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IAPMO Elects New President, Board Members During Virtual Conference

The International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO) this month ratified the election of new officers and board members, formally concluding the association's 91st annual Education and Business Conference, which was conducted virtually due to the COVID-19 global health crisis.

David Gans, chief building official for the city of Oceanside, Calif., was elected IAPMO's 61st president and Steven Panelli, chief plumbing inspector for the city and county of San Francisco, was elected vice president.

Four new members of the board were elected to serve:

- David Ledda, plumbing inspector for the city and county of San Francisco
- Rick Garcia, senior mechanical inspector for the city of San Diego
- Carlos Flores, assistant chief plumbing inspector for the city of Houston
- Ray Boyd, United Association assistant director of Education and Training

Read more: <https://iapmonline.org/2020/12/11/iapmo-elects-new-president-board-members-during-virtual-conference/>

Plumbing Industry Allies Support National Apprenticeship Act of 2020

Plumbing industry allies IAPMO, the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States, Canada (UA), and the Plumbing-Heating-Cooling

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Contractors Association – National Association (PHCC-NA) enthusiastically support passage of the National Apprenticeship Act of 2020 (H.R. 8294) by the U.S. House of Representatives. The bill seeks to reauthorize the 1937 National Apprenticeship Act, which established the registered apprenticeship system, for the first time since its inception 83 years ago.

Many characteristics today associated with registered apprenticeships — progressive wage increases, mentorship and safety standards — are not part of the 1937 law; they have instead been included in subsequent U.S. Department of Labor regulations. These provisions and more would be codified into the new federal law, as well as expanding apprenticeship programs through authorization of \$400-\$800 million in new grant funding.

Registered Apprenticeships (RAs) are America's most successful federally authorized workforce development program. According to the Department of Labor, 94 percent of people who complete RAs are employed upon completion, earning an average starting wage above \$70,000 annually. The success of the registered apprenticeship system is a product of the strict quality standards, close engagement with industry, and strong worker protections that the programs are required to uphold. All RAs must combine on-the-job learning with related instruction to provide workers a nationally recognized credential from the Department of Labor (DOL) that they can present to potential employers anywhere in the country.

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

CDC Report: Cost of Infectious Waterborne Disease in the United States

The CDC has released a [new analysis of waterborne disease](#) in the United States following a comprehensive 10-year study. The report, *Estimate of Burden and Direct Healthcare Cost of Infectious Waterborne Disease in the United States*, found that about 7.15 million waterborne illnesses occur annually, leading to over 6000 deaths. Most hospitalizations and deaths were caused by biofilm-associated pathogens (nontuberculous mycobacteria, *Pseudomonas*, *Legionella*), costing US \$2.39 billion annually.

Premise plumbing water quality can be compromised by long water residency times, reduced disinfectant levels, and inadequate hot water temperatures, creating environments where pathogens (e.g., nontuberculous mycobacteria [NTM], *Pseudomonas*, and *Legionella*) can amplify in biofilms, the report states. People can be exposed to these pathogens through contact, ingestion, or inhalation of aerosols (e.g., from showerheads, building cooling towers, or decorative fountains).

"It's not just about ingestion of water anymore," said study coauthor Vince Hill, chief of the CDC's waterborne disease prevention branch, in an [interview with CNN](#). "We captured a more modern picture of what waterborne disease looks like in the United States today."

Read the full report: https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/27/1/19-0676_article

Grand Island, Nebraska, Adopts 2018 Editions of Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC), Uniform Mechanical Code (UMC)

Nebraska's fifth most populous city, Grand Island, maintained the highest level of health and safety standards available for plumbing and mechanical systems by formally adopting the 2018 editions of the *Uniform Plumbing Code*® (UPC) and *Uniform Mechanical Code*® (UMC), updating from the 2015 editions. Grand Island has utilized the *Uniform Codes* since the 1960s, recognizing early on that IAPMO's codes represent the gold standard as the only plumbing and mechanical codes accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

The *UPC* and *UMC* represent a carefully constructed balance between prescriptive and performance requirements, all while maintaining effective, seamless integration with all model building codes, no matter the developer.

The *UPC*'s new [Appendix M Water Demand Calculator](#) represents the first major update to plumbing sizing requirements since the 1940s and enables Grand Island plumbing professionals the opportunity to see firsthand how IAPMO is committed to developing new provisions toward improving water quality and safety, reducing construction costs, and saving consumers energy, water and money. The Water Demand Calculator predicts peak water demand for single- and multi-family dwellings when water efficient fixtures are installed. An independent study found notable cost savings when applied to residential structures.

