

# THE LONG ISLAND SOUNDER



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# President's Message

## **Reflecting on a Successful March Tradeshow**

ASHRAE Long Island is thrilled to report the success of our recent tradeshow held in March. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our co-sponsors, ASPE Long Island, all participating vendors, and our PDH presenters. The event was a resounding success, with over 130 attendees joining us. We hope to continue to improve and build this event to be even better next year.

April Presentation: Liquid Cooling for High Density Artificial Intelligence Applications

This month, we are excited to announce the presentation "Liquid Cooling for High Density Artificial Intelligence Applications" by Alan Goerke. This presentation promises to be both informative and engaging, offering valuable insights into cutting-edge cooling technologies.

## **April is YEA Night!**

April is a special month for our Young Engineers in ASHRAE (YEA) members. We encourage all YEA members to participate in this month's activities. As a token of our appreciation, every YEA member will receive one free 50/50 raffle ticket! Additionally, we will provide a brief overview of the numerous opportunities and resources ASHRAE offers to YEA members. It's a fantastic chance to network, learn, and grow within the ASHRAE community.

## **Upcoming Event: Annual Golf Outing on May 5th**

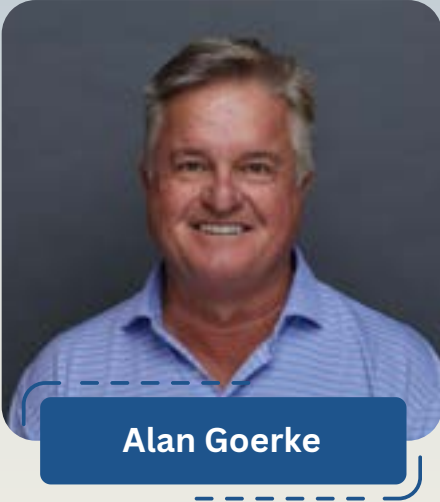
Mark your calendars for our highly anticipated annual golf outing on May 5th! We are delighted to announce that the event has already sold out. We look forward to seeing all registered participants for a day of fun, networking, and friendly competition on the greens.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in ASHRAE Long Island. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events and presentations. Stay tuned for more updates and opportunities!

Elizabeth Jedrlnic  
President- ASHRAE Long Island

# MEETING PROGRAM

Attendees  
Will Earn  
1 PDH!



Alan Goerke

## Fees:

Members - \$50 pp

Guests - \$70 pp

Students - \$15 pp

**Date:** Tuesday, April 8th 2025

**Time:** 6PM-9PM

6:00 PM - Cocktails/Networking

7:00 PM - Dinner Presentations

8:45 PM - Conclusion

**Location:** *Westbury Manor*

1100 Jericho Tpke., Westbury, NY 11590

Directions are posted at @ [www.ashraeli.org](http://www.ashraeli.org)

## Presentation Topic: Liquid Cooling for Data Centers

The use of high performance GPUs (graphics processing units) to power Artificial Intelligence is pushing IT heat loads up to 100kW per rack and beyond. At this density, IT facility managers find that traditional air cooling methods are inadequate to manage the heat generated. We will explain how to plan and design for liquid cooling directly to the chip to enable power-hungry AI processing.

## About our Speaker:

Alan Goerke brings over three decades of expertise in HVAC and critical systems solutions. A graduate of Lafayette College with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering (BSME, 1982), Alan is a licensed Professional Engineer in New York State. He has held various roles throughout his distinguished career, including positions at York Air Conditioning, Carleton Stuart Corp (Carrier), Tri State Sol Aire, and Applied Technologies Corp. For the past 31 years, Alan has been a trusted name in Sales and Applications at Vertiv and Liebert Corp. A dedicated member of the industry, he also served as ASHRAE Chapter 6 President in 1998.

