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CONTACT US

International Association
of Plumbing and Mechanical
Officials

4755 E. Philadelphia St.
Ontario, CA 91761 USA
Phone: 1-909-472-4100

Fax: 909-472-4150

E-mail: iapmo@iapmo.org
Website: www.iapmo.org

IAPMO's Codes & Services
Department toll-free phone
number:

1-800-85-IAPMO

1(800-854-2766)

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OFFICIAL MAGAZINE



President Obama Signs IAPMO-Backed Federal Buildings Personnel Training Act into Law

President Obama late last Tuesday signed into law the Federal Buildings Personnel Training Act of 2010, legislation created with the support of and input from the IAPMO. This bipartisan legislation will promote best practices, including water efficiency, in all federal buildings.

This legislation requires U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) to categorize core competencies that federal personnel must maintain in all federal buildings. The legislation also directs GSA to work with professional societies, industry associations and apprenticeship training providers to ensure the federal government's personnel meet the required competencies. While this legislation provides some leeway for GSA to identify core competencies, the bill does mandate six areas that GSA must include as core competencies; maintenance, energy management, sustainability, water efficiency, safety (including electrical safety) and building performance measures.

IAPMO played an integral role in the inclusion of water efficiency as a core competency during the original bill's crafting in the U.S. House of Representatives by Congressman Russ Carnahan, D-Mo., and Congresswoman Judy Biggert, R-Ill. Senators Tom Carper, D-Del., and Susan Collins, R-Maine, introduced identical legislation in the U.S. Senate, as well.

"We fully support this new law and stand ready to assist GSA in establishing these core competencies," said IAPMO CEO GP Russ Chaney. "Due to IAPMO's expertise in this field, we appreciate the work of Rep. Carnahan, Rep Biggert, Sen. Carper and Sen. Collins, and support their effort in making water efficiency a core competency and priority for the federal government. I am thrilled that this legislation has now become law.

"As GSA is the single largest building owner and operator in the United States, IAPMO is excited to work with the federal government to ensure water efficiency truly becomes a core competency."

Founded in 1926, IAPMO remains the preeminent code development association for plumbing, mechanical and solar codes. With membership of approximately 3,300 professionals, IAPMO remains the only trade association whose codes are developed employing an open consensus process fully accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

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Massachusetts Adopts UMC as Basis of Statewide Sheet Metal Code

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Board of Examiners of Sheet Metal Workers voted 5-1 in favor of adopting the 2009 *Uniform Mechanical Code (UMC®)* as the basis for the commonwealth's newly created Massachusetts Sheet Metal Code (271 CMR). Slated for publication in January 2012, the new code will govern the installation, inspection and maintenance of air handling systems throughout Massachusetts.

Thrice designated as an American National Standard, the *UMC* is a model code developed and published since 1967 by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO) as a means of promoting the public's health, safety and welfare through sound materials and practices. IAPMO will work with the Board of Examiners of Sheet Metal Workers to amend the most recently published 2009 edition of the *UMC* into a document that best suits the needs of Massachusetts.

The 15th most populated state in the union, Massachusetts' plumbing industry is regulated by the Massachusetts Board of Examiners of Plumbers and Gasfitters. For the past nine years, IAPMO has been the exclusive administrator of the Continuing Education (CEU) program for each of the nearly 500 municipal plumbing and gas inspectors and is one of the Board approved organizations certified to provide CEU training for licensees in Massachusetts.

IAPMO will provide education to all of the state and municipal inspectors in the commonwealth and will conduct code training for all sheet metal licensees on the new Massachusetts Sheet Metal Code. In excess of 6,000 licensees are projected by February 2011.

"Our decade-strong relationship with Massachusetts paved the way for this significant vote of confidence in IAPMO's code, how it's developed and the lengths to which it goes to assure health and safety is protected," said IAPMO President Dan Daniels. "We are honored to play a substantial role in shaping the commonwealth's new guidelines."

The *UMC* is developed using the American National Standard Institute's consensus development procedures. This three-year process brings together volunteers representing a variety of viewpoints and interests to achieve consensus on mechanical issues.

