeting**
- 10/14/22 **ASPE Houston BoD Meeting**
- TBD **Houston AYP Event**
- TBD **Houston WOA Event**
- TBD **Product Show Committee Meeting**

November

- 11/02/22 **Houston Chapter Meeting**
- 11/11/22 **ASPE Houston BoD Meeting**
- TBD **Houston WOA Event**
- TBD **Product Show Committee Meeting**
- TBD **Intermediate Plumbing Design Course**
- TBD **Revit Training Workshop**

December

- 12/03/22 **Chapter Christmas Party**
- TBD **Product Show Committee Meeting**
- TBD **Houston AYP Event**

January

- TBD **Houston Plant Tour**
- 01/13/23 **ASPE Houston BoD Meeting**

February

- 02/01/23 **Houston Chapter Meeting**
- 02/10/23 **ASPE Houston BoD Meeting**
- TBD **Houston AYP Event**
- TBD **Houston WOA Event**
- 02/19/23 -
- 02/25/23 **Engineer's Week (U.S.)**
- TBD **Product Show Committee Meeting**

March

- 03/01/23 **Houston Chapter Meeting**
- 03/10/23 **ASPE Houston BoD Meeting**
- TBD **Houston AYP Event**
- TBD **Houston WOA Event**
- TBD **CPD Exam Review Course**
- TBD **CPD Mock Exam**
- 03/11/23 **World Plumbing Day**
- TBD **Product Show Committee Meeting**

April

- 04/05/23 **ASPE Houston Product Show**
- 04/14/23 **ASPE Houston BoD Meeting**

May

- 05/03/23 **Houston Chapter Meeting**
- 05/12/23 **ASPE Houston BoD Meeting**
- TBD **Houston AYP Event**
- TBD **Houston WOA Event**

June

- TBD **Joint meeting with IAPMO/ASSE**
- 06/16/23 **ASPE Houston BoD Meeting**
- TBD **Houston AYP Event**
- TBD **Houston WOA Event**

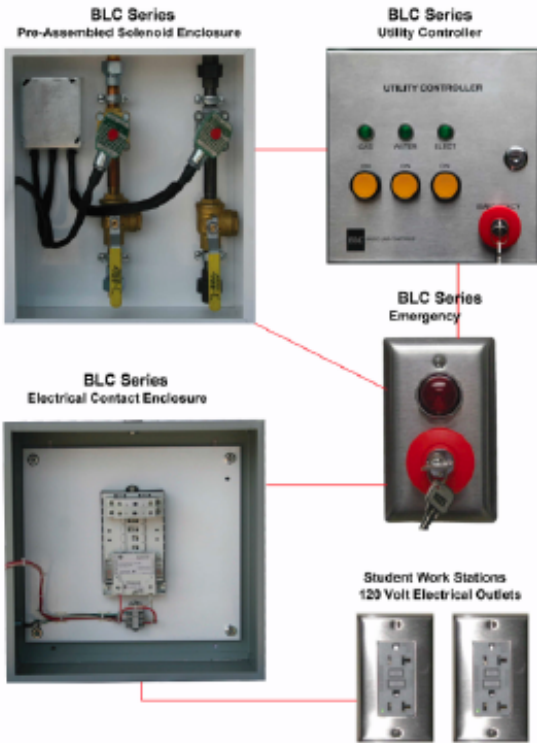
July

	Chapter		Board of Directors
	AYP		Product Show
	WOA		Convention/Technical Symposium

BASIC LAB CONTROLS

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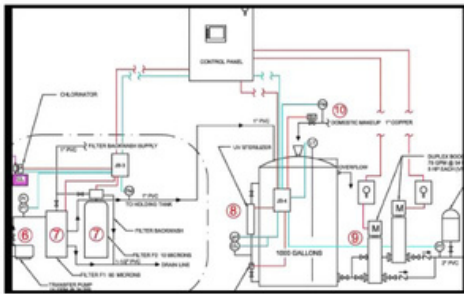
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Remembering the Times



Moe's Musing

Can we talk?
cmoseley@bdmi-ce.com
Office: 713.866.8535
Mobile: 832.603.1218



Lee Smith tells us "good bye" at age 81. *I had heard about Lee Smith from contractors, long before meeting the man. Contractors knowing that Lee would be inspecting their project added a factor to their quote because strict compliance to the specification was understood...NO DEVIATIONS. Lee was a fair man and made the rules clear from the beginning..."this specification is the Bible for this project and it will be enforced." Lee was feared, but he was ALWAYS respected because he was fair and it was not personal. My favorite Lee Smith story goes something like this: Lee asked a contractor whether he had correctly sealed the joints in the ducting. The contractor said "why don't you check for yourself?" Lee acquired a bosun's chair and lowered himself into the duct to inspect it. This was unfortunate for the contractor who was now wishing he would have done it right the first time, or lied instead of issuing a challenge! LOL Curtis Dady*