# Chapter Monthly Meeting - Program for 2023/2024

<p>September 10, 2024* At Westbury Manor</p> <p>Dinner Presentation – Pressure Independent Control Valves: Benefit of Electronic vs. Mechanical PI Technology Presenter: Rick Smith</p> <p style="text-align: right;">**1 PDH*</p>	<p>March 11, 2025* At Westbury Manor</p> <p>Long Island Trade Show</p>
<p>October 8, 2024* At Westbury Manor</p> <p>Dinner Presentations - Integrating Renewable Energy Systems into Buildings</p> <p>Presenter- Shelia J. Hayter</p> <p style="text-align: right;">**1 PDH**</p>	<p>April 8, 2025</p> <p>Dinner Presentation— TBD</p> <p style="text-align: right;">**1 PDH**</p>
<p>November 12, 2025 * At Westbury Manor</p> <p>Dinner Presentation— Refrigerant Leak Detection Guidance + Applications</p> <p style="text-align: right;">**1 PDH**</p> <p>Presenter- Alex Ballegoie</p>	<p>May 2025 * Cherry Valley Club, Garden City, NY</p> <p>ANNUAL GOLF OUTING</p>
<p>December 10, 2024 * At Westbury Manor</p> <p>Dinner Presentation—TBD **1 PDH**</p>	<p>May 12, 2025</p> <p>Annual Field Trip—TBA</p>
<p>January 14, 2025 * At Westbury Manor</p> <p>Dinner Presentation— TBD</p> <p style="text-align: right;">**1 PDH**</p>	<p>June 9th 2025 * At Westbury Manor</p> <p>Free Buffet Dinner for Members</p> <p>PAST PRESIDENTS NIGHT &amp; OFFICER INSTALLATION STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS TO BE AWARDED ASHRAE History Quiz and prize Give-A-Ways</p>
<p>February 11, 2025</p> <p>Dinner Presentation— PEX-A Pipe and PP-RCT Pipe Solutions</p> <p>Presenter: John Knowles</p>	<p>July 2025- TBD (4pm-8pm) * Dixie II @ Captree State Park Boat Basin, NY</p> <p>ANNUAL FISHING TRIP</p>
	<p>August 2025</p> <p>Chapters' Regional Conference (CRC) Region I GRANIT STATE</p>

# Long Island Chapter Officers & Committees

ASHRAE 2024/2025 OFFICERS		
POSITION	NAME	EMAIL
President	Elizabeth Jedrlinic	c006@ashrae.net
President-Elect	Matthew Catan	c006pe@ashrae.net
Vice President	Michael Razzano	c006vp@ashrae.net
Treasurer	Zhigang XU	c006tr@ashrae.net
Secretary	Richard Smith	c006sec@ashrae.net
Board of Governors	Michael S. Gerazounis	c006bog1@ashrae.net
Board of Governors	Thomas DiBenedetto	c006bog2@ashrae.net
Board of Governors	Peter Conte	c006bog3@ashrae.net
Board of Governors	Steven Gerazounis	c006bog4@ashrae.net
Board of Governors	Michael Nigro	c006bog5@ashrae.net

ASHRAE 2023/2024	COMMITTEES	
COMMITTEE	NAME	EMAIL
Programs & Special Events	Michael Nigro	c006pe@ashrae.net
Membership (MP)	Michael Gerazounis	c006mep@ashrae.net
Refrigeration	Kenny Balci	c006ref@ashrae.net
Chapter Technology Transfer (CTTC)	Thomas DiBenedetto	c006cttc@ashrae.net
Government Activities (GGAC)	Rich Smith	006ggac@ashrae.net
Newsletter Editor	Alexis H. Smith	c006ne@ashrae.net
Research Promotion (RP)	Peter Conte	c006rp@ashrae.net
Historian	Thomas DiBenedetto	c006his@ashrae.net
Student Activities (SA)	Zhigang Xu	c006sa@ashrae.net
Young Engineers in ASHRAE (YEA)	Steven Gerazounis	c006yea@ashrae.net
Webmaster	Frank Paradiso	c006web@ashrae.net
Nominating	Michael Gerazounis, PE, LEED AP	nominating@ashraeli.org
Reception & Attendance	Steven Gerazounis	reception@ashraeli.org
PR & Engineering Joint Council of LI (EJCLI) Liaison	Andrew Manos, LEED AP	pr@ashraeli.org
Golf Outing	Peter Gerazounis, PE LEED AP	golf@ashraeli.org
Awards	Brian Simkins	c006ha@ashrae.net
ASHRAE LI, P.O. Box 79, Commack, NY 11725		

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# Long Island Chapter - Past Presidents