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IAPMO, ASPE Sign MoU Outlining Future Collaboration

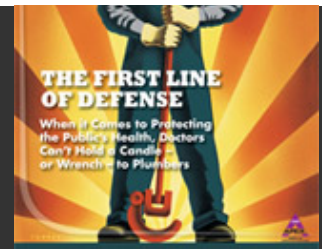
The International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO) and the American Society of Plumbing Engineers (ASPE) have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) specifically detailing ways in which the two venerable organizations will work together to jointly advance and promote the mutual interests of regulations, design, specifications, installation and inspection of plumbing systems.

Through this historic MoU, IAPMO and ASPE pledge cooperation in the achievement of numerous objectives, including the following:

- Identify and promote new and existing sustainability opportunities and services
- Agree to open dialogue to aid best practices in the plumbing industry
- Jointly promote and co-op respective educational programs, conferences, trade shows, publications, and standards and codes
- Encourage continuing dialogue in an effective and timely manner between IAPMO and ASPE at all organizational levels
- Promote the advantages of utilizing chapter resources to increase education and communication among chapter members of both organizations and encourage the participation of members from each organization to serve on technical committees and councils
- Support measures, including federal and state legislation, that work toward increasing the level of enforcement of plumbing and mechanical codes and standards in the United States and internationally

"ASPE has for years been a powerful ally in IAPMO's mission to provide safe, healthy plumbing systems for everybody," said GP Russ Chaney, IAPMO CEO, "and this MoU strengthens that spirit of altruistic collaboration tenfold."

Founded in Los Angeles in 1926, IAPMO has grown to be recognized the world over for its Uniform



NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE!

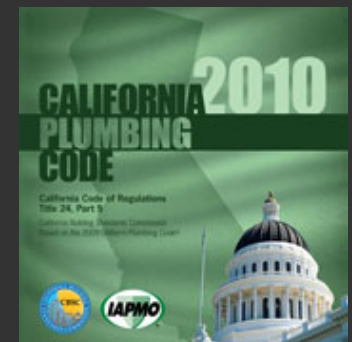
A subscription to Official is just one of the many benefits available to members of IAPMO, which include substantial discounts on most IAPMO publications and educational programs, the opportunity to update and improve the UPC and UMC, participation in local IAPMO chapters and an invitation to attend IAPMO's Annual Education and Business Conference. The conference offers superb educational seminars. Find out more at www.iapmo.org.

DW&BP MAGAZINE



Drinking Water & Backflow Prevention Magazine subscriptions: 1-888-FOR-DWBP (888-367-3927)

Subscriptions and/or advertising: 703-934-0115
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The 2010 California Code books are now available for sale. IAPMO

Codes. With offices in 11 states and seven countries, IAPMO has assisted with code development in such diverse places as Saudi Arabia, China, India, Jordan, Egypt, Israel, Vietnam, Indonesia, Philippines, Venezuela, Colombia, and the United Arab Emirates.

ASPE was founded in 1964 as an organization dedicated to the advancement of the plumbing engineering profession, growing from a group of less than 50 individuals in Los Angeles to an international society of more than 7,000 members.

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USA's Plumbing Efficiency Research Coalition (PERC) and The Australasian Scientific Review of Reduction of Flows on Plumbing and Drainage Systems (ASFlow) Sign MOU at EPA Headquarters

On December 3, 2010 the Plumbing Efficiency Research Coalition (PERC) and the Australasian Scientific Review of Reduction of Flows on Plumbing and Drainage Systems (ASFlow) Committee signed an historic MoU at US EPA headquarters in Washington DC. Both organizations are working on research programs that seek to investigate the impact of reduced water flows in sanitary drainage systems resulting from reductions in water use from plumbing fixtures and fittings, appliances and commercial and institutional equipment.

