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IAPMO, AWWA to Develop Manual of Recommended Practice

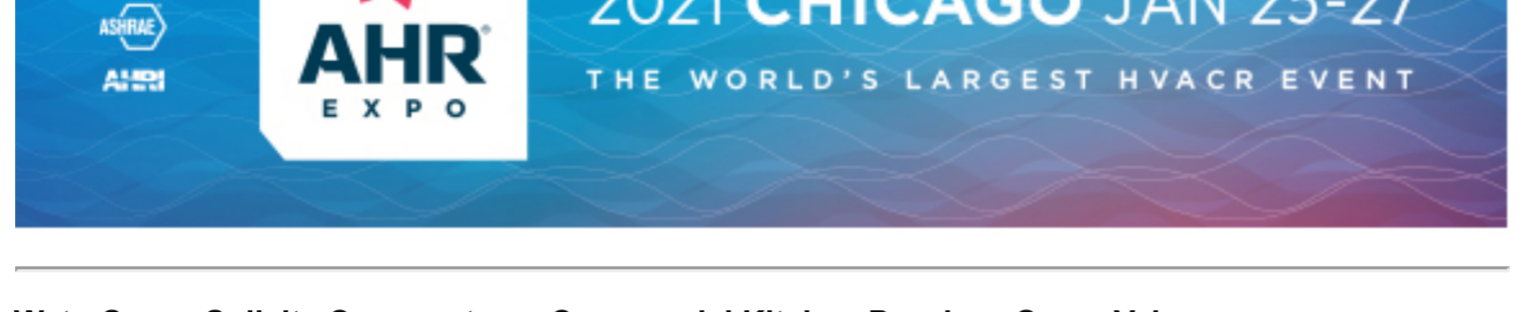
IAPMO and the American Water Works Association (AWWA) have entered into a Cooperative Development Agreement to develop a Manual of Recommended Practice to support providing safe and effective water efficiency and water quality provisions for the built environment.
Titled Recommended Practices for the Safe Shutdown and Startup of Building Water Systems Due to Emergency, the manual will be developed and administered by IAPMO's Codes and Standards development resources under a set of development procedures jointly established and agreed to by IAPMO and AWWA. A committee of subject matter experts appointed by IAPMO and AWWA will oversee its creation.
'We're excited about the agreement to codevelop the Manual of Recommended Practice with AWWA.' IAPMO CEO GP Russ Chaney said. 'Both organizations are leaders in developing standards and guidelines pertaining to the safe management of water. This agreement will work to ensure that lessons learned from the horrible COVID-19 pandemic will be captured and put into practice. Considering the profound water scarcity and water quality challenges that both organizations will be confronted with in the years ahead, we suspect that this will be the first of many programs where AWWA and IAPMO will collaborate to provide solutions that work to keep water systems safe.'

IAPMO Seeks Volunteers for Participation on the Building Standards Committee for Development of American National Standards
IAPMO is seeking volunteers in the "general interest" and "user interest" categories, with technical background in building and mechanical systems — such as jurisdictional authorities, regulatory agencies, laboratory, and educational facility representatives — to participate on the Building Standards Committee (BSC). Meetings are held via teleconference with occasional face-to-face meetings when appropriate and permitted pursuant to applicable health regulations.
The categories of "users" and "general interest" are defined as follows:
• User Interest: This category includes those who are subject to the provisions of the standards or who voluntarily use the standards (e.g., testing laboratories, certification bodies, regulatory agencies, and standards developing organizations).
• General Interest: This category includes those who are neither producers nor users (e.g., academics, consumers, contractors and subcontractors, construction labor organizations, educators, researchers, and technical societies).

For more than 30 years, IAPMO has developed American National Standards, initially as the Secretariat for the ANSI Z124 Technical Committee, and since 2005 as an American National Standards Institute (ANSI)-accredited standards development organization.
The BSC is an established balanced committee responsible for developing new and maintaining existing IAPMO/ANSI American National Standards. The BSC operates in accordance with IAPMO's accredited procedure for standards development.
• IAPMO PP-1 (Policies and Procedures for Consensus Development of American National Standards)

Those interested in participating may apply at the following URL:
http://forms.iapmo.org/iapmo/committee/app_ps_committee.aspx
Interested parties may contact Kyle Thompson at (909) 230-5534 or by email at kyle.thompson@iapmo.org.

