2009 Uniform Plumbing Code and Uniform Mechanical Code Designated as American National Standards

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) announced the 2009 editions of the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC©) and Uniform Mechanical Code (UMC©), developed by IAPMO using an ANSI-accredited consensus process and released on March 1, have been awarded designation as American National Standards. This marks the third time the UPC and UMC have earned the designation; the 2003 and 2006 editions were similarly recognized.

ANSI accreditation signifies that the procedures used by standards setting organizations such as IAPMO meet the Institute’s requirements for openness, balance, consensus and due process. This process brings together volunteers representing a variety of viewpoints and interests to achieve consensus on plumbing and mechanical practices. The UPC and UMC are the only plumbing and mechanical codes of practice to be named American National Standards.

Introduced in Los Angeles in 1928 and formally published as the Uniform Plumbing Code in 1945, the UPC is developed to govern the installation and inspection of plumbing systems as a means of promoting the public’s health, safety and welfare. Later published by IAPMO in 1967, the UMC provides the same governance for mechanical (HVAC, combustion, exhaust, refrigeration) systems. Developed and subsequently republished at the conclusion of each three-year code cycle, the UPC and UMC are designed to provide consumers with safe plumbing, heating and mechanical systems while, at the same time, allowing latitude for innovation and new technologies.

"We are extremely proud to once again have the UPC and UMC recognized by ANSI in this manner, primarily because this designation reaffirms our true consensus development process and the fact our
procedures allow each and every stakeholder a voice and a vote in the final product," said GP Russ Chaney, executive director of IAPMO.

The 2009 **UPC** and **UMC** were formally released on Sunday, completing the third ANSI-accredited development cycle for each code. Key changes to the **2009 UPC** include new requirements for the installation of nonwater urinals, new requirements for distribution of hot water and updates and revisions to the identification of potable and nonpotable water systems. Key changes to the **2009 UMC** include new requirements for outdoor air ventilation, new requirements for the protection of mechanical equipment against flood damage and new approved referenced standards for hydronics systems.

IAPMO now looks to gain the ANS designation for its **Uniform Solar Energy Code©** and **Uniform Swimming Pool, Spa and Hot Tub Code©**, with new editions developed for the first time using an ANSI-accredited process due later this year.

The public at large is encouraged and invited to participate in IAPMO’s open consensus code development process. A code development timeline and other relevant information are available at IAPMO’s Website, www.iapmo.org.

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**IAPMO Schedules Technical Committee Meetings, Releases 2009 **UPC** and **UMC****

IAPMO will hold its annual Technical Committee Meetings May 4-5 at the Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark in St. Louis, Mo. The meetings are a key yearly event in the ANSI-accredited code development process for the **Uniform Plumbing Code** (**UPC**) and **Uniform Mechanical Code** (**UMC**).

The 2009 editions of the **UPC** and **UMC** were released March 1, formally completing the previous three-year consensus development cycle. The meetings in St. Louis will kick off development of the 2012 editions of these codes.

The **UPC** Technical Committee Meeting will take place Monday, May 4. Topics for discussion will include:

- Determination on whether a Task Group should be formed to address harmonization of fuel gas provisions between the **2009 UPC** (Chapters 5 and 12), **2009 UMC** (Chapters 8 and 13) and other chapters that cover the same subject matter.
- Recommending Correlation Task Group to identify editorial and technical inconsistencies within the **2009 UPC**.
- Recommending Correlation Standards Task Group to address issues on Table 14-1, such as updating standards, existing standards that have not been updated in years, correlating section numbers and applicable sections where none exist.

The **UMC** Technical Committee Meeting will take place Tuesday, May 5. Topics for discussion will include:

- Determination on whether a Task Group should be formed to address harmonization of fuel gas provisions between the **2009 UPC** (Chapters 5 and 12), **2009 UMC** (Chapters 8 and 13) and other chapters that cover the same subject matter.
- Recommending Correlation Task Group to relocate code sections and identify editorial and technical inconsistencies within the **2009 UMC**.
- Recommending Ventilation Rate Task Group to modify Chapter 4.
- Recommending Standards Task Group to address issues on Table 17-1, such as updating standards, existing standards that have not been updated in years, correlating section numbers and applicable sections where none exist.
- Review of proposed Tentative Interim Amendments (TIA).