The need to conduct this research is profound. Many plumbing experts are concerned that we are at or approaching a "tipping point" where a significant number of sanitary waste systems will be adversely affected by drain line transport problems, especially in larger commercial systems that have long horizontal drain lines to the sewer. In fact, the US EPA's WaterSense™ incentive labeling program is holding off on developing a specification for High Efficiency Commercial Toilets pending research in the area of drain line transport.

The MoU details several areas of collaboration to ensure that research efforts are not duplicated and that information and research results are shared between the two organizations. In addition, the MoU calls for both organizations to interact internationally with standards developing organizations and other researchers for the betterment of global water efficiency efforts.

Signing the MoU for ASFlow will be Jeffrey Clark of the South Australian Water Corporation and Chair of the ASFlow Committee, and for PERC, Peter DeMarco of the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO), Chair of the PERC Technical Committee.

"This is the first MoU that we are aware of that calls for international collaboration on water efficiency research efforts," says DeMarco. "We can learn a great deal from our interactions with ASFlow and being able to develop our efforts building upon their knowledge and experience will be extremely important for PERC."

PERC has recently developed a low cost work plan for investigating reduced flows in drainage systems, with input from ASFlow, and is seeking funding to conduct their research program. PERC is hopeful that their program will receive funding and that work will commence in 2011.

About PERC: the Plumbing Efficiency Research Coalition is a collaborative effort between the Alliance for Water Efficiency (AWE) The International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO), the International Code Council (ICC), the Plumbing – Heating – Cooling Contractors – National Association (PHCC) and the Plumbing Manufacturers International (PMI). PERC was formed as a mechanism to support voluntary participation on plumbing related research projects that pertain to water efficiency.

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Scholarships Are Available to Attend EduCode International 2011

Eligible candidates will be reimbursed for classes, meals, travel and lodging!

Eligibility:

To be eligible, applicants must be employed by, or under contract with, a Nevada jurisdiction having authority over the inspection and compliance of adopted building and energy codes.

Application Information:


To apply, download an [application form](#) (PDF), fill it out completely and e-mail it to Donna Walden, University of Nevada - Reno, Business Environmental Program, at dwalden@unr.edu, or fax it to (775) 689-6689.

are now available for sale. IAPMO members will receive priority handling. Call us today at 1-800-85-IAPMO.

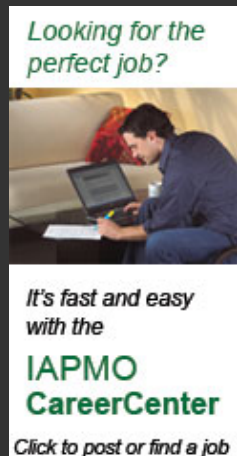



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Scholarships will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

Notification of scholarship award will occur within 15 days of submission.

Approved Classes:

Scholarships may only be used for the following EduCode classes:

Residential & Commercial Inspection Requirements of the 2009 IECC - AM Session 46, Thursday, February 3, 2011.

Residential & Commercial Plan Review Requirements of the 2009 IECC - PM Session 47, Thursday, February 3, 2011.

Door & Window (Fenestration) Requirements of the 2009 IECC - AM Session 65, Friday, February 4, 2011.

Third Party Testing Agencies - Their Role in Energy Efficient Homes - PM Session 66, Friday, February 4, 2011.

More Information:

For grant application or eligibility questions, contact Donna Walden, University of Nevada - Reno, Business Environmental Program, at dwalden@unr.edu or (775) 689-6678.

For questions concerning EduCode classes or for reimbursement information, contact Don White, SN-ICC Treasurer, at dowwhite@lasvegasnevada.gov.

Download [Reimbursement Rules & Procedures \(PDF\)](#) for more information about the scholarships.
Download an [EduCode Program \(PDF\)](#) for more information about EduCode classes.

Visit <http://educode.snicc.org/> for more information about EduCode International.

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DOE to Provide \$21 Million in Technical Assistance to Improve Energy Use in Commercial Buildings

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced that 24 projects are receiving a total of \$21 million in technical assistance to significantly reduce the energy used in their commercial buildings. This initiative, supported with funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, was developed to connect commercial building owners and operators with multidisciplinary teams including researchers at DOE's national laboratories and private sector building experts. DOE said the teams will design, construct, measure, and test low-energy building plans, and help accelerate the deployment of cost-effective, energy-saving measures in commercial buildings across the United States.

