

The DowneastAir

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February 2023

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Coming Up

February Meeting:

When: Tuesday, February 21, 2023
5:30PM – 8:30PM

Where: DiMillo's on the Water
25 Long Wharf
Portland, Me 04101

Details: News Center Maine meteorologist and self-proclaimed "Weather Czar" Keith Carson will be our presenter for this month's meeting! Keith will be presenting on climate change weather patterns in Maine along with current electrification trends he has seen locally!

[Register Here](#)

Next YEA Event:

When:
Where:

Sponsored By:

President's Message

February 2023 Maine ASHRAE President's Message

January sure did fly by! February is here, and so are the snow, cold temperatures, and more Maine ASHRAE programming!

As promised, January had plenty of programming including our January joint meeting with the Maine Indoor Air Quality Council (MIAQC) at Mast Landing in Freeport. Thank you to Jim Hughes, life member of ASHRAE, for leading a presentation on IAQ technologies. It was great to see the overlap of members between ASHRAE and MIAQC that were present. Thank you to all that attended!

We also had what's becoming our annual YEA bowling night at Bayside Bowl in Portland. Thank you to Adrian for organizing and to FW Webb for sponsoring the festivities.

Our February meeting will be at DiMillo's on the Water in Portland on Tuesday 2/21 featuring a presentation by News Center Maine meteorologist and self-proclaimed weather Czar Keith Carson. Registration is now open on our website, this should be a good one!

As always, if you'd like to get in contact with our board of governors, send us an email at info@maineashrae.org. We're always open to your feedback and want to ensure our programming matches the needs of our members.

Danny Bronshvayg
2022-2023 Maine ASHRAE Chapter President

Government Affairs Feature

By: Steven Martel, P.E.

Last month I provided some history on the MUBEC (Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code) which was adopted in 2008 to make the required building codes the same everywhere in Maine. This month I want to provide more information about the work of the MUBEC Board during this past year to update the adopted building codes to more recent editions.

The current version of the MUBEC was adopted in June 2020. It adopts the following national codes and standards:

- International Building Code (IBC) 2015

- International Existing Building Code (IEBC) 2015

- International Residential Code (IRC) 2015

- International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) 2015

- International Mechanical Code (IMC) 2015

- ASHRAE 90.1 – 2016 (Energy Standard for Commercial Buildings)

- ASHRAE 62.1 – 2016 (Ventilation Standard for Commercial Buildings)

- ASHRAE 62.2 – 2016 (Ventilation Standard for Residential Buildings)

- ASTM E-1465-08 2008 (Radon Control)

Government Affairs Feature

By: Steven Martel, P.E.

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These codes are adopted and amended by the MUBEC Rules chapters 1 - 7. These rules and current MUBEC Board activities are posted on the Office of the State Fire Marshall website: <https://www.maine.gov/dps/fmo/building-codes/mubec-rules>, which is part of the Department of Public Safety. Note that the MUBEC does not include the plumbing code, electric code, gas, oil, and solid fuel codes, and fire codes which are handled separately. The Maine Fuel Board is part of the Office of Professional and Financial Regulation, which handles licensing of professionals and installers. Its rules are posted on their website here: <https://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing>

There is also a MUBEC “stretch” code which is required by the statute that formed the MUBEC. In order to keep the codes uniform statewide, cities and towns may only follow the MUBEC rules or may adopt the stretch code, but no other variations of the code are allowed in Maine. Last year, the MUBEC board adopted the IECC – 2021 as the stretch code in an effort to make the stretch code as simple as possible by following a nationally recognized code. The stretch code is a more stringent version of the energy conservation code that may be adopted by any municipality in Maine. Currently, the cities of Portland and South Portland have adopted the stretch code.

Enforcement of the MUBEC is another consideration. Currently the rules require that new buildings in all municipalities in Maine be built to the codes and standards required in the MUBEC rules and enforced by municipalities with a population of more than 4,000 residents. The enforcement may be by code officials of the municipality or shared by several towns or when town officials are not available, enforcement can be by state licensed third-party inspectors (TPI). In municipalities with a population of 4,000 or less, enforcement is not required so these towns can elect to enforce the code or not. If they elect to enforce the code, the code must be the MUBEC.

