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OFFICIAL MAGAZINE

IAPMO Supports Establishment of Water Subcabinet

The International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO), publisher of the Water Efficiency and Sanitation Standard (WE•Stand), an American National Standard since 2017, applauds the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and its federal partners in the creation of a new Water Subcabinet chaired by the secretary of the Interior and EPA administrator.

EPA recently announced designees for the Water Subcabinet established by the “Modernizing America’s Water Resource Management and Water Infrastructure” executive order signed on Oct. 13. The Water Subcabinet will be responsible for implementing the strategic direction and specific actions of the executive order to improve federal water infrastructure and prioritize access to essential water supplies for all Americans, goals in line with WE•Stand as well as IAPMO’s recent work with the American Water Works Association (AWWA) developing protocols for water infrastructure impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Water Subcabinet will bring a finer focus and greater efficiency to the federal government’s efforts to ensure all Americans have access to safe drinking water, reliable rural and farm water supplies, and clean water for recreation and enjoyment — goals made even more timely by Wednesday’s celebration of Imagine a Day Without Water, the national education campaign highlighting water’s essential nature. IAPMO supports these efforts and encourages the designees to consider WE•Stand as a means of achieving their goals.

Read more: https://iapmo.org/group/update/water_subcabinet

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IAPMO Recognizes Global Handwashing Day at Event with USAID Administrator

In the midst of a global pandemic that has taken the lives of more than 1 million people, today more than ever handwashing is recognized as being critical to protecting public health and saving lives. On Oct. 14, IAPMO joined USAID, World Bank and foreign leaders at an event celebrating Global Handwashing Day and recognizing the important role the industry plays in making universal access to handwashing a reality.

Founded in 2008 by the Global Handwashing Partnership and celebrated every year on Oct. 15, Global Handwashing Day not only seeks to raise awareness about the importance of handwashing with soap, but provides a platform for sustained action at a global, regional and national level.

Executive Vice President of Government Relations Dain Hansen spoke at an event that includes USAID Acting Administrator John Barsa, USAID Deputy Administrator Bonnie Glick, USAID Global Water Coordinator Jennifer Mack, World Bank Global Water Practice Director Jennifer Sara, and Ghana’s minister of water, the Hon. Cecilia Abena Dapaah.

“As we look to make universal access to handwashing a reality, there must be a strong local industry to support it,” Hansen said. “As a trusted global authority, IAPMO is proud to be on the front lines working closely with national plumbing associations, manufacturers and government ministries to meet acute handwashing needs today and to build capacity for the future.”

This year’s theme, “Hand Hygiene for All,” aligns with the recently launched WHO and UNICEF-led Hand Hygiene for All Global Initiative, which calls for all of society to scale up hand hygiene through increased political leadership, a stronger enabling environment, and robust supply and demand for hand hygiene facilities and supplies. This year’s Global Handwashing Day emphasizes the need to take immediate action on hand hygiene across all settings to respond to and control the COVID-19 pandemic. It also serves as a reminder of the need to build on the current momentum to ensure hand hygiene becomes a mainstay in public health interventions.

Read more: <https://www.iapmo.org/group/update/2020-ghd>



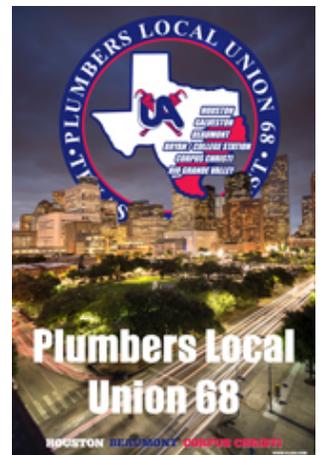
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ASSE Executive Director Details ASSE 1090-2020 Standard During AWG Webinar

ASSE International Executive Director Tom Palkon recently participated as a subject matter expert for a presentation on atmospheric water generators (AWG), during which he explained the provisions of the ASSE 1090-2020 standard that governs such systems.

The Water Quality Products Magazine webinar, “Introduction to Atmospheric Water,” teamed Palkon with fellow experts Frank Brigano, Ph.D., and Roland V. Wahlgren for a panel discussion and Q&A on atmospheric water generators. Palkon addressed a host of questions about the ASSE 1090-2020 standard, including such topics as power requirements, accreditations, minimum requirements, installation and maintenance, and comparisons to membrane distillation.



A recording of the webinar may be viewed at <http://bit.ly/SGC-Oct20>.

Read more: <https://iapmonline.org>

New Study Finds Find an Estimated 1,121,100 People in the United States with Insecure Water Access

Researchers from King's College London, the University of Arizona and ECONorthwest have published the conclusion of a study that found that an estimated 1.1 million urban people in the U.S. live in homes without proper indoor plumbing.