"These Recovery Act projects are bringing together experts from our national laboratories and the private sector to help businesses and organizations reduce the energy they use in their facilities, saving them money on their energy bills and making them more competitive economically," said Energy Secretary Steven Chu. "This initiative will also demonstrate to other commercial building operators that cost-effective, energy-efficient technologies exist today that will help lower the operating and energy costs of their buildings."

Through DOE's Commercial Building Partnerships, teams comprised of private sector technical experts and personnel from national laboratories will help guide projects to achieve 30 percent measured energy savings in existing buildings and 50 percent energy savings in new construction projects. About half of the two-dozen projects focus on energy efficiency upgrades for existing buildings. DOE said the three-year projects will provide comprehensive business and technical case studies for broad publication, including actual energy performance data from the completed projects, to help spur wider adoption of energy-efficient building practices across the industry.

The projects are funded with a public/private cost-sharing agreement, where the building owners and operators contribute at least 20 percent. Building owners and operators do not receive direct funding through the project, but instead get access to state-of-the-art technical guidance to implement energy efficiency technologies throughout the design, construction, and evaluation phases of their building and retrofit projects. This technical expertise includes energy modeling and energy performance verification by laboratory researchers and private sector experts.

The selected building owners and operators benefit by learning about measures they can apply across their building portfolios. DOE said the use of private sector consultants and national laboratory experts helps ensure that the energy efficiency measures and lessons learned in the projects will be quickly adopted by the marketplace.

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Three DOE national laboratories — Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL), the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), and the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) — will manage the effort and provide technical assistance for the selected projects. According to DOE, the aggressive energy efficiency design goals for each project include reasonable returns on investment and must meet other business criteria established in collaboration with the partners.

Each project will receive technical assistance valued at between \$200,000 and \$1.2 million, depending on the scope and nature of the plan.

To see a list of the selected projects: <http://www.energy.gov/news/9838.htm>

To learn more about the Commercial Building Partnerships program, visit www1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/commercial_initiative/building_partnerships.html.

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Copper Thieves Burn Down Christmas Tree

Birmingham, Ala. residents woke up last Wednesday to find their official Christmas tree burned to the ground.

The city's fire department responded to the 4 am call, but the tree was already 75 percent engulfed, said department battalion chief C.W. Mardis.

Police suspect the fire may have been a result of copper thieves cutting into the main electrical box supplying power to the tree. An empty gas can was also found at the scene - police believe the thieves were using gasoline in an attempt to strip the insulation from the lights of the 35-ft tree.

"It's not good. It kind of dampens the seasons, but we still know what this season is all about. It's not about a tree," Melvin Miller, city parks and recreation director, said. "This is the first time that has ever happened. We've had ornaments taken from the tree but nothing like this."

Because of the tree's price tag — \$7,500 — officials said the Norwegian Spruce would not be replaced. However, the story has a happy ending - in true Christmas spirit, a local radio station, 98.7 Kiss FM, made arrangements to purchase, deliver and decorate another tree.

"We feel we have an obligation to the city and its citizens and didn't want the real spirit of Christmas to be lost. We won't let it be stolen or hijacked, the Grinch won't win this year, not in Birmingham, we had to do something," Operations Manger Kori White said in a release.

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American Hometec Reveals Ugliest Water Heater in America

Company announces winner of its "Ugly Water Heater" contest

Just in time for the upcoming holiday season and the increased need for a continuous supply of hot water, American Hometec Inc. announced the winner of a new AHQ-T16 (T16) tankless water heater from its recent "Ugly Water Heater" contest.

To celebrate the expected increase in home improvement spending and the impending holiday season, American Hometec hosted an Ugly Water Heater contest where consumers were invited to submit photos of out-of-date water heaters for a chance to win a new, sleek, energy-efficient T16 tankless unit from the company. Entries piled in from contestants across 20 states for a chance to win one of the most advanced tankless water heaters on the market.