Here is Lee's personal *good bye* to the industry. This farewell is a testament to the man as we know him. His life backs up his words and he offers advice that we know comes straight from his heart:

To Everyone,

Everything is OK, I have notified Home Land Security and the National Earthquake Center to expect a very lot of loud noise, foot stomping and shooting up in the air from a lot of suppliers and contractors. I have given my retirement notification to my bosses as of Oct. 8, 2014. After the Korean War and college, I started in this business in 1961 and have had the privilege of working for three of the best engineering firms in Houston: Bernard Johnson Engr., I.A. Naman + Assoc. and BDMI. I was hired by these three firms to do a job, first in the design and for the most part in Construction Administration. I have tried to do that job within the framework of the Contract Documents. Nothing more, nothing less. Should the Owners be expected to take anything less than what was specified, and hopefully bid, in the Contract Documents for his job? My dad would have called that FRAUD if the Owner received anything less from the suppliers and contractors.

It has really been my privilege to work with some of the best suppliers and contractors thru the years. There have been many men and women in our industry that have been outstanding leaders in their fields. Not just the office people, but the hands in the field that are doing the installing. THANKS TO ALL OF YOU. IT HAS BEEN A GREAT RIDE. Now don't let that warm, fuzzy feeling of exuberance, celebration and jubilation get out of hand, because I still have my RED pencil and several firms have shown a desire for me to do some part time work for them.

And finally the most important thing I can leave you with: IF YOU DON'T KNOW JESUS CHRIST AS YOU LORD AND SAVIOR, YOU NEED TO MAKE THAT DECISION TODAY. Call me if you need any assistance with that decision. When we were put on this earth we were not given any guarantee of the very next breath of life. Best wishes for you, your families and your companies.

Lee Smith
Burns, DeLatte & McCoy, Inc.
320 Westcott, Suite 100
Houston, TX 77007

The following are the current construction codes enforced by the City of Houston.

Code	Publisher	Effective Date
2015 International Residential Code (with Houston Amendments)	ICC	April 1, 2022
2015 International Building Code (with Houston Amendments)	ICC	April 1, 2022
2015 International Fire Code (with Houston Amendments)	ICC	April 1, 2022
2015 International Existing Building Code (with Houston Amendments)	ICC	April 1, 2022
2015 Uniform Mechanical Code (with Houston Amendments)	IAPMO	April 1, 2022
2015 Uniform Plumbing Code (with Houston Amendments)	IAPMO	April 1, 2022
2018 Swimming Pool and Spa Code (with Houston Amendments)	ICC	April 1, 2022
2020 National Electrical Code (State Mandated) • Administrative Code Provisions (Effective April 1, 2022)	NFPA	November 1, 2020
Sign Code (Chapter 46 of the Houston Building Code)	COH	July 29, 2020
2015 International Energy Conservation Code (with Houston Amendments) - <i>For One and Two-Family Dwellings and Multi-Family 3 stories or less.</i>	ICC	October 24, 2016*
2015 International Energy Conservation Code (with Houston Amendments) - <i>For Commercial Structures, including Residential Structures more than 3 stories</i>	ICC	December 9, 2016*
ASHRAE 90.1-2013 (with Houston Amendments) - <i>For Commercial Structures, including Residential Structures more than 3 stories</i>	ASHRAE	December 9, 2016*
2012 Code Words - various sections interpreted and administrative policies	COH	N/A

* The enforcement of Chapter 11 of the 2015 International Residential Code became mandatory by state law effective September 1, 2016. The enforcement of the 2015 IECC-Commercial Provisions became mandatory by state law effective November 1, 2016.

ICC International Code Council
500 New Jersey Avenue, NW
6th Floor, Washington, DC 20001
(888) 422-7233
<http://www.iccsafe.org>

IAPMO International Association of
Plumbing and Mechanical Officials
4755 E. Philadelphia St
Ontario, CA 91761
(909) 472-4100
<http://www.iapmo.org>

NFPA National Fire Protection Association
1 Batterymarch Park
Quincy, MA 02269
1 (800) 344-3555
<http://www.nfpa.org/>

ACCESSIBILITY

For regulations pertaining to Accessibility, please contact:

Texas Department of Licensing & Regulation
920 Colorado P.O. Box 12157
Austin, Texas 78711