In accordance with the ANSI-accredited process, the TC Meetings are open to the public, affording anybody with a stake in the development of these codes the opportunity to bring forth new ideas and technological advances toward the betterment of the Uniform Codes. To find out more about the procedures necessary for participation at the TC Meetings and/or get help registering at the hotel, direct your Web browser to http://www.iapmo.org/Pages/MeetingsandConferences.aspx.
The Uniform Codes are designed to provide consumers with safe and sanitary plumbing and mechanical systems while, at the same time, allowing latitude for innovation and new technologies. The public at large is encouraged and invited to participate in IAPMO's open consensus code development process. A code development timeline and other relevant information are available at IAPMO's Website, www.iapmo.org.

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**Accepting Nominations for Green Contractor, George Kauffman Award**

Nominations are being accepted for both the Green Contractor of the Year Award and the George Kauffman Lifetime Achievement Award, to be presented at the 80th Annual Education and Business Conference, Sept. 27-Oct. 1, 2009, in San Diego, California.

New for this year, the Green Contractor Award will honor the IAPMO member contractor who best fulfills or symbolizes a commitment to environmental sustainability through his or her work in the plumbing and mechanical industries. It will be given in addition to IAPMO's long-standing annual honors, the Industry Person of the Year, Government Person of the Year and American Flag awards, and the George Kauffman Lifetime Achievement Award, given each year a worthy honoree is nominated and selected by the IAPMO Board of Directors.

Nominations will be accepted until May 15, 2009. To download the application form, go to http://forms.iapmo.org/docs/AwardApplication.pdf.

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**Check Out OFFICIAL in New Digital Format!**

Now IAPMO members can read Official magazine online, in an easy-to-use digital format. Jump right to articles you want to read from the electronic table of contents, download or print content to keep and follow clickable links for more information on the manufacturer, person or product referenced. Just click the magazine cover and get started!

All six issues of Official this year will be available in this electronic manner, with the Spring, Summer (June), Fall (August) and Winter (December) issues also arriving at your mailing address in standard printed format. Two issues, dubbed E-Official and scheduled for online publication in April and October, will only be available via the new electronic delivery system.

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**Standards Council Issues TIA UPC-001-09 and Approves Extracted ASHRAE 62.1-2007, Ventilation Rate Table**


The decision on UPC-001-09 results in the removal of text from Section 211.0 regarding the definition of "insanitary" and the addition of an exception to Section 405.2 regarding prohibited urinals in the 2009 UPC.

Stricken from the list of conditions in Section 211.0 to which "insanitary" shall apply is "Any plumbing fixture or other waste discharging receptor or device that is not supplied with water sufficient to flush and maintain the fixture or receptor in a clean condition."

"This TIA correlates language that was added elsewhere in the code clarifying that not all plumbing fixtures use water in order to function properly," said Lynne Simnick, director of Code Development.

The exception for "Non-water urinals" was added to Section 405.2, Prohibited Urinals, because non-water urinals do not have a visible seal as described in this section, therefore an exception was added to correlate language.
The TIA was balloted through the Plumbing Technical Committee in accordance with the Regulations Governing Committee Projects. Though it did not receive three-fourths majority support on technical merit and emergency nature, the Standards Council felt UPC-001-09 was needed in order to correct an omission and conflict due to additional text added to the 2009 code.

The Standards Council similarly voted favorably to approve the extraction of revised text from the 2007 edition of ASHRAE 62.1: Table 4-1 titled Minimum Ventilation Rates in Breathing Zone. This updated table will replace the previous version published as Chapter 4, Table 4-1 in the 2006 edition of the UMC. The extracted text also includes two new footnotes regarding default occupancy for studio/one bedroom dwelling units and the prevention of air recirculation from one dwelling unit to another.

In accordance with the Extract Guidelines, the revised Table 4-1 will appear in the 2009 edition of the UMC. As the extract was processed pursuant to the Extract Guidelines, but outside of the regular revision process, Table 4-1 will include a reference bracket below the table title indicating that the material is extracted from ASHRAE 62.1-2007.

To examine TIA UPC-001-09 or Table 4-1 in their entirety, and/or any other TIAs affecting the Uniform Codes, please direct your Web browser to http://www.iapmo.org/Pages/TIADecisions.aspx.