1958	H. Campbell, Jr. PE	1982	Timothy Murphy, PE	2006	John Nally
1959	Clyde Alston, PE	1983	Leon Taub, PE	2007	Peter Gerazounis, PE, LEED AP
1960	Sidney Walzer, PE	1984	Raymond Combs	2008	Steven Friedman, PE, HFDP, LEED AP
1961	Sidney Gayle	1985	Edward W. Hoffmann	2009	Steven Giammona, P.E., LEED AP
1962	William Kane	1986	Jerome T. Norris, PE	2010	Nancy Román
1963	Louis Bloom	1987	Abe Rubenstein, PE	2011	Carolyn Arote
1964	Milton Maxwell	1988	Michael O'Rourke	2012	Brian Simkins, LEED AP
1965	Will Reichenback	1989	Mel Deimel	2013	Andrew Manos, LEED AP BD+C
1966	Joseph Minton, PE	1990	Robert Rabell	2014	Richard L. Rosner, P.E.
1967	Irwin Miller	1991	Gerald Berman	2015	Thomas J. Fields, P.E., LEED AP
1968	Walter Gilroy	1992	Donald Stahl	2016	Donald Kane, P.E.
1969	Charles Henry	1993	Ronald Kilcarr	2017	Andrew Dubel, P.E., LEED AP
1970	William Wright	1994	Jerald Griliches	2018	Richard Halley
1971	Louis Lenz	1995	Walter Stark	2019	Frank Paradiso
1972	Ronald Levine	1996	Joe Marino	2020	James Hanna
1973	Henry Schulman	1997	Norm Maxwell, PE	2021	Matthew J. Vitrano
1974	Myron Goldberg	1998	Alan Goerke, PE	2022	Murat Bayramoglu
1975	John N. Haarhaus	1999	Frank Morgigno	2023	Michael Nigro
1976	Richard K. Ennis	2000	Michael Gerazounis, PE, LEED AP		
1977	Kenneth A. Graff	2001	Ray Schmitt		
1978	Evans Lizardos, PE, LEED AP	2002	Steven M. Stein, PE		
1979	Albert Edelstein	2003	Andrew Braum, PE		
1980	Ralph Butler	2004	Claudio Darras, P.E.		
1981	Robert Rose, PE	2005	Craig D. Marshall, P.E.		



# YEA

Hello everyone, I am your YEA chair, Steven Gerazounis. For all the new members if you are unfamiliar with the YEA committee, its purpose is to provide ASHRAE members 35 years old or younger with opportunities to network, educate and grow themselves through chapter events. Please check back regularly to the newsletter and on ASHRAE's website for all the news and opportunities available. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in the upcoming months at ASHRAE and YEA events!

The April meeting is YEA night, and we have a great perk for our members: 1 free ticket to the 50/50 raffle! I will also be giving a short presentation on YEA at a Society level.

On a Society level, ASHRAE offers many programs and events that can enhance the professional development of YEA members, such as Leadership Weekend, Leadership U, LeaDRS, and the HVAC Design Scholarship. Additionally, there is a brand new program called ASHRAE Connect, where YEA members are able to shadow a member of the ASHRAE YEA Committee.

## YEA Events



YEA Leadership Weekend  
1.0

[LEARN MORE](#)



YEA Leadership Weekend  
2.0

[LEARN MORE](#)



YEA Leadership  
International

[LEARN MORE](#)

## YEA Programs



Leadership U

[LEARN MORE](#)



LeaDRS

[LEARN MORE](#)



HVAC Design Scholarship

[LEARN MORE](#)



YEA Decarb Initiative

[LEARN MORE](#)

<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/young-engineers-in-ashrae-yea/yea-events-and-programs>

### **YEA Leadership Weekend 2.0**

YEA Leadership Weekend 2.0 (YLW 2.0) is designed to provide additional, more advanced resources to YLW alumni. For this continuation of YLW, Ralph Kison is back to facilitate and expand on the skills he taught at the existing YLW event. As YLW alumni, you've had the opportunity to use the resources and connections you gained at YLW to not only grow your professional careers, but develop your participation within ASHRAE. The purpose of YLW 2.0 is to continue that growth and development, and hopefully inspire even further leadership skills and aspirations! YLW 2.0 will take place May 30th – June 1st 2025 in Charleston, South Carolina. Registration is now open!

<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/young-engineers-in-ashrae-yea/yea-events-and-programs/yea-leadership-weekend>

### **Leadership U**

If you wanted the opportunity to participate and follow regional and society officers there are two great options to do so! With Leadership U (4) YEA members will be selected for the winter or annual conference and attend all of their respective society officer's events, board meetings and social activities. Applications for the 2025 Winter Conference in Orlando are now closed, but applications for the 2025 Annual Conference in Phoenix will open on February 5th, 2025. Please use the link below to register and for more information.

<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/young-engineers-in-ashrae-yea/yea-events-and-programs/leadership-u>

### **LeaDRS**

Similar to the Leadership U program, LeaDRS allows a region to select any ASHRAE member to shadow their Director and Regional Chair (DRC) at an ASHRAE Conference. To apply for this program you must contact the DRC directly. For Long Island that would be Charles Bertuch.

Region I : Mr. Charles Bertuch

Email: R01drc@ashrae.net

<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/young-engineers-in-ashrae-yea/yea-events-and-programs/ashrae-region-leads-program>

## **HVAC Design Scholarship**

Are you looking for the chance to get a better grasp of the fundamentals and technical aspects to design, install and maintain HVAC systems? YEA has a fantastic program to cover all of those bases with an attendance scholarship for either level I or II training. Applications for this program will begin in October so please be on the lookout to take advantage of this opportunity!