Read more: <https://iapmonline.org/2020/12/18/grand-island-nebraska-adopts-2018-editions-of-uniform-plumbing-code-upc-uniform-mechanical-code-umc/>



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.



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IAPMO Promotes Davis, Palkon

IAPMO, in recognition of their work expanding The IAPMO Group’s capabilities and influence worldwide, has promoted Gaby Davis to chief administrative officer and Tom Palkon to chief technical services officer, incoming IAPMO CEO Dave Viola announced.

“Gaby’s unrivaled institutional knowledge of IAPMO’s history and operations have served the association immeasurably for the past 25 years, while Tom’s expertise and initiative have opened numerous new opportunities for The IAPMO Group to grow and thrive commensurate with his fast rise within our organization,” Viola said. “IAPMO is blessed to have such talented individuals already within our family from which to promote to these positions of importance. Congratulations, Gaby and Tom. These promotions are well deserved and will strengthen IAPMO for years to come.”

Read more: <https://iapmonline.org/2020/12/17/iapmo-promotes-davis-palkon/>

IAPMO Hires Christoph Lohr as Vice President of Strategic Initiatives

The IAPMO Group is pleased to announce the hiring of Christoph Lohr, P.E., CPD, LEED AP BD+C, as vice president of Strategic Initiatives.

Lohr has more than a decade of experience designing plumbing systems for health-care, laboratory, hospitality, sports, and university projects. Prior to joining IAPMO, he was the director of Education and Strategic Projects for LiquiTech: Legionella & Waterborne Pathogen Prevention. Before that, he was the healthcare plumbing technical leader for Henderson Engineers, where he oversaw and performed the quality control for a number of large projects, and created design standards for the company, and also served as an associate, a role in which he was responsible for team scheduling, leading training sessions, and helped manage and direct team towards objectives.

Lohr’s primary responsibilities with IAPMO will be to identify long-term, high-impact technical projects, assume leadership roles on industry research efforts and represent IAPMO at diverse industry venues.

Read more: <https://iapmonline.org/2020/12/21/iapmo-hires-christoph-lohr-as-vice-president-of-strategic-initiatives/>

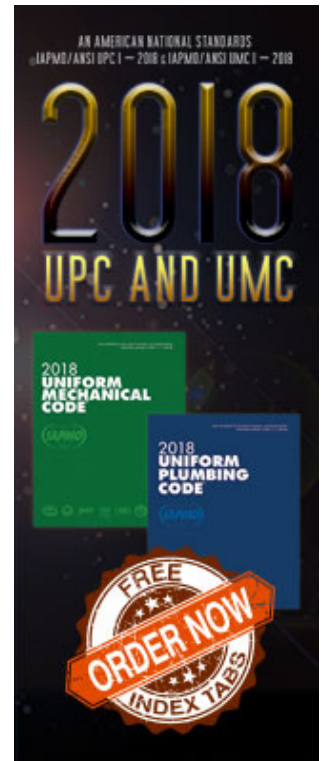
IAPMO’s Uniform Evaluation Service Hires Woods McRoy as Senior Engineer

The IAPMO Group is pleased to announce Woods McRoy has joined the Uniform Evaluation Service (UES) staff as a senior engineer.

McRoy’s professional background includes more than 40 years in the codes and construction industry. His experience working with code development organizations began with the Southern Building Code Congress International (SBCCI), and he remained with the organization as it transformed into the International Code Council (ICC) in 2003. He has a strong background in product evaluation, plan review, code interpretations and education.

“The addition of Woods to IAPMO UES not only gives us additional resources to better serve our clients, but we also gain a large amount of valuable knowledge and experience to add to our group,” IAPMO UES Senior Vice President Jerry Carrier said. “IAPMO UES continues to put a premium on hiring staff that has strong backgrounds with industry experience and knowledge of codes.”

Read more: <https://iapmonline.org/2020/12/18/iapmos-uniform-evaluation-service-hires-woods-mcroy-as-senior-engineer/>



IWSH Launches Plumbing Training Collaboration with BORDA India

The collaboration was launched with a bespoke webinar highlighting IAPMO India’s *Uniform Plumbing Code – India*, providing an introduction to plumbing best practices and covering water supply, wastewater systems, toilets and septic systems.

“BORDA South Asia’s plan for the next few years is focused on small town (South Asia) water and sanitation service delivery, which includes direct interventions in eight small towns in India, Bangladesh and Nepal,” said Stanzin Tsephel, regional director for BORDA South Asia. “Our initial assessment is that the technical infrastructure needs upgrades, and municipal engineers need technical capacity building. This is where we think technical organizations like IAPMO can be of great benefit to these municipalities.”