TIAs are proposals based on the determination of an emergency nature requiring prompt action to amend code that contains an error or omission that was overlooked during the regular code development process, contains a conflict within the document or with another IAPMO document, or to correct a hazard, promote an advancement in safeguarding the public or provide an opportunity to correct an adverse impact on a product or method of installation.

Newly-Named 'Plumbing Efficiency Research Coalition' (PERC) Identifies Drainline Transport as First Joint Project

The newly-named Plumbing Efficiency Research Coalition, (PERC) formed last month through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), has identified Drainline Transport as its first research project. The Coalition is comprised of five industry organizations seeking to conduct much-needed research in a number of areas. Representing the Coalition on the initial conference call to establish the first project were: Mary Ann Dickinson, Alliance for Water Efficiency (AWE); Pete De Marco, International Association of Plumbing & Mechanical Officials (IAPMO); Jay Peters, International Code Council (ICC); Ike Casey, Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors Association (PHCC); and Barbara Higgen, Plumbing Manufacturers Institute (PMI).

IAPMO's Pete DeMarco will serve as project coordinator for this inaugural research study and will also chair the Technical Committee assigned to the project. Each of the five member associations of PERC has named a representative to this committee. The first order of business is to define the parameters of the project.

With the enactment of the Energy Policy Act of 1992, all water closets (toilets) manufactured in or imported into the United States were required to flush no more than a maximum average of 1.6 US gallons, effective January 1, 1994 for residential models and January 1, 1997 for all models. At that time, concern for drainline transport efficacy was voiced by many in the plumbing trade and those in various professional associations. However, early reporting and research on 1.6 gallon per flush (gpf) water closet models focused primarily on the flush efficacy of the various water closet models on the market in response to significant consumer complaints about poor flush performance. Intermittent and anecdotal complaints of drainline transport problems were not thoroughly researched and largely attributed to older or faulty sanitary drain lines. Since then, water closet manufacturers have made great strides in improving flushing performance.

Recently, the need to find additional efficiencies on water consuming plumbing fixtures has resulted in the creation of voluntary specifications that eliminate another 20% from the flush discharge volume of water closets, bringing consumption down to a maximum average of 1.28 gpf. These toilets are known as High Efficiency Toilets (HETs). Some water closet manufacturers are now voluntarily offering models that flush at 1.0 gpf. This activity has rightfully raised the debate of drainline carry efficacy anew. Many plumbing experts are concerned that we are at or approaching a “tipping point” where a significant number of sanitary waste systems will be affected by drainline transport problems, especially in larger commercial systems that have long horizontal runs to the sewer. Recently, drainline transport problems in Europe and Australia have been reported, further raising concerns.

Looking forward, newer technologies, such as non-water consuming and High Efficiency urinals (HEUs), lower flow rate faucets and increasingly efficient water consuming appliances will further reduce the amount of water discharged into sanitary waste systems. Grey water reuse systems, a system that collects discharged water from lavatory basins, clothes washers, bathtubs and shower fixtures for reuse, usually for irrigation purposes, is another emerging technology that significantly reduces waste water in residential sanitary drainage systems. Yet, to date, an extensive research project of sufficient
scope to be able to determine if significant problems could arise regarding drain line transport has yet to be conducted.

The Plumbing Efficiency Research Coalition was founded to develop research projects that will support the development of water efficiency and sustainable plumbing products, systems and practices. Projects will be financed through government grants, foundations and private financing.

Central Alaska Chapter and IAPMO Career Services Partner to Produce Continuing Education in Anchorage

The Central Alaska Chapter of IAPMO is partnering with IAPMO Career Services for the first time to produce two continuing education courses May 8-9 in Anchorage, Alaska. A licensed IAPMO code instructor will lead two separate one-day seminars focused on key points of the 2006 Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) and International Mechanical Code (IMC).

"2006 UPC Essentials," on May 8, will provide a general overview of the 2006 UPC. Students will walk away from the seminar with a greater understanding of how the code is organized, how to properly apply it under varying circumstances and fresh interpretations of its key concepts and provisions. Topics covered will include, but are not limited to, definitions, general regulations, fixtures and fittings, water heaters, water supply and distribution, drainage, vents, and traps and interceptors.

"2006 IMC Core Topics," on May 9, will focus on specific concepts and provisions of IMC chapters 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10 and 11. The instructor will lead in-depth discussion about general regulations, exhaust systems, combustion air, specific appliances, boilers, water heaters, pressure vessels and refrigeration.