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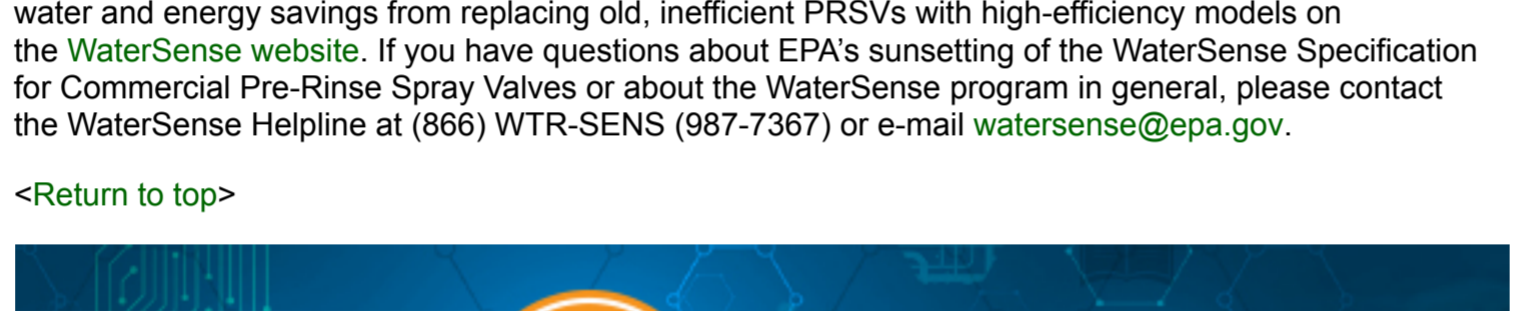


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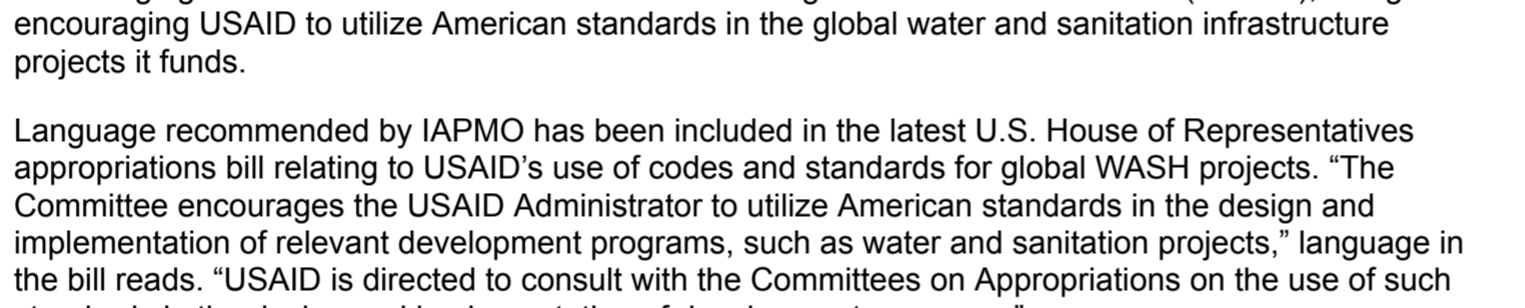
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WaterSense Solicits Comments on Commercial Kitchen Pre-rinse Spray Valves
WaterSense® is notifying its stakeholders of three opportunities to comment on proposals pertaining to commercial kitchen pre-rinse spray valves (PRSVs). Information on the proposals, along with comment deadlines, are provided below.
Department of Energy (DOE) Request for Information on Test Procedures
DOE has published a Federal Register notice requesting information and data to consider whether to amend its test procedures for PRSVs. Specifically, DOE seeks data and information pertinent to whether amended test procedures would: (1) more accurately or fully comply with the requirement that the test procedure be reasonably designed to produce test results that measure water use during a representative use cycle without being unduly burdensome to conduct, or (2) reduce test burden. The initial comment period has been extended; comments must now be submitted no later than August 20, 2020.
DOE Request for Information on Energy Conservation Standards
Similarly, DOE has published a separate Federal Register notice initiating a review to determine whether any new or amended standards would satisfy relevant requirements of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (EPCA) for new or amended energy conservation standard for PRSVs. Specifically, DOE seeks data and information that would help decide whether it should propose a "no new standard" determination. This would be warranted if a new standard: would not result in significant energy savings; is not technologically feasible; and/or is not economically justified. The initial comment period has been extended; comments must now be submitted no later than August 19, 2020.
Consortium for Energy Efficiency (CEE) Proposal
CEE is proposing sunsetting the CEE Commercial Pre-Rinse Spray Valve Specification, thereby discounting maintenance of the specification and qualified product list. Instead, CEE is suggesting using high-efficiency PRSVs as an entry point to engage commercial kitchen customers on energy efficiency. More information is available on the CEE website. Comments are due to CEE on its proposal by July 31, 2020.
While the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sunset its WaterSense Specification for Commercial Pre-Rinse Spray Valves in 2019, interested stakeholders can still find information regarding water and energy savings from replacing old, inefficient PRSVs with high-efficiency models on the WaterSense website. If you have questions about EPA's sunset of the WaterSense Specification for Commercial Pre-Rinse Spray Valves or about the WaterSense program in general, please contact the WaterSense Helpline at (866) WTR-SENS (987-7367) or e-mail watersense@epa.gov.