Toll-Free (in Texas) 800-803-9202
Tel: (512) 539-5669
Fax: (512) 539-5690
TDD: (800) 735-2989
<https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/ab/abtas.htm>

The Houston Amendments to the Codes, the Sign Code, and 2012 Code Word can be downloaded at:
<https://www.houstonpermittingcenter.org/help/codes>



**City of Houston
Building Inspection
CODE WORD 2015**

INTERPRETATIONS AND APPLICATIONS OF
THE HOUSTON ADOPTED CODES

*2015 IBC, 2015 IRC, 2015 IFC, 2015 IEBC, 2015 UMC, 2015 UPC,
2015 IECC and ASHRAE 90.1-2013, 2018 ISPS, 2020 NEC,
Published 04-01-22*

CW No:	2015-P12	Page:	1	of	1
PUBLICATION:	January 3, 2023				
SUBJECT:	Use of ProVent and SoVent Plumbing Systems				
CODE(S):	Plumbing				
SECTION(S)	Chapter 7, Sanitary Drainage; Section 711, Suds Relief				

The use of ProVent or SoVent plumbing systems shall be approved based on compliance with all of the following specific conditions:

- 1) The ProVent or SoVent plumbing system is designed specifically for the structure in question as currently proposed;
- 2) A Texas-licensed professional engineer shall seal, sign, and date all plumbing plans;
- 3) All suds-producing fixtures as defined by Section 711.1 of the Houston-adopted UPC (2015) shall be served by a separate conventional drain waste and vent system;
- 4) All other code requirements shall be met;
- 5) Combustible materials located in ducts or plenums shall comply with all requirements of Section 602.2 of the Houston-adopted UMC (2015); and
- 6) The building owner agrees that no future modifications to the ProVent or SoVent plumbing system shall be made without prior City of Houston approval of plumbing plans that are designed, sealed, signed, and dated by a Texas-licensed professional engineer.

The review and approval process shall include:

- 1) Plumbing Plan Review shall require that a notarized acceptance letter signed by the building owner be attached to the plans. The letter shall specifically identify the name and position (authority) of the person signing, and shall specifically list all of the above conditions along with the signatory's expressed acceptance of those conditions.
- 2) Upon approval of the plans, a hard hold shall be placed in the project 109 and situs 126 screens as follows:

Permit Type	12	
Department	420	PLUMBING INS
Hold Type	H	
Reason	ENG. PLANS REQ'D FOR HODS TO PROVENT PLUMBING	

(Specify ProVent or SoVent, as applicable.) This hold shall never be released! It shall remain in the system in perpetuity, and shall only be allowed to have a temporary override done by the Building Official, the Plumbing Inspections Division Manager or Assistant Chief in order to have a permit sold or finalized.

NOTE: In buildings with multiple floors or suite numbers, this hold shall be placed in the 126 screens of each and every floor or suite number so that it will appear on any future project generated in the system for that building.



City of Houston
Building Inspection
CODE WORD 2015

INTERPRETATIONS AND APPLICATIONS OF
THE HOUSTON ADOPTED CODES
2015 IBC, 2015 IRC, 2015 IFC, 2015 IEBC, 2015 UMC, 2015 UPC,
2015 IECC and ASHRAE 90.1-2013, 2018 ISPSC, 2020 NEC,
Published 04-01-22

CW No:	2015 – B32	Page:	1	of	1
PUBLICATION:	May 7, 2020				
REVISION:	October 17, 2022				
SUBJECT:	Plumbing Fixture Count Interpretation				
CODE(S):	Houston Building Code (2015)				
SECTION(S)	IBC Sections [P] 2902.1 and [P] 2902.3				

The purpose of this code word is to clarify the application of two code provisions of Chapter 29 of the Houston *Building Code* as they relate to the availability and fixture count of public toilet facilities.

[P] 2902.1 Minimum number of fixtures. Plumbing fixtures shall be provided in the minimum number as shown in Table 2902.1 based on the actual use of the building or space. Uses not shown in Table 2902.1 shall be considered individually by the code official. The number of occupants shall be determined by this code.

[P] 2902.3 Employee and public toilet facilities. Customers, patrons and visitors shall be provided with public toilet facilities in structures and tenant spaces intended for public utilization. The number of plumbing fixtures located within the required toilet facilities shall be provided in accordance with Section 2902.1 for all users. Employee toilet facilities shall be either separate or combined employee and public toilet facilities.

Exception: Public toilet facilities shall not be required in:

1. Open or enclosed parking garages where there are no parking attendants.
2. Structures and tenant spaces intended for quick transactions, including takeout, pickup and drop-off, having a public access area less than or equal to 300 square feet (28 m²).

