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IAPMO, ASSE Enter Standards Copyright Agreement

Ontario, Calif. (Feb. 17, 2011) — The International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO) and the American Society of Sanitary Engineering (ASSE) are embarking on a new era of cooperation between the two venerable organizations.

With the Feb. 2 signing of a copyright agreement, currently approved ASSE Professional Qualification Standards developed via ASSE's American National Standard Institute (ANSI) accredited development process, as well as those currently in development, henceforth will become ASSE/IAPMO/ANSI Standards.

Applicable standards include:

- ASSE/ANSI Standard Series 5000, 6000, 7000, 8000, 10000
- ASSE Draft Standard Series 9000, 11000, 12000, 13000, 14000, 15000, 16000, 17000

Existing documents, such as the Series 5000, *Cross-Connection Control Professional Qualifications Standard*, and Series 6000, *Professional Qualifications Standard for Medical Gas Systems Personnel*, have become the benchmarks for certification in the plumbing and mechanical industry. Those standards now under development, such as the Series 16000, *Plumbing Inspector Professional Qualifications Standard*, will provide the industry with additional important tools to raise the bar in training and certification.

These standards will continue to be developed — with IAPMO's participation — under the ASSE/ANSI accredited standards development process. IAPMO and the ASSE will jointly market these standards to the North American market in addition to expanding their promotion elsewhere in the world.

"The American Society of Sanitary Engineering looks forward to working closely with IAPMO in emerging international markets," said ASSE President Jim Bickford. "The ASSE/IAPMO international partnership will give us unprecedented opportunities to practice the ASSE motto, "Prevention Rather Than Cure."

The agreement further strengthens the organizations' longstanding spirit of cooperation in the interests of public health and safety.

"IAPMO is once again pleased to enhance our relationship with the ASSE, which in turn enhances both organizations' ability to provide essential standards, codes and services to the worldwide plumbing and mechanical industry," said IAPMO Group CEO GP Russ Chaney. "The future of this collaboration is filled with the promise of expanded training and certification opportunities and stronger standards."

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Sponsor of the Uniform Codes, IAPMO – The International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials – works in concert with government and industry for safe, sanitary plumbing and mechanical systems. Learn more about IAPMO at www.iapmo.org.

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