American Hometec is proud to announce that Christopher Wunsch from Wausau, Wis. is the winner of its Ugly Water Heater contest. Wunsch has a 25-year-old storage tank water heater in his Wisconsin cabin that has presented maintenance challenges for his family over the years. Although Wunsch blows out the lines to his water heater every winter before he closes the cabin for the season, he often finds frozen, broken water lines and a large mess to clean up in the spring.

"We've considered a tankless water heater for our cabin for some time," said Wunsch. "We use our cabin primarily on the weekends and don't have consistent water needs, so we've been wasting a lot of energy heating our storage tank water heater 24/7. Also, blowing out the lines every Fall and Spring is a huge chore for me and my aging father. The new tankless water heater from American Hometec will make life a lot easier for my family and will help us save on our electric bill. I was so happy when I got the call that I had won the contest; we even had a special family dinner to celebrate!"

American Hometec says the holiday season is the perfect time to install a new T16 unit as it supplies an endless source of hot water, guaranteeing homeowners will never run out of hot water, even with an increase of guests and need for hot water during the holidays.

"This tankless water heater saves time, energy and water, and also features a stunning and modern look that people are proud to showcase in their homes," said Dave Millilo, vice president of sales and marketing for American Hometec.

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ASSE Calls for Scald Awareness Task Group Participants

The American Society of Sanitary Engineering's Scald Awareness Task Group is seeking new members to participate in the creation of their second white paper. This group carries the important purpose of raising awareness about the disfiguring and painful problems of scalding caused by improper or inadequate plumbing systems. The first white paper published by this group dealt with scald hazards associated with low-flow showerheads.

For their second white paper, the Scald Awareness Task Group hopes to raise awareness about issues relating to improper temperature settings for residential water heaters. Currently, there is a common misconception that the thermostat on residential water heaters should be used to control the final temperature at the tap or shower. This group hopes to inform the public of scalding issues and potential Legionella exposure when residential water heater thermostats are not set at the proper temperature.

Through the research and knowledge of its volunteers, the Scald Awareness Task Group intends to explain why a water heater's thermostat should not control final water temperature and what happens when this practice is employed. The white paper will also include recommendations on how to properly control final water temperature.

This task group is currently open to any interested party. All of those interested in participating must complete an "Application for Committee/Working Group Membership" (http://www.asse-plumbing.org/standards/Working_Group_App.pdf) and submit the completed application to Richard J. Prospal, Chairman of the Scald Awareness Task Group, via e-mail at: RJProspal@asse-plumbing.org. All applications must be received no later than Jan. 12, 2011.

The first meeting of this group is scheduled for Jan. 19, 2011, at 2 p.m. EST. All meetings will be conducted via WebEx conference call and will be limited to one hour per session.

For further information, contact Richard J. Prospal, ASSE Scald Awareness Task Group Chairman, via e-mail at: RJProspal@asse-plumbing.org.

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IAPMO Scholarship Essay Competition: "Why Should Access to Safe, Clean Drinking Water be a Basic Human Right?"

Following up on the resounding success of last year's inaugural competition, IAPMO, a worldwide organization of dedicated professionals striving to make our planet a safer and healthier place in which to live, will again sponsor an essay competition awarding scholarships to five young people affiliated with IAPMO and many of its industry partners.

Participants in this year's contest will submit essays expressing their thoughts on "Why Should Access to Safe, Clean Drinking Water be a Basic Human Right?" As IAPMO's *Uniform Plumbing Code*® serves as the basis of codes that protect one half of the world's population through safe installation and governance of plumbing systems around the globe, the topic chosen by the IAPMO Board of Directors succinctly reflects IAPMO's 84-year-old mission.

"There is no more obvious or pressing need to humankind than that of potable water free of unhealthy contaminants and sickness-inducing pathogens," said Dan Daniels, president of IAPMO. "While this need is obvious, the question of what constitutes a human right seemed like fertile ground in which bright young minds could explore an issue that is integral to IAPMO and our industry."