<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/young-engineers-in-ashrae-yea/yea-events-and-programs/yea-scholarship-for-hvac-design-essentials-training>

## **ASHRAE Connect**

ASHRAE Connect is a brand-new initiative in YEA. This program allows YEA members to shadow YEA Committee members at the Winter or Annual Conference. With a focus on fostering collaboration and professional growth, ASHRAE Connect is perfect for those looking to expand their network and make lasting connections within the ASHRAE community. Applications close January 15th.

<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/young-engineers-in-ashrae-yea/yea-events-and-programs/ashraeconnect>

## **Technical Committees**

Are you looking to get more involved with your industry or ASHRAE as a whole? Take a look to see if there are any technical committees that interest you!

<https://ashrae.org/technical-resources/technical-committees>

Getting more involved gives you the opportunity to directly impact our industry and expand your knowledge base. To learn more about these committees you can also reach out via phone or email at:

404-636-8400

[tcstaff@ashrae.net](mailto:tcstaff@ashrae.net)

## **YEA Awards**

So many YEA members are deserving of awards for their hard work, dedication and faithful service to this society but don't receive them because people don't know they are eligible to be nominated. Please look into the numerous awards available for YEA members under the Honors and Awards tab.

<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/young-engineers-in-ashrae-yea/honors-and-awards>

For any awards that you cannot nominate yourself or another YEA member you may need to reach out to your YEA Regional Vice Chair, Society YEA Committee member or Director and Regional Chair to provide them with the information they require to submit a nomination form.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or comments about YEA.

Steven Gerazounis



# Government Affairs

A Quick Thought before the Onslaught of articles and opposing viewpoints in Government Agencies.

These are Politicians making rules and changing Guidelines. They are not engineers, actual Research Scientist, Electrical utilities or anything close to having any experience in this realm. In most cases they are Lawyers, Community Organizers and often have ambitions to move up politically. Our Reality as Professionals is to make sense of all this mountain of regulation and Build systems and provide services that actually deliver what the Client needs to operate their Building, Business, Factory....

I believe this will be a year (2025-2026) where reality sets in and a solid plan can be agreed upon to move forward. By the spring of 2026 we will have enough information to see where we need to pump the brakes and reevaluate our course.... we shall see.

## **New York City Legislation Introduced to Close “Loophole” in Local Law 97**

On February 13, New York City Council members Carmen de la Rosa and Lincoln Restler introduced legislation that would limit a provision allowing the purchase of Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) in Local Law 97, the city’s landmark law requiring owners of large buildings to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Currently, the law allows building owners and landlords to purchase RECs, which subsidize other renewable energy projects in New York, rather than reduce their own building’s emissions. Up to half of a building’s greenhouse gas emissions can be “offset” with these credits. The new bill, if passed, would reduce that to 10% of emissions. However, the bill faces major opposition from the real estate industry.

## **Boston Zoning Commission Passes Net Zero Carbon Requirements for New Large Buildings**

In late January, the Zoning Commission for the city of Boston, Massachusetts, approved a requirement for certain new buildings to achieve net zero carbon emissions upon opening, which is the first requirement of its kind in the country. The new requirements will apply to projects begun after July 1, 2025, that meet any of the following criteria: buildings of 15 units or more; 20,000 square feet or greater; or additions of 50,000 square feet or more to existing buildings. Additionally, these large projects will be required to report embodied carbon and conduct an embodied emissions life cycle assessment analysis. These new zoning rules are intended to help the city meet its decarbonization goal of carbon neutrality by 2050, as well as build on existing requirements such as the state's Specialized Stretch Energy Code and the city's Building Emissions Reduction and Disclosure Ordinance (BERDO.) Buildings currently account for 71% of Boston's carbon emissions.

## **U.S. House of Representatives Votes to Overturn DOE Regulations**

The U.S. House of Representatives voted to overturn two Biden-era Department of Energy (DOE) regulations. On February 27, by a 221-198 vote, the House approved H.J. Res. 20 to disapprove a DOE final rule on energy conservation standards for instantaneous gas-fired water heaters. On March 5, by a 222 – 203 vote, the House approved H.J. Res. 42 to disapprove DOE's Appliance Energy Conservation Certification & Labeling Requirements Rule. This rule revised the certification, labeling and enforcement regulations for dozens of products for which the department had moved to update energy conservation standards and compliance testing procedures. Those products included air conditioners, heat pumps, pool equipment, and walk-in freezers.

## **Legislation Introduced to Create Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries**

Congressman Ritchie Torres and Senator Kristen Gillibrand introduced legislation creating standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries. The Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act would require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to establish a final consumer product safety standard for rechargeable lithium-ion batteries used in micro mobility devices, such as electric scooters and bikes, to protect against the risk of fires caused by such batteries. More information on the legislation can be found [here](#).