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House Appropriations Bill Includes IAPMO-Backed Language Encouraging Use of U.S. Standards in USAID-Funded Global Projects
At the urging of the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO), Congress is encouraging USAID to utilize American standards in the global water and sanitation infrastructure projects it funds.
Language recommended by IAPMO's use of codes and standards for global WASH projects. "The Committee encourages the USAID Administrator to utilize American standards in the design and implementation of relevant development programs, such as water and sanitation projects," language in the bill reads. "USAID is directed to consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the use of such standards in the design and implementation of development programs."
The entire appropriations bill may be viewed here.
Read more: www.iapmo.org/group/update/usaaid-us-standards

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IAPMO Announces New WorldSkills Global Partnership
The IAPMO Group is excited to announce a renewed four-year Global Industry Partnership agreement with WorldSkills, the global hub for skills excellence and development. The new agreement precedes further collaboration for the next two biennial international WorldSkills Competitions, which will be hosted in China and France, respectively: WorldSkills Shanghai 2021 and WorldSkills Lyon 2023.
IAPMO first connected with the WorldSkills International movement in 2013, as a Founding Partner of the WorldSkills Foundation, an initiative that brought forward new skills projects and partnerships to create additional value and benefits for all WorldSkills stakeholders. Following this introduction — and a platform that helped develop the international Community Plumbing Challenge program that IAPMO has progressed to this day via its own International Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Foundation (IWSH) — IAPMO stepped forward to become a WorldSkills Global Industry Partner in 2015.
Read more: www.iapmo.org/group/update/worldskills-global-partnership

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ASSE 1090-2020 for Drinking Water Atmospheric Water Generators (AWG) Now Available
ASSE 1090-2020, Performance Requirements for Drinking Water Atmospheric Water Generators (AWG), has been designated as an American National Standard by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and is now available for purchase.
ASSE 1090 was created to test point of use and commercial drinking water generating devices, which are designed to create potable water from atmospheric humidity. Critical components of these devices include a condenser, storage tank, and filtration/disinfection controls to address potential chemical, particulate, and microbiological water contamination. The standard also includes consideration for the energy efficiency of the AWG.
Read more: www.iapmo.org/group/update/asse-1090-2020

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IAPMO, ASTM International Sign MOC for Asia-Based Standards Activity
On July 9, 2020, global standards organizations ASTM International and IAPMO signed a memorandum of cooperation (MOC) to promote collaboration in initiatives that advance public health and safety.
The MOC relates directly to water sanitation and hygiene in Indonesia, the Philippines, and other selected member nations of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). ASTM International President Katharine Morgan signed the document with IAPMO CEO GP Russ Chaney.
"We are excited to work closely with IAPMO to advance health and safety initiatives in Southeast Asia and with member nations of ASEAN," Morgan said. "We look forward to working together to promote the utilization of ASTM standards for water sanitation and hygiene programs in the region."
Read more: www.iapmo.org/group/update/astm-asia-based-mou