The competition is open to members — and their children — of IAPMO, ASPE, PHCC, MCAA, the UA and ASSE who are currently enrolled in a high school, community college, trade school, four-year accredited college or university or working in an apprentice program.

Submitted essays must be completely original and a minimum of 1,000 words. The essay entry deadline is June 1, 2011, via e-mail, fax or mail to IAPMO World Headquarters. The winning essay will be announced next September at the 2011 IAPMO Education and Business Conference in San Antonio, Texas. The essay awarded first prize will be published in the award-winning Official magazine and on the IAPMO Website and its author will receive a \$500 scholarship and a one-year paid membership to IAPMO. Second place winner will receive a \$250 scholarship and three third place winners will each receive a \$100 scholarship. All winning essays will also be published in Official, IAPMO's membership magazine, and on the IAPMO Website.

Individuals who meet the qualifications to submit an essay to the competition should include your name, your school's name and yours or your parent's professional affiliation with one of the qualifying trade associations or union locals. All essays should be sent to Ms. Gabriella Davis at IAPMO by e-mail at gaby.davis@iapmo.org; by fax at (909) 472-4222; or by standard mail to her attention at IAPMO, 4755 E. Philadelphia St., Ontario, CA 91761.

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I-Connection Electronic Newsletter

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Industry Calendar

2011 International Builders' Show
Jan. 12-15, 2011
Orlando, Florida
www.buildersshow.com

ASHRAE 2011 Winter Conference
Jan. 29 - Feb. 2, 2011
Las Vegas, Nevada
www.ashrae.org

2011 AHR Expo
Jan. 31 - Feb. 2, 2011
Las Vegas, Nevada
www.ahrexpo.com

Educode 2011
Jan. 31 - Feb. 4, 2011
Las Vegas, Nevada
<http://educode.snicc.org/>

ACCA Conference & Indoor Air Expo
Feb. 15 - 17, 2011
San Antonio, TX
<http://www.accaconference.com/>

Upcoming Seminars

Earn your Continuing Education with IAPMO training.

January 8, 2011	Wakefield, MA	Gasfitters (3 hr course) - Continuing Education for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts - Session 3
January 8, 2011	Wakefield, MA	Plumbers (6 hr course) - Continuing Education for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts - Session 3
January 14, 2011	Kalispell, MT	2009 Uniform Plumbing Code - Montana Amendments
January 15, 2011	Chicopee, MA	Gasfitters (3 hr course) - Continuing Education for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts - Session 3
January 15, 2011	Chicopee, MA	Plumbers (6 hr course) - Continuing Education for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts - Session 3
January 31, 2011	Las Vegas, NV	2011 EduCode - 2010 GPMCS Essentials
February 1, 2011	Las Vegas, NV	2011 EduCode - 2009 UMC & UPC Combustion Air & Venting
February 2, 2011	Las Vegas, NV	2011 EduCode - Intro to Green Plumbing & Mechanical Concepts
February 2, 2011	Las Vegas, NV	2011 EduCode - 2009 UPC Drainage, Waste & Venting Provisions
February 3, 2011	Las Vegas, NV	2011 EduCode - 2009 UPC Water & Gas Pipe Sizing
February 3, 2011	Las Vegas, NV	2011 EduCode - Listing & Testing Requirements under the 2009 UPC & UMC
February 4, 2011	Las Vegas, NV	2011 EduCode - 2009 UPC Update
February 4, 2011	Las Vegas, NV	2011 EduCode - 2009 UMC Update
February 11, 2011	Bozeman, MT	2009 Uniform Plumbing Code - Montana Amendments
February 24, 2011	Medford, OR	2010 Oregon Mechanical Specialty Code Changes
February 25, 2011	Eugene, OR	2010 Oregon Mechanical Specialty Code Changes
February 26, 2011	Dubuque, IA	Plumbing and HVAC Continuing Education for State of Iowa License

IAPMO is an approved provider for Continuing Education by IACET, AIA and many local organizations and jurisdictions. 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!