From the paper:

In this study, we undertake a nationwide analysis of urban water access in the United States, with the aim of explaining the drivers of *infrastructural inequality in the 50 largest metropolitan areas*. Drawing on *statistical analysis and regression modeling of census microdata at the household scale*, our analysis reveals *spatial and sociodemographic patterns of racialized, class-based, and housing disparities that characterize plumbing poverty*. Among unplumbed households, we show that *households headed by people of color are almost 35% more likely to lack piped water as compared to white, non-Hispanic households*. Precarious housing conditions are an equally strong predictor: *Renter-occupied households in the 50 largest US metros were 1.61 times more likely than owner-occupied households to lack piped water*. We argue that *insecure domestic water access in the United States should be understood as a housing issue that reflects structural inequalities of race and class, particularly in cities with widening wealth gaps*. The article concludes with a call for research and action at the intersection of water provision, housing, and social inequality—a paradigm we call the *housing–water nexus*.

Read the full paper at <https://www.pnas.org/content/early/2020/10/27/2007361117#abstract-2>

46th WorldSkills Competition Postponed

WorldSkills International has officially announced the postponement of WorldSkills Shanghai 2021 by one year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

WorldSkills International has communicated and collaborated closely with its Members, Competition Organizers, Partners, and stakeholders throughout 2020, and has recently hosted a series of meetings with all stakeholders to transparently and collaboratively consider all possible scenarios around risk management and risk mitigation. This decision was made based on facts, educated and informed forecasts, lessons learned from other events and organizations, and strategic perspectives built around what is best for all stakeholders.

WorldSkills International believes an early and clear decision is best for all stakeholders. It provides a much higher degree of certainty for everyone that then allows planning, managing, and recalibrating the next 12-24 months (and the future beyond that).

This decision means that all future events will also be moved by one year so WorldSkills Lyon 2023 will move to 2024.

Read more: <https://worldskills.org/media/news/46th-worldskills-competition-postponed/>

Skilled Trades Employers Urged to Focus on Recruiting Next Generation of Talent

As global economic disruption accelerates during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, leaders in manufacturing, distribution and residential and commercial services are calling attention to overlooked career opportunities in the traditional skilled trades and urging an industry-wide focus on workforce development to close the skilled trades labor gap and recruit a new generation of young workers.

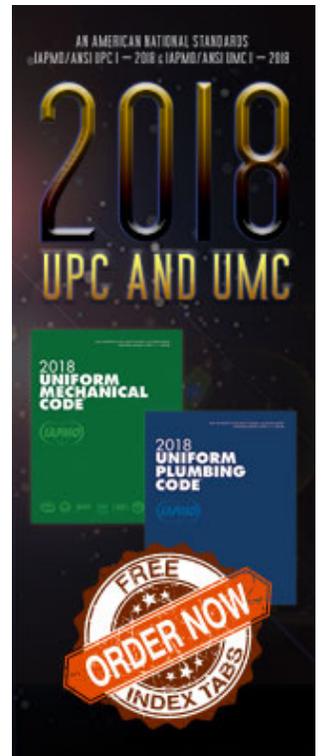
“For young people who are seeking a rewarding career but don’t feel like four years of college is the best choice for them, there are some tremendous advantages to seeking a career in the traditional skilled trades, from good starting salaries and job security to a variety of opportunities for advancement,” said Carl Pinto Jr., senior director of marketing communications, [Bradford White Corporation](#).

“Unfortunately, many high school students and recent graduates who would thrive in our industry never consider a career in the trades. This is due in part to the overwhelming message that is being delivered through a variety of channels – college is the only path to success. But recent circumstances have highlighted the fact that manufacturing and residential and commercial service jobs are a critical part of the national economy. Lockdowns and social distancing have created challenges for the industry, but HVAC service and clean hot water have proven to be necessities during a pandemic. An overwhelming number of manufacturers and contractors were quickly identified as essential services and have been operating continuously since the COVID-19 outbreak began.”



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Dodge Momentum Index Posts Dip in October

The Dodge Momentum Index fell 1.8% in October to 127.5 (2000=100) from the revised September reading of 129.8. The Momentum Index, issued by [Dodge Data & Analytics](#), is a monthly measure of the first (or initial) report for nonresidential building projects in planning, which have been shown to lead construction spending for nonresidential buildings by a full year. The commercial component of the Momentum Index lost 4.4% over the month, but the institutional component gained 3.3%.

The Momentum Index has struggled to make consistent gains since passing its post-pandemic low in June. Economic growth has slowed over the past few months, creating weaker demand for commercial projects. The fear about a new wave of COVID-19 infections may also be impeding planning activity in consumer-focused projects such as hotels and retail, although planning for warehouse projects continues to impress. Even with this month's gain, the institutional component of the Momentum Index remains well below levels seen prior to the pandemic as state and local entities come to grips with the widening budget chasm.

Read more: <https://www.construction.com/news/dodge-momentum-index-posts-dip-october-2020>

New Survey Reveals Increased Concern for Air Quality and Safety in Homes

According to a new online survey of 2,000 adults* in the US. conducted by The Harris Poll on behalf of Carrier Global Corporation, 54% of those surveyed are more concerned about having a healthy home since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Commissioned as part of Carrier's Healthy Homes Program, the survey evaluated mindsets toward safety, security, ventilation and other factors that help to create a healthy home environment. Carrier Global Corporation (NYSE: CARR) is a leading global provider of healthy, safe and sustainable building and cold chain solutions.