By statute, the model codes adopted by the MUBEC are required to be no more than two code cycles old. The International Codes and the ASHRAE Standards are updated every three years. Since the currently adopted codes are from 2015, they are now more than two cycles behind, so the MUBEC requires updating. In 2022, the MUBEC Board has been considering adopting the 2021 version of the national codes (rather than just the minimum of the 2018 codes) and the 2019 versions of the ASHRAE Standards so they will be consistent for two more code cycles (6 years). The stretch code will also have to be modified once IECC 2021 is adopted, since the 2021 version will now be the base code. The MUBEC board has recently been considering options to update the stretch code. Adopting the IECC 2024 is not a viable option since it has not yet been published. Suggestions for appropriate stretch codes are welcome.

To assist this process, Technical Advisory Group (TAG) committees have been formed to solicit comments and recommendations from interested members of the public. There are several members on each TAG. The Mechanical IMC TAG met virtually in September 2022. The IMC TAG is considering adopting the 2019 versions of the ASHRAE codes noted above. The 2021 IMC still needs to be evaluated for amendments to address conflicts found between the Fuel Board Rules and the IMC. The MUBEC board and the TAG welcomes any comments or suggestions you may have about the base code and the stretch code. Please email me with your comments for consideration by the board, or attend an upcoming MUBEC board or TAG meeting, which are open to the public.

Many of the codes and standards remain nearly the same for several years, but the energy conservation codes and standards are made more stringent with each code cycle. As a result, most of the discussion concerning updates to the codes centers on energy efficiency and building envelope requirements in both commercial and residential buildings. The MUBEC board seeks to update the codes to the current editions without causing undue financial hardship or problems with availability of materials and labor. Many of the energy conservation code upgrades will pay for themselves in just a few years, lowering energy costs more than the increased cost of installation, thus making them good investments over the term of the loan or mortgage.

Government Affairs Feature

By: Steven Martel, P.E.

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The current timeline for updating the MUBEC is for this summer (2023), with enforcement of the updated MUBEC code to follow. Please contact me if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions or if you are interested in serving on one of the TAGs. If any of you are interested in the work of the MUBEC board and are possibly interested in serving on the board in the future, please let me know!

Young Engineers of ASHRAE



Our Annual YEA Bowling Night was a blast! Thanks again to F.W. Webb for Sponsoring the event!

Next YEA Meeting:

Make sure you RSVP here!:



Announcements

Maine ASHRAE Monthly Board Meetings

Maine ASHRAE is back with in-person meetings and virtual monthly board meetings!

The 3rd Monday of Each month will be reserved for our monthly board meetings. These meetings are open to the public and will be virtual so that more people will be able to attend.

If you would like to participate in the monthly board meetings, please reach out to info@maineashrae.com

Job Postings:

The Downeast Air Newsletter is now featuring Job Postings! Please reach out to info@maineashrae.com to have your company's openings featured in next month's newsletter!

Student Scholarships:

Student Scholarships are now open! Check out page 7 below or maineashrae.org for more information

Sponsors

Gold Sponsors



Sponsors

Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsors



Become a Maine ASHRAE Sponsor!

Bronze Sponsorship - \$50

Company listed on home page of Maine ASHRAE website and on sponsorship page in monthly newsletter.

Silver Sponsorship - \$250

Bronze sponsorship benefits + recognition at all monthly ASHRAE meetings and on Maine ASHRAE LinkedIn page.

Gold Sponsorship - \$500

Silver sponsorship benefits + hole sponsorship at annual Maine ASHRAE golf tournament included and front-page recognition on monthly newsletter.

If you would like to become a sponsor, please email info@maineashrae.org

Sponsorships are annual and will reset in new ASHRAE year on 7/1/2023

Calendar

February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 Monthly Board Meeting 12 – 1 PM	21 Maine ASHRAE Meeting 5:30 – 8:30PM	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

Chapter Officers 2022 - 2023

PRESIDENT

Danny Bronshvayg

PRESIDENT ELECT

Nik Kreuger

VICE PRESIDENT

Adrian Clements, P.E.

SECRETARY

Matt Strong, P.E.

TREASURER

Jeff Lapierre, P.E.

MEMBERSHIP PROMOTION

Nik Kreuger

YOUNG ENGINEERS OF ASHRAE

Adrian Clements, P.E.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

Mark Limakka, P.E.

COMMUNICATIONS

Henry Nedbal

RESEARCH PROMOTION

Danny Bronshvayg

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Steven Martel, P.E.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

David Dvorak, Ph.D, P.E.

Chapter Officers 2022 - 2023

HISTORIAN

Matei Ilina

SUSTAINABILITY

Jonathan Graham P.E.

DIVERSITY IN ASHRAE CHAIR

Open Position!

RECEPTION

Rachel Roy, P.E.