## **U.S. Department of Energy Postpones HVAC Efficiency Standards**

U.S. Secretary of Energy Chris Wright announced on February 14 that DOE will postpone the implementation of seven future energy efficiency standards. This includes:

- Central Air Conditioners
- Clothes Washers and Dryers
- General Service Lamps
- Walk-In Coolers and Freezers
- Gas Instantaneous Water Heaters
- Commercial Refrigeration Equipment
- Air Compressors

Additionally, the DOE is creating a new energy efficiency category for natural gas tankless water heaters

## **EPA Announces Five Pillars to Guide its Work**

On February 4, new US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Lee Zeldin announced EPA's "Powering the Great American Comeback Initiative," which is intended to achieve EPA's mission "while emerging the greatness of the American Economy." The initiative has five "pillars" intended to "guide the EPA's work over the first 100 days and beyond." These are:

- Pillar 1: Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American
- Pillar 2: Restore American Energy Dominance
- Pillar 3: Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership
- Pillar 4: Make the United States the Artificial Intelligence Capital of the World
- Pillar 5: Protecting and Bringing Back American Auto Jobs

More information about the 5 pillars can be found [here](#).

## **DOE Withdraws Standards for Consumer Boiler Energy**

DOE issued a pre-publication withdrawal of the proposed rule on Energy Conservation Standards for Consumer Boilers. The proposed rule sought to establish more stringent annual fuel utilization (AFUE) standards for gas-fired and oil-fired boilers; maintain the current standards for electric steam and hot water boilers; and maintain the design requirements and exceptions to the minimum AFUE requirements established by statute and codified at 10 CFR 430.32(e)(2).

DOE has decided to withdraw the proposed rule in light of the considerable feedback received through the public comment process, the forthcoming change in Administration, and the significant resources needed to review and consider all relevant matters presented in the public comments. More information can be found [here](#).

### **New York issues final HFC Regulations**

At the end of December, New York State issued a final version of its HFC regulations, which restrict high-GWP (global warming potential) refrigerant gases in the state, with increasingly strict limits, to 2034. This update was proposed last year in order to ensure that the HFC restrictions were aligned with the state's existing Climate Act and emissions reduction goals. A complicating factor is that, unlike other states, NY uses a stricter methodology for calculating GWP – it considers a 20-year time horizon instead of 100 years - which means that its requirements are effectively stricter than the federal-level requirements in the AIM Act. New York is one of the only states, in addition to Maryland, that uses a 20-year rather than 100-year methodology for tracking its climate goals. More information can be found on the NY state page [here](#).

### **Closing Thoughts**

All Interesting and Whiplash inducing at least at the federal level. We in NYC and Long Island have Local Governing Authorities that can exceed the Federal Government requirements. As you can see in the last article NY State has no plans on changing perspectives and NY City is Pushing to Ban Natural Gas LL154. So, for now, we are marching forward to the beat of the Electrification Drum.

Hope to See you at the Monthly Meetings!

Richard Smith – GAC Chair.

Matt Catan – Co-Chair

[006ggac@ashrae.net](mailto:006ggac@ashrae.net)



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# Historian

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*"History is not a burden on the memory but an illumination of the soul."*

– Lord Acton

## The Fire Island Lighthouse: Guiding Mariners Through History

The Fire Island Lighthouse, located at the western end of Fire Island, New York, has a rich history as a critical aid to navigation along the Atlantic coast. Originally constructed in 1826, the first lighthouse was deemed inadequate and replaced in 1858 by the current 168-foot structure. Built with durable cream-colored brick encased in a distinctive black-and-white spiral design, the new tower provided a more powerful light visible for up to 21 miles, assisting ships navigating the treacherous waters around Long Island.

The lighthouse was constructed with practical materials and techniques, emphasizing strength and longevity. Its walls, nearly 11 feet thick at the base, tapered to 2 feet at the top, ensuring stability against coastal weather conditions. The light was fueled initially by whale oil and later by kerosene before being electrified in the 20th century.



For the keepers who lived and worked there, heating and cooling were essential but rudimentary. Heating was provided by coal or wood-burning stoves, common in the mid-19th century. These stoves were efficient for the time but required constant maintenance to keep the quarters warm during frigid winters.

Cooling was even simpler, relying only on natural ventilation. The thick brick walls helped regulate indoor temperatures by retaining heat in winter and offering some insulation from the summer heat. Keepers would open windows and position them strategically to catch sea breezes, which provided relief during warmer months.

The Fire Island Lighthouse was decommissioned in 1974 but was later restored and reopened as a museum and active aid to navigation in 1986. It now stands as a symbol of resilience and maritime history, offering visitors a glimpse into the lives of its keepers and the ingenuity of 19th-century lighthouse construction.