The joint training with linespeople in Leh is one such step, according to Tsephel. Due to its extreme weather conditions, Leh presents many technical challenges, especially freezing water supply lines that shut off water to homes for six months of the year.

Read more: <https://www.iapmo.org/group/update/borda-india-iwsh-training>



November A Mixed Month for Construction Starts

Weakness in residential and nonbuilding activity overwhelmed nonresidential building strength

Total construction starts fell 2% in November to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$797.5 billion following a strong gain in October. Residential starts fell 7% during the month, while nonbuilding starts dropped 14%. Nonresidential building construction starts, however, rose 19% in November. Total construction starts fell in three regions, the South Atlantic, West, and Northeast, but rose in two, the Midwest and South Central.

Year-to-date through 11 months, total construction starts were 12% down from the same period in 2019. Nonresidential starts were 25% lower, while nonbuilding starts were down 16%. Residential starts, by contrast, were 3% higher through 11 months. In November, the Dodge Index fell 2% to 169 (2000=100) from the 173 October reading. The Dodge Index was down 24% from a year earlier and 6% lower than its pre-pandemic level in February.

“November construction starts were somewhat of a mixed bag,” stated Richard Branch, Chief Economist for Dodge Data & Analytics. “On the positive side, the gain in nonresidential building starts shows that the recovery from the early months of the pandemic remains on course. If not for the start of a very large bridge and tunnel project in October, nonbuilding starts would actually have posted a tepid gain in November. And despite the November decline in single family starts, tremendous positive momentum remains in the housing sector. There remains significant concern, however, about the ability of construction starts to maintain their current pace in the face of rising COVID-19 cases, the uncertain outlook for additional federal stimulus, and the lack of agreement on funding the federal government past Dec 18. While the near-term outlook for starts remains cloudy, the recent deployment of a vaccine in the U.S. raises hope and expectation that 2021 will be a better year.”

Read more: <https://www.construction.com/news/november-mixed-month-construction-starts-2020>



Cintas Names Bancroft Park’s Self-Cleaning Restrooms America’s Best Restroom®

Cintas Corporation is proud to name the TikTok-famous restroom at Bancroft Park in Colorado Springs, CO the winner of the 2020 *America’s Best Restroom®* contest. As this year’s winner, the City of Colorado Springs will get to properly crown their golden thrones with prizes from Cintas. This includes a Cintas UltraClean® restroom cleaning service and \$2,500 in Cintas products and services for restroom cleaning or facility management to keep their restrooms **Ready for the Workday®**, along with a coveted spot in the America’s Best Restroom Hall of Fame.

The self-cleaning restroom in Bancroft Park is a welcome amenity for residents and visitors who are seeking a clean park facility. It holds three restrooms, including an ADA-compliant option, and each comes with green, red and yellow lights to show availability. Soap, water, toilet paper and a dryer are all activated with the wave of a hand. The restrooms are set up to self-clean after every 30 uses, and a park maintenance supervisor is alerted via an app when toilet paper or other supplies are running low. The exterior is wrapped with historic photos and facts about the historic Old Colorado City neighborhood where it’s located.

Read more: <https://www.bestrestroom.com/cintas-names-bancroft-parks-self-cleaning-restrooms-america-best-restroom/>




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ASSE 12080 Legionella Water Safety and Management Specialist Certification Training		
Indoor Cannabis Cultivation Facilities		
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ARIZONA SEMINARS		
January 23 & 30, 2021	Phoenix, AZ	ASSE 5110 Cross Connection Control Recertification - 12 Hr Course and Exam
February 1-6, 2021	Tempe & Phoenix, AZ	ASSE 5110 Backflow Tester 40 Hour Class and Exam
February 8-12, 2021	Phoenix, AZ	ASSE 5130 Backflow Prevention Assembly Repairer Training and Certification Examination Class
February 20 & 27, 2021	Tempe & Phoenix, AZ	ASSE 5110 Cross Connection Control Recertification - 12 Hr Course and Exam
Additional Dates		
ALASKA ONLINE SEMINARS		
COLORADO SEMINARS		
May 6-7, 2021	Denver, CO	ASSE 5110 Cross Connection Control Recertification - 12 hr Course and Exam
IDAHO ONLINE SEMINARS		
MASSACHUSETTS ONLINE SEMINARS		
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
<p>IAPMO is an approved provider for Continuing Education by USGBC, 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!</p>		
		



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