Each of the courses will provide eight hours of continuing education for a total of 1.6 CEUs. IAPMO is an approved provider of continuing education by the State of Alaska, AIA and IACET.

"The Alaska Chapter officers' decision to partner with IAPMO Career Services will provide an outstanding opportunity for their members to receive the most vital and up-to-date seminars offered by IAPMO," said Dwight Perkins, director of field operations for IAPMO and manager of Alaska's region. "We invite all of our other 50-plus chapters to similarly enlist the help of Career Services on behalf of their members and local associates."

Chapters in San Diego, Calif., and Northern Nevada previously partnered with IAPMO Career Services for vastly successful educational training courses in their respective areas.

To register for the Alaska courses, direct your Web browser to http://www.iapmo.org/pages/AttendAnAOpenEnrollmentCourse.aspx or contact IAPMO at (877) 427-6601, ext. 3005.

New IAPMO Chapter in Pittsburg, KS

The IAPMO Board of Directors approved Pittsburg, KS as a new member chapter on Feb. 2, 2009. Originating with 35 members, the chapter becomes the fifth representing the Sunflower State.

Pittsburg is located in Crawford County, in Southeast Kansas. It lies 90 miles west of Springfield, Missouri, and 137 miles northeast of Tulsa, Oklahoma. With a population of around 20,000, it is the most populous city in Southeastern Kansas.

The chapter will make fulfilling the state's requirement of six hours of CEU's each year more accessible to plumbers. Pittsburgh uses the 2003 UPC, Crawford County the 2006 UPC.

At the chapter's first meeting, the 2009 officers were elected: Chairperson, Paul Keys; Vice Chair, Rich Rhue; and Secretary/Treasurer, Bob Gilmore.

For more information about the Pittsburg or any other IAPMO chapters, contact Johnni Brown at (909) 472-4109, or johnni.brown@iapmo.org, or visit http://www.iapmo.org/Pages/ChaptersInfo.aspx

IAPMO, Indian Plumbing Association to Implement Comprehensive Plumbing Training Initiative

Bengaluru, India — The lack of plumbing infrastructure and a trained, certified workforce has long plagued the citizens of India, for whom 7.5 percent of deaths each year can be directly attributed to
water and sanitation issues. In response, IAPMO is working with the Indian Plumbing Association (IPA) and its training arm, the Indian Institute of Plumbing (IIP), to help the nation make big strides forward in both areas of need.

Having already jointly developed the Uniform Plumbing Code-India (UPC-I), an extensive code of plumbing practice (published in February 2008) that will serve the people of India for years to come, the organizations subsequently turned their focus to education and training.

The ambitious Plumbing Education to Employment Program (PEEP) will offer structured courses of study to develop plumbing design engineers, plumbing construction managers/supervisors and plumbing installers/repairers.

No architecture or engineering course of study in India currently offers a diploma or degree in plumbing. An overwhelming percentage of the nation's plumbers are "casual laborers, who have learned the trade through personal experience or working with experienced plumbers," according to Sudhakaran Nair, IPA president and Executive Board member of the World Plumbing Council.

PEEP will be implemented in partnership with existing colleges, polytechnics and Industrial Training Institutes in India. The program is scheduled to launch in May. In the lead up, expert trainers from IAPMO will be conducting "Train the Trainer" programs to educate faculty members at the institutions participating in PEEP.

Graduates of the multi-level education programs created by PEEP will turn out with the following credentials:

- Certified Plumbing Engineer (CPE)
- Certified Plumbing Supervisor (CPS)
- Certified Apprentice Plumber (CAP)
- Certified Master Plumber (CMP)

"The collaboration between IAPMO, the IPA and IIP is an earnest and vitally important attempt to raise plumbing standards on behalf of the people of India," said GP Russ Chaney, executive director of IAPMO. "We applaud the work of our partners in this effort, as they are on the ground in India making things happen for the good of the entire population."

A syllabus and training materials for PEEP will soon be submitted by IAPMO for ratification by the IPA's expert committee. Education and training courses will be based on the UPC-I and the IPA, IIP and IAPMO-India will jointly issue all certifications earned through PEEP. IAPMO will support this initiative from its home base in Bengaluru, India.