Thomas DiBenedetto, PE  
Historian



# Refrigeration

Check out a great article “Updated: EPA Reconsiders Refrigerant Rule”. See below link:

[Updated: EPA Reconsiders Refrigerant Rule | ACHR News](#)

The Agency is Reevaluating the AIM Act's Technology Transition Rule

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Lee Zeldin announced that the agency will undertake 31 actions as part of a significant day of deregulation aimed at advancing President Trump’s Day One executive orders and supporting economic recovery efforts.

One of the actions directly affecting the HVACR industry is the reconsideration of the Technology Transition rule, which Zeldin states, “forces companies to use certain technologies that increased costs on food at grocery stores and semiconductor manufacturing.”

The Technology Transition final rule, part of the AIM Act, was released by EPA in October 2023 (and revised in December 2023) and restricts the use of higher-GWP HFCs in new refrigeration, air conditioning, and heat pump (RACHP) equipment. For stationary air conditioning and heat pumps, the rule set a 700 GWP limit for most new comfort cooling equipment, including chillers, effective January 1, 2025.

The final rule effectively ended the production of most comfort cooling systems that use the high-GWP refrigerant R-410A. Since HVAC manufacturers have already transitioned their comfort cooling systems to A2L refrigerants like R-32 and R-454B, a return to R-410A is highly unlikely.

Reconsideration could potentially impact the timeline for equipment used in supermarkets and convenience stores, as the final rule imposes a GWP limit of 150 or 300 for most new commercial refrigeration systems, with compliance deadlines between 2026 and 2028. Several trade groups, including FMI – The Food Industry Association, filed a lawsuit challenging the final rule, arguing that the timeline for supermarket refrigeration equipment violated the AIM Act and was arbitrary and capricious, meaning the Agency failed to adequately consider key factors when developing the timelines.

w“The EPA has agreed to reconsider the Technology Transitions Rule to allow EPA time to review the incredible burdens placed on the food industry and its unrealistically tight implementation timelines,” said Leslie Sarasin, president and CEO of FMI. “We thank EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin and President Trump for recognizing the need to reduce the regulatory burden on businesses and the cost of living for consumers. A thorough evaluation of the rule in its current form is critical to preventing grocery stores across the country from paying billions in unnecessary refrigeration premiums that would have further driven up food prices. A balanced approach will provide retail stores with much-needed assurance given the implementation challenges due to lack of available technology, installers, and other factors.”

The National Grocers Association (NGA), a trade association representing independent grocers and wholesale distributors, also welcomed the EPA’s reconsideration of the Technology Transition rule. According to Chris Jones, chief government relations officer at NGA, “Reducing unnecessary regulations, particularly those that impose significant financial and administrative burdens, is a crucial step toward leveling the playing field for independent grocers who are less equipped to deal with costly new compliance requirements.”

In a [press release](#), NGA added that reconsidering the rule, “will provide much sought-after relief for independent supermarkets by:

- Rolling back burdensome restrictions on the manufacture, import, sale, and use of products that use higher-GWP HFCs; and
- Eliminating the requirement that low-GWP HFC refrigerants be used in the retail grocery sector.”

## **Reconsideration**

Not everyone agrees that reconsideration will result in anything as dramatic as exempting a single subsector – such as supermarket refrigeration -- from the transition to low-GWP refrigerants. In a [blog](#), Alex Ayers, vice president of government affairs at HARDI, writes that EPA’s latest action only addresses a [petition](#) filed in June 2024 by HARDI, AHRI, and the Alliance for Responsible Atmospheric Policy. The petition asked the EPA to “limit future manufacturing of outdoor condensing units to prevent future market manipulation through imports of R-410A outdoor units far into the future.”

In an email, Ayers added that, “it’s important to note that EPA is using a regulatory term of art when it says reconsideration, it is answering petitions that have requested specific changes to the regulation, not large scale reconsideration of the overall rule.”

AHRI agreed that the reconsideration applies to the aforementioned petition and “does not materially change current expectations regarding EPA’s approach to the [Technology Transitions] rule.”

In its March 13 update, AHRI noted that “Any additional changes made through reconsideration must follow a rulemaking process. Under subsection (i) of the AIM Act, a revised [Technology Transitions] rule could not take effect until one year after the final rule is published. Therefore, even if the EPA initiated changes to the [Technology Transitions] rule or other regulations affected by [this] announcement, those changes would take considerable time to be implemented...Until the EPA provides further specifics, this announcement does not alter our near-term expectations for the [Technology Transitions] rule.”

It's also important to note that the AIM Act does not preempt state laws or regulations, allowing individual states to implement more stringent HFC rules. As a result, EPA’s reconsideration of the Technology Transition rule may not affect states like California, Washington, and New York, which have already adopted stricter refrigerant regulations.