According to the survey, levels of concern vary among generations. Of those surveyed, 60% in Generation X (ages 40-55) and 59% of Millennials (ages 24-39) say they are more concerned about having a healthy home (with good air quality and fire protection) since the start of the pandemic compared to 52% of Gen Z (ages 18-23) and 48% of Baby Boomers (ages 56-74).

The survey also found that, of those surveyed, since the COVID-19 pandemic began:

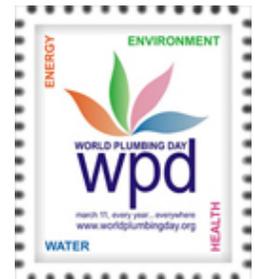
- 49% are more concerned about maintaining heating and air conditioning filters to reduce dust, pollen and other indoor pollutants.
- 42% are more concerned about fire safety precautions in their homes, such as smoke detectors and fire extinguishers.
- 39% are more concerned about having dangerous levels of carbon monoxide (CO) in their homes.

Read the full release

AHR Expo 2021 Innovation Awards Winners Announced

The AHR Expo (International Air-Conditioning, Heating, Refrigerating Exposition) has announced the winners of the 2021 AHR Expo Innovation Awards in ten industry categories. Show Management, co-sponsors ASHRAE and AHRI, and the Innovation Awards panel of judges wish to acknowledge and honor the 2021 award winners despite the recent cancellation of the live event. Typically, award winners are formally recognized at a ceremony hosted on day two of the annual Show.

"The Innovation Awards are an exciting part of the AHR Expo and we are disappointed that we won't be able to honor them in the same ways we would at a live Show," said Show Manager, Mark Stevens. "Despite the challenges 2020 has presented, we are committed to recognizing the incredible innovators



in our industry.”

[Read the full release](#)

New Guide Addresses Stagnant Water in Buildings with Low Occupancy

At a time when many buildings are not fully occupied due to COVID-19, the American Water Works Association (AWWA) and the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO) have developed a [guide](#) to help building managers address water system stagnation.

Stagnation within building water systems is a concern in periods of low or no occupancy. When water does not move through the system, water quality issues may arise at an outlet, a group of outlets or throughout an entire building water system, causing potential health risks.

Titled [Responding to Stagnation in Buildings with Reduced or No Water Use](#), the guide “provides a decision-making framework for building managers to design responses to building water system stagnation,” said William Rhoads, a co-author of the guide and a post-doctoral researcher at Virginia Tech.

Read more: <https://iapmonline.org/2020/10/07/new-guide-addresses-stagnant-water-in-buildings-with-low-occupancy/>

Amid COVID-19 Concerns, Experts Offer Insights on the Future of Restroom Design and Operation

As COVID-19 continues to transform how buildings are designed and operated, [Bobrick Washroom Equipment, Inc.](#) has consulted with health, architectural design and sanitation experts to gather recommendations and insights for reopening and redesigning commercial and public restrooms.

These insights were first shared in a July accredited Continuing Education webinar for architects and other design professionals.

“Probably the biggest challenge from an infection prevention standpoint is how crowded and enclosed restroom spaces tend to be,” said Juliet Ferrelli, Director of Infection Prevention at Allegheny Health Network in Pittsburgh, Pa. “We hear so much about a six-foot distance because respiratory viruses such as COVID-19 can be spread easily by respiratory droplets within three to five feet.”

Read more: <https://iapmonline.org/2020/10/19/amid-covid-19-concerns-experts-offer-insights-on-the-future-of-restroom-design-and-operation/>



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January 28-29, 2021	Denver, CO	ASSE 5110 Cross Connection Control Recertification - 12 hr Course and Exam
IDAHO ONLINE SEMINARS		
LOUISIANA SEMINARS		
December 12, 2020	Elmwood, LA	ASSE 5110 Cross Connection Control Recertification - 8 hr course / WSPS Conversion Class
MASSACHUSETTS ONLINE SEMINARS		
MINNESOTA SEMINARS		
Nov. 30-Dec. 4, 2020	Anoka, MN	ASSE 5110 Backflow Tester 40 Hour Class and Exam
NEW JERSEY SEMINARS		
March 1-5 2021	Pennsauken, NJ	ASSE 5110 Backflow Tester 40 Hour Class and Exam
March 8, 2021	Pennsauken, NJ	ASSE 5110 Cross Connection Control Recertification - Course and Exam
NEW MEXICO SEMINARS		
NORTH DAKOTA SEMINARS		
PENNSYLVANIA NEW JERSEY SEMINARS		
January 4-8, 2021	Exton, PA	ASSE 5110 Backflow Tester 40 Hour Class and Exam
January 8, 2021	Exton, PA	ASSE 5110 Cross Connection Control Recertification - Course and Exam
SOUTH DAKOTA ONLINE SEMINARS		
WEST VIRGINIA SEMINARS		
April 26-30, 2021	Martinsburg, WV	ASSE 5110 Backflow Tester 40 Hour Class and Exam
April 30, 2021	Martinsburg, WV	ASSE 5110 Cross Connection Control Recertification - 8 hr Course and Exam
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