WEBMASTER

Henry Nedbal

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Henry Nedbal

Learning Center

Tune-in to the ASHRAE Journal Podcast!

Tune into conversations between leading ASHRAE experts as they discuss what HVAC engineers need to know to design better systems and grow the HVAC&R industry. Available on all podcast platforms.



ASHRAE Journal Podcast Episode 21 | Securing Our Future: Live at the 2023 AHR Expo with ASHRAE President Farooq Behboob Current 2022–2023 ASHRAE president, Farooq Mehboob, P.E., is spotlighted in this episode, which was recorded live at the 2023 AHR Expo in Atlanta, Ga. This interview covers Farooq's rich life experience as a building science engineer and consultant, which started in his native country of Pakistan in the 70s—a time of great civil and political unrest—and also speaks to pressing industry trends like decarbonization, AI in building systems, and the important groundwork accomplished at COP27 in Egypt last year.

Job Postings

Your Open Job Listings Could Be Included Here in Our Next Newsletter!

Reach out to info@maineashrae.org for more information

WSP:

511 Congress St
Portland, ME 04101

Senior Mechanical Engineer:

WSP is seeking an experienced Mechanical Engineer with broad technical knowledge of construction methods, design, sustainability, and industry advancements to join our A/E Design Center in our Portland, Maine office. The ideal candidate will have a strong technical background in HVAC, plumbing, energy, and fire protection design.

FMI: [WSP USA Careers](#)

Job Postings

Your Open Job Listings Could Be Included Here in Our Next Newsletter!

Reach out to info@maineashrae.org for more information

Mechanical Engineer:

WSP is seeking an experienced Mechanical Engineer to join our Northeast US Resilient Environments operations, based out of Portland, Maine. The ideal candidate will have a solid technical background in the engineering design of mechanical and HVAC systems, as well as experience in energy, plumbing, and/or fire protection design.

FMI: [WSP USA Careers](#)

Gartley & Dorsky Engineering and Surveying (G&D):

59 Union St., Unit 1

Camden, ME 04843

Mechanical Engineer:

Gartley & Dorsky Engineering & Surveying (G&D) is seeking a motivated, team-oriented individual to join our mechanical engineering team. The ideal candidate will have a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering from an accredited institution, 4+ years of experience, PE license (or ability to obtain PE license within 6 months), experience using AutoCAD, HVAC software such as Trane Trace, and proficiency in Microsoft Word and Excel.

Excellent communication skills and organization are required, along with an ability to juggle numerous projects at once. The successful candidate will join G&D's multidisciplinary firm, working closely with our 2 structural PEs, 5 civil PEs, and 15+ other licensed professionals and staff. The mechanical engineering team provides comprehensive mechanical engineering services, including residential and/or institutional HVAC design, hydronic systems, heat pumps, air handling systems and radiant heating systems, reports, construction documents, construction administration, project management and other related tasks.

This is a full-time position with benefits in Camden, Maine, an outstanding place for those who appreciate the outdoors and value work-life balance.

FMI on Gartley & Dorsky go to www.gartleydorsky.com. To apply, send a cover letter and resume to Steve Mischissin at SMischissin@gartleydorsky.com

Student Scholarships

Society Level Scholarships

- There are 53 Society Scholarships Available for 2023-2024 totaling \$264,000
- Deadline to apply is 12/1/2022
 - 5/1/2022 for High School Seniors and Freshman Engineering scholarships
- For more information and to apply visit <https://www.ashrae.org/communities/student-zone/scholarships-and-grants/ashrae-scholarship-program>

Maine ASHRAE Chapter Scholarships

- Multiple Scholarships available to ASHRAE student members in Maine totaling over \$3,000 for 2022-2023
- Deadline to apply is 3/1/2022
- Application document with more information is below:
 - [2022-2023 Maine ASHRAE Chapter Student Scholarship Application](#)

Upcoming ASHRAE Conferences

2023 HVAC Cold Climate Conference



Registration for the 2023 HVAC Cold Climate Conference is now open! Co-sponsored by ASHRAE and SCANVAC, the goal of the conference is to share solutions and advancements addressing changes in climate while experiencing the culture of Alaska.

Register by **January 6** and **save \$50** with early bird registration rates. Learn more and lock in the lowest rates at www.ashrae.org/2023hvaccoldclimate!

The [Buildings XV Conference](#), December 5-8, 2022, brings together product manufacturers, research organizations, academia, builders, designers, architects and consultants to discuss their work achievements, interest and awareness of buildings issues, and to provide solutions and insight into some of our major building envelope problems.