While the term “reconsideration” appears open to interpretation, Zeldin enthusiastically praised the EPA’s regulatory announcement, stating, “Today is the greatest day of deregulation our nation has seen. We are driving a dagger straight into the heart of the climate change religion to drive down cost of living for American families, unleash American energy, bring auto jobs back to the U.S. and more.”

Kenny Balci



# Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

## How Emotional Intelligence Boosts DEI, Productivity, Growth

By Karine Leblanc, Member ASHRAE

Emotional intelligence (EI) can help increase awareness of diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI), which may help organizations become more productive and increase the happiness of their workers.

We live in a technical world. And yet, technical skills can be worthless without human skills—the basis of emotional intelligence. When a workforce has high emotional intelligence, they tend to be automatically more open to diversity, become inclusive and show equity. This is because they have self-awareness and social awareness.

Before we go further, let's define diversity, inclusion and equity. DEI Advocate Vernā Myers defined two of these terms well: "Diversity is being invited to the party; inclusion is being asked to dance."

I first heard this quote during fellow ASHRAE Distinguished Lecturer Erin McConahey's, P.E., HBDP, Fellow ASHRAE, Women in ASHRAE presentation during the 2018 ASHRAE Winter Conference in Chicago, and it resonated with me. I have not always been invited to meetings when I should have been. And when I would be invited, there were some instances when I felt like I didn't have a voice and didn't belong. There have been times when I didn't feel valued and included as a young female engineer. For example, I can recall a particular instance in which I proposed an idea during a meeting that was brushed off by my peers. I did not initially have a problem with this, as many ideas are naturally cut during the problem-solving process so a workable solution can be reached. However, later on in that same meeting, an older male colleague proposed that same idea, and everyone then praised its brilliance.

At the time of the presentation, we only spoke about diversity and inclusion, but in recent years, equity was added to the mix. If we use the same dancing analogy, being invited to the dance is diversity, being asked to dance is inclusion and making sure everyone has a pair of dancing shoes that fits would be equity.

## The Importance of Emotionally Intelligent Leaders and Teams

The foundation of DEI in any workplace is emotionally intelligent leaders and teams—it is the key to a successful and growing organization.\*

A team with generational, gender, cultural, language and religious differences requires highly emotionally intelligent individuals to communicate easily, collaborate effectively and create meaningful relationships. They are people who possess these human skills that contribute to supporting diversity, inclusion and equity:

**Self-love:** They have good self-esteem and a positive attitude. They are comfortable with who they are, and they are aware of their strengths and limitations.

**Self-control:** They are able to listen without jumping to judgment. They can adapt smoothly to change.

**Recognition:** They are able to understand how others are seeing things. They maintain a strong desire for wanting to see the people around them succeed.

**Connection:** They are driven to want to be their best by learning new things, growing and improving. They are curious and open to different ideas.

**Empathy:** They have the capacity to understand or feel what another person is experiencing from within his or her frame of reference. They believe in others and give the same importance to everyone.

The more diverse an organization is, the more productive its workers will be. Our natural tendency is to work with people who are similar to ourselves because when we are alike, we may think and act similarly and feel this would lead to fewer conflicts. While we may experience fewer conflicts, we also stay in our “little circle” that prevents us from growing outside our comfort zones. This limits how we develop and improve ourselves and the organizations we work for from reaching their full potential.

Bringing diversity into the workplace brings different talents, strengths, understandings and skills, breaking us free from our comfort zones to help us and our organization grow and improve. ASHRAE is committed to providing a welcoming environment to all its global members. The ASHRAE Board of Directors Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Subcommittee has several events scheduled for the 2022 ASHRAE Winter Conference in Las Vegas. For more information, [click here](#).

### About the Author

Karine Leblanc, Member ASHRAE, is an ASHRAE Distinguished Lecturer, chair of ASHRAE's Communications Committee, a board-elected member of ASHRAE's Nominating Committee and the author of *How To Be Human in a Technical World*. She has served Region X in many roles and has received several awards, including the Distinguished Service Awards in 2016 and the Louise and Bill Holladay Chapter Distinguished Service Award in 2012. Leblanc is a sales engineer for US Air Conditionings Distributors. Some parts of this article have been excerpted from Leblanc's book.

# Sustainability



## Leading the Charge Towards a Better Tomorrow

New York through an ambitious climate agenda, is leading the charge toward a low-carbon future through bold initiatives like the Empire Building Challenge and The Empire Technology Prize administered by The Clean Fight. These initiatives aim to expedite the adoption of decarbonized heating and cooling solutions in NYC. The Empire Technology Prize, a \$10 million competition backed by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) and managed by non-profit RMI, focuses on finding innovative solutions to lowering GHG emissions from NYC's biggest GHG emission contributor- tall buildings.