Another first for IAPMO R&T: Certification to the California Lead Plumbing Law

In June 2008, Chicago Faucet became the first plumbing product manufacturer to have its products tested in compliance with the California law to allow a maximum weighted average lead count of ≤0.25 percent. Manufacturer Xiamen Lota followed in July 2008, Grohe in August 2008 and Globe Union in October 2008, each complying early with the requirements of California Assembly Bill 1953 and listing their products with IAPMO R&T.

Manufacturers have long trusted IAPMO R&T for its foresight in assisting them in meeting the dynamic legislative demands on their faucets, valves, fittings and other products that contact drinking water. Compliance to the law is based on a weighted average calculation of total surface area in contact with drinking water and the maximum percent lead content of materials used in the production of the item.

"In early September 2007, IAPMO R&T was already in the process of assisting product manufacturers in their compliance to these laws," said Shahin Moinian, senior director of IAPMO R&T. "Since then, we have listed more than 10 companies as showing their compliance to the new laws and the additional requirements of NSF/ANSI Standard 61. As is the case with all our listees, ongoing Compliance Conformance plant inspections are conducted annually on an unannounced basis. Our staff understands the significance to consumers illustrated by manufactures showing compliance to these wide ranging laws."

As a point of information, IAPMO R&T does offer certification to Annex G of NSF/ANSI 61. However, please note that Annex G is not the same as AB 1953 and therefore proof of compliance to this annex does not provide for proof of compliance to AB 1953.

Manufacturers can request more information on AB 1953 by contacting Shahin Moinian at (909) 472-4121 or shahin.moinian@iapmort.org. For more information on this and other services provided by IAPMO R&T, please visit www.iapmo.org.
Shared Waters — Shared Opportunities

The theme for this year's World Water Day is "Shared Water — Shared Opportunities". Held annually on March 22, the focus this year is to promote cooperation for transboundary water management.

Nearly 40 percent of the world's population lives in river and lake basins shared by two or more countries. The world's 263 transboundary lake and river basins include the territory of 145 countries and cover nearly half of the Earth's land surface, says the UN. Additionally, there are 270 known aquifers that move silently below borders.

With every country seeking to satisfy its water needs from limited water resources, some foresee a future filled with conflict. But history shows that cooperation, not conflict, is the most common response to transboundary water management issues.

Over the last 60 years there have been more than 300 international water agreements and only 37 cases of reported violence between states over water. We need to continue to nurture the opportunities for cooperation that transboundary water management can provide.

We share the responsibility for managing the world's transboundary waters for current and future generations.


PEX Plastic Pipe Unanimously Added to California Plumbing Code; State Officials Certify Favorable Environmental Impact Report

In a unanimous vote, the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) has approved the addition of PEX plastic pipe and tubing to the California Plumbing Code (CPC), allowing its use in hospitals, clinics, residential and commercial construction throughout the state of California. The Commission’s approval took place following certification of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on the use of PEX, indicating that it meets the rigorous standards of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

PEX (cross-linked polyethylene) will be officially added to the CPC when the new code is formally adopted on August 1, 2009. In the meantime, cities, counties and other local jurisdictions may approve the use of PEX, effective immediately.

The CBSC acted during its meeting in Sacramento on Thursday, January 22.

"This is a great day for consumers and a great day for the building industry in California," said Richard Church, executive director of the Plastic Pipe and Fittings Association (PPFA).

"PEX has probably been studied, scrutinized and analyzed more than any non-metal building material in history," said Church. "The result is a win-win for consumers and the environment."

The exhaustive EIR approved by the CBSC concluded that the use of PEX as outlined was an "environmentally superior alternative," meaning that that the inclusion of PEX in the California Plumbing Code was a "greener" alternative to leaving PEX out of the code.

The 296-page Environmental Impact Report took more than two years to produce and was prepared by the California Department of General Services working with EDAW, a leading planning and environmental design firm headquartered in San Francisco.

PPFA and PEX manufacturers were required to pay for the report, but to guarantee its impartiality, had no role in its preparation and development.

"One of great ironies of the environmental review PEX went through is best reflected in a question one CBSC member asked state officials during the approval process,” observed Church. "He wanted to know
if non-plastic materials had ever been subjected to the same public health and safety analysis PEX had just gone through.