This section specifically indicates that customers, patrons and visitors shall be provided public toilet facilities for all structures and lease spaces intended to be utilized by the public including, but not limited to, any persons who may be engaged in the activities of the establishment. Public establishments include but are not limited to any facility utilized by the public including restaurants, nightclubs, theaters, offices, retail shops, stadiums, libraries, churches, and includes educational and daycare facilities. Persons engaged in the activities of the establishment include employees, as well as any other usual occupants, or visitors that may have business at the facility even for brief meetings or assemblies.

As indicated in the published commentary for this section, the total occupant load of the facility shall be used to determine the minimum number of plumbing fixtures required for the public toilet facilities. Private toilet facilities such as those located within individual classrooms or private offices that are not readily available and provide direct access from the public or common areas shall not count towards the minimum plumbing fixtures required for the public toilet facilities. Additionally, restricted purpose toilet fixtures such as, but not limited to, reduced size or height plumbing fixtures (such as those provided for children) shall not contribute to the minimum public plumbing fixture count required for the total occupant load served.



Plans review Contacts

Steve Spillman

Plan anylist Supervisor Plumbing

832-394-9174

Bobby Lewis

832-394-9175

Russell Logan

832-394-9176

Cassidy Spell

832-394-9524

Richard Warren

832-394- 9182



TEXAS GULF COAST CHAPTER of
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
PLUMBING AND MECHANICAL OFFICIAL



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2023

Mexican Dinner
\$15.00
Donation
Per Person

Cash Bar

4-\$25 Gift Cards to
be given away

Cadillac Bar and Grill
1802 Shepherd Drive
Houston, TX 77007

Social 5:30—6:00 PM
Meeting 6:00—8:00 PM

Event Sponsors:



Guest Speaker:

Jonathon Sargeant

**Top 10 List: Do's and Don't's
Inspecting CSST Gas Piping Systems**

Please acknowledge receipt of this correspondence by February 20th in order for the meal count to be verified.

Email: tgcc_iapmo@att.net

or call :

Ed Bowman at (832) 588-8580



2023 **AHR** EXPO **Atlanta** FEB 6-8



2023 AHR Expo Dates & Location

Monday, Feb 6 >>> 10am - 6pm

Tuesday, Feb 7 >>> 10am - 6pm

Wednesday, Feb 8 >>> 10am - 4pm

Georgia World Congress Center
Atlanta, Georgia

Work in the HVACR industry? The AHR Expo is your event.

Who Exhibits

Manufacturers showcasing products and technology in the following categories:

- Heating
- Cooling
- Refrigeration
- Ventilation
- Plumbing
- Indoor Air Quality
- Building Automation & Control
- Sustainable Solutions
- Software
- Tools & Instruments
- Business Management

Who Attends

HVACR professionals from every segment of the industry, including:

- Engineers
- Contractors
- OEMs
- Design/Build Professionals
- Wholesalers & Distributors
- Manufacturer's Agents/Reps
- Architects
- Facility Managers
- Public Utility Professionals
- Publishers/Content Producers
- Educators



Meeting Minutes

ASPE Houston Board of Directors

Date: January 13, 2023
Time: 11:30 am
Location: Saltgrass Steak House

Board Members:

- (JCP) Jeremy Charmchizadeh, President
- (JCT) Jaime Cruz, VP Technical
- (CD) Curtis Dady, VP Membership
- (DC) David Cropper, VP Legislative
- (GM) Geoffrey Moore, Treasurer
- (BT) Billy Turcios, Administrative Secretary
- (CT) Chris Tuey, Corresponding Secretary

Board Members Present: JC, JC, CD, DC, CT – quorum 5 of 9 present

Others:

- Zed Hernandez
- Greg Salter
- Joe Brewers

1. Call to order: 11:38 am
2. Motion and 2nd to approve previous month's meeting minutes – PASSED
3. Motion and 2nd to approve previous month's treasurer's report – PASSED
4. (JC) Survey at previous chapter meeting was good, i.e., a lot of interest in an intermediate level review class. Let's start organizing. Date to be sometime before year's end. Use Champion training center in Conroe.
5. World Plumbing Day: Donald Taylor has coordinated and has agreement with Pearland Junior High East
6. Technical meetings
 - a. Review layout with Dukessa – speaker in front of windows so people going to the bathroom do not walk by speaker.
 - b. Food needs to be out earlier so people are at least mostly finished eating prior to presentation.
7. Joe Brewers – AYP event Feb 2 at Pinstripes. Rheem will be host.
8. Gave go-ahead for Chris Ennis to start planning events for 2023 – Picnic, August outing, Christmas