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COVID-19 Crushes Construction Starts in Most Metro Areas During First-Half 2020
New York and Washington DC top the list despite sizable declines in construction
NEW JERSEY—July 22, 2020—The COVID-19 pandemic and resulting recession have wreaked havoc on U.S. building markets. According to Dodge Data & Analytics, commercial and multifamily starts were quite healthy during January and February but stalled as the pandemic hit the nation in March. For the first three months of 2020, U.S. multifamily and commercial building starts inched up 1% from the same period of 2019. The commercial and multifamily group is comprised of office buildings, stores, hotels, warehouses, commercial garages, and multifamily housing. Not included in this ranking are institutional building projects (such as educational facilities, hospitals, convention centers, casinos, transportation terminals), manufacturing buildings, single family housing, public works, and electric utilities/gas plants.
The full force of the pandemic bore down on U.S. construction starts in April as economic activity virtually shut down and local restrictions on construction took effect. Construction resumed in some areas in May allowing starts to post a mild gain over the month. Advances continued in June. However, the damage to commercial and multifamily construction during the first half of the year was palpable. Starts plunged 22% below the first half of 2019, with only warehouse construction posting a very small gain. Commercial and multifamily construction starts in the top 20 metropolitan areas posted a similar drop of 22% through the first six months of 2020.
Read more: www.construction.com/news/COVID-19-crushes-construction-starts-most-metro-areas-during-first-half-2020

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Researchers Create Air Filter Designed to Trap and Kill the Coronavirus
Researchers from the University of Houston, in collaboration with others, have designed a "catch and kill" air filter that can trap the virus responsible for COVID-19, killing it instantly.
Zhifeng Ren, director of the Texas Center for Superconductivity at UH, collaborated with Monzer Hourani, CEO of Medistar, a Houston-based medical real estate development firm, and other researchers to design the filter, which is described in a paper published in Materials Today Physics.
The researchers reported that virus tests at the Galveston National Laboratory found 99.8% of the novel SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, was killed in a single pass through a filter made from commercially available nickel foam heated to 200 degrees Centigrade, or about 392 degrees Fahrenheit. It also killed 99.9% of the anthrax spores in testing at the national lab, which is run by the University of Texas Medical Branch.
Read more: https://uh.edu/news-events/stories/july-2020/07142020ren-covid-filter

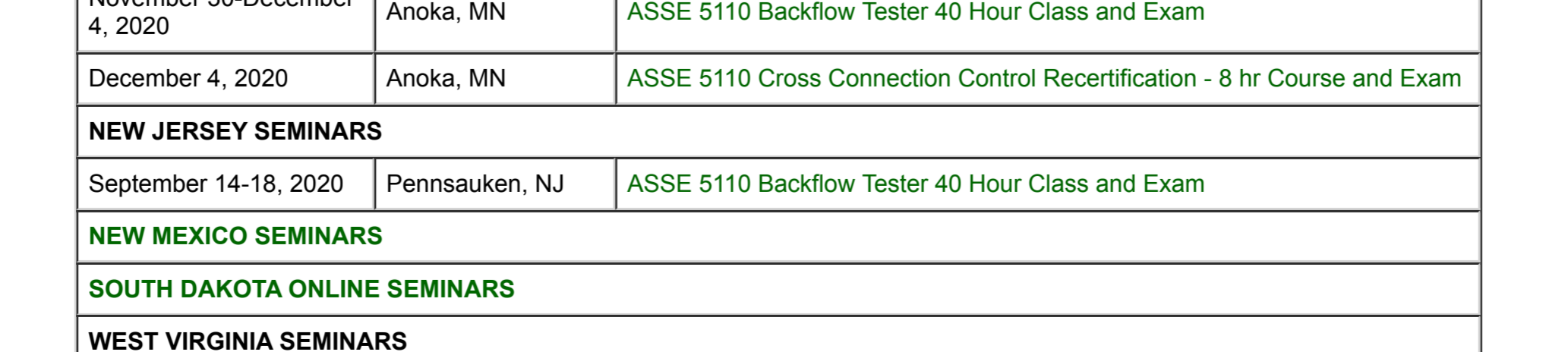
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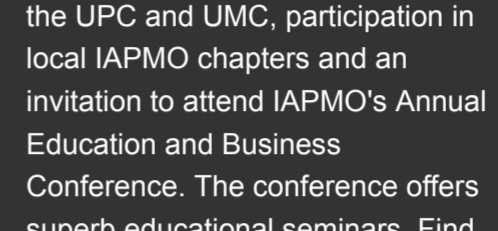
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