"Amazingly the answer is 'no.' No other non-plastic building or plumbing material has ever been subjected to—or passed—such scrutiny," said Church. "California builders and home owners are finally able to utilize the well studied material in their projects, saving them both time and money."

A copy of the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) approved by the CBSC is available for download from the CBSC website at: http://www.documents.dgs.ca.gov/bsc/pex/2009/PEX%20FEIR_01-08-09.pdf


Maryland Considers Lead Free Bill

The Maryland House of Representatives have introduced HB 357, Business Occupations and Professions — Plumbers — Lead-Free Materials, a bill that mirrors California's lead-free plumbing bill.

The bill prohibits the use of specified plumbing materials containing more than a specified amount of lead [see definition of "Lead-free" below] from being used in the installation or repair of plumbing intended to dispense water for human consumption, and prohibits the sale of specified plumbing materials containing more than a specified amount of lead.

12-101 (H-1) "Lead-free" means: (1) Containing not more than 0.2% lead for solder and flux; (2) except as provided in paragraph (3) of this subsection, containing not more than (I) 4% by dry weight for plumbing fittings and fixtures; or (II) 8% lead by dry weight for pipes and pipe fittings; and (3) containing not more than a weighted average lead content of 0.25% for the wetted surfaces of a pipe, pipe fitting, plumbing fitting, or fixture intended to dispense water for human consumption through drinking or cooking.

If enacted, the legislation would be effective Jan. 1, 2011.

Progress of the bill can be tracked at http://mlis.state.md.us/2009rs/billfile/HB0357.htm

Man Fleeing Police Caught in Storm Sewer

A man became stuck for hours inside a storm sewer pipe after he fled from police officers, according to a story from the Chicago Tribune.

Authorities had suspected he was wanted in connection with a Tampa, Florida murder case, which they later determined he was not. When they approached to ask him questions, he fled into a nearby storm drain.

In his attempt to evade the police through the sewer, he became stuck in the narrow pipes. It took about 7 hours for law enforcement officials to locate and dig him out. When officials reached him he was suffering from exposure, and was incoherent and unable to walk on his own.

Industry Calendar

ISH Frankfurt
March 10-14, 2009
Frankfurt am Main
ish.messefrankfurt.com

International Water Efficiency Conference
March 30 - April 2, 2009
Newport Beach Marriott
Newport Beach, California
www.waterrec.net/wec.html

PHCC Leadership & Legislative Conference
April 28 - May 1, 2009
Arlington, Virginia
www.phccweb.org/

Kitchen & Bath Industry Show
May 1 - 3, 2009
Georgia World Congress Center
Georgia, Atlanta
www.kbis.com

IAPMO Technical Committee Meeting
May 4-9, 2009
Hilton at the Ballpark
St. Louis, Missouri
www.iapmo.org

64th National Hardware Show
May 5-7, 2009
Las Vegas Convention Center
Las Vegas, Nevada
www.nationalhardwareshow.com

ISH Kitchen & Bath Middle East
May 17-19, 2009
http://ish.messefrankfurt.com

PHCC 127th Annual Conference
April 29 - May 2, 2009
Arlington, Virginia
www.phccweb.org/

Upcoming Seminars

Earn your Continuing Education with IAPMO training.
IAPMO is an approved provider for Continuing Education by IACET, AIA and many local organizations and jurisdictions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Seminar Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 19, 2009</td>
<td>San Jose, CA</td>
<td>2007 CPC Essentials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 27, 2009</td>
<td>Billings, MT</td>
<td>2006 UPC Plumbing Code Montana Amendments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 17, 2009</td>
<td>Sacramento, CA</td>
<td>2007 CPC Essentials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 24, 2009</td>
<td>Atlanta, GA</td>
<td>2006 IMC Essentials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 20, 2009</td>
<td>Hawaii, HI</td>
<td>2006 UPC Essentials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 21, 2009</td>
<td>Oahu, HI</td>
<td>2006 UPC Essentials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 25, 2009</td>
<td>Anchorage, AK</td>
<td>2006 UPC Essentials - Alaska Amendments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 26, 2009</td>
<td>Anchorage, AK</td>
<td>2006 IMC Essentials</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contact the IAPMO Training staff to register at 1-877-427-6601, or go to our website http://www.iapmo.org/Pages/Seminar.aspx to register online. New training dates are added periodically!