These innovations aim to reduce reliance on fossil fuels, cut energy costs, and improve indoor comfort—all without displacing tenants or requiring major structural overhauls. With these structures accounting for a significant portion of New York City's greenhouse gas emissions, the competition seeks scalable, cost-effective technologies that can retrofit these buildings without disrupting residents or requiring extensive renovations.

Spearheaded by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), the Empire Technology Prize encourages engineers, startups, and research institutions to reimagine how buildings are heated and cooled. By fostering public-private collaboration and investing in next-generation HVAC systems, New York is not only addressing its immediate climate goals but also setting an example for urban centers around the world. This initiative demonstrates the state's commitment to sustainability through innovation, aiming for a future where clean air, efficient energy use, and climate resilience are embedded in the very infrastructure of its cities.

One of the seven finalists for The Empire Technology Prize is ASHRAE Long Island member Miller Proctor Nickolas, Inc. ("MPN"). MPN and their Oilon ChillHeat Water Source Heat Pumps, demonstrate how renewable heat sources can deliver high-temperature hot water (up to +248°F) and low-pressure steam (up to 5psig) with exceptional energy efficiency. Ideal for decarbonizing district heating, industrial processes, and hybrid energy systems, MPN's solution exemplifies scalable, sustainable thermal solutions.

MPN has been documenting their progress since being selected as a finalist for The Empire Technology Prize last summer. To follow MPN's progress and to learn more about their solution, please visit their YouTube channel: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yQvIDvEFH\\_s&t=27s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yQvIDvEFH_s&t=27s) and follow them on LinkedIn to stay informed on their progress:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/mpnboilers/>.

As New York continues to confront the urgent challenges of climate change, initiatives like the Empire Technology Prize and The Clean Fight exemplify how targeted innovation and collaboration can drive meaningful progress. By investing in scalable, equitable solutions for building decarbonization like MPN's Oilon ChillHeat Water Source Heat Pumps, New York is not only reducing emissions but also shaping a more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable future—one building at a time.

To contact Miller Proctor Nickolas, Inc. and learn more about their innovative solutions, be sure to visit their website: <https://mpnboilers.com/our-solutions/>



**Inside of Trailer**



**Oilon Heat Pump**



**The Clean Fight 251**



# Research Promotion

If we knew what we're doing it wouldn't be called research"  
– Albert Einstein

I would like to thank everyone who attended RP night at the October Meeting. I would like to thank the companies who have participated in the annual Product Directory of Manufacturers and their Representatives. The product Directory has been prepared as a service to all its members and as a service to the local HVAC industry. It will be made available to all ASHRAE and non-ASHRAE members at no-cost and can be obtained from our monthly meetings or directly from our website.

This year's overall research promotion goal is \$2,575,000 with many research projects on board. Our chapter is expected to raise \$29,100.00 towards the overall goal. I am hoping that I can count on the continued support of all our past contributors who have generously supported us over the years. I also look forward to gaining the support of new contributors this coming year. Last year we were successful in beating our goal and am hopeful that this year we can continuously raise the bar.

We are hosting the 2025 ASHRAE REGION 1 CRC and have sponsorship packages available.

Thank you to our contributors!  
Individuals

Mr. John D. Nally  
Mr. Peter J. Conte, PE  
Ms. Elizabeth Jedrlinic  
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**Contributions can be made in the following ways:**

Mail checks, made out to ASHRAE Research Promotion to:

Peter Conte

ASHRAE Research Promotion Chair

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Commack, NY 11725

Hand check to me at any of the chapter meetings.

PayPal from the ASHRAE Long Island Website

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[www.ashrae.org](http://www.ashrae.org)

Please make sure you accredit the contribution to the Long Island Chapter 006





# Student Activities

Hello everyone!

Welcome to the inaugural edition of 2024-2025 ASHRAE calendar! I am thrilled to serve as the Student Activity Chair again. Our goal with this newsletter is to keep you informed, engaged, and inspired as we navigate the exciting world of HVAC&R together.

In this newsletter, you can expect to find updates on upcoming events, opportunities for professional development, and highlights of the incredible work being done by our student members. We aim to provide valuable insights into the latest industry trends and share resources that will help you succeed in your academic and professional endeavors.

This newsletter is designed to be a platform for you – our vibrant and talented student community. We encourage you to share your achievements, projects, and ideas with us so that we can celebrate and learn from each other. Whether you're looking for internship opportunities, tips on career development, or simply want to stay connected with the ASHRAE community, this newsletter has something for everyone.

## **2025 ASHRAE Winter Conference Student Program Join us in Orlando!**



ASHRAE is looking forward to convening in Orlando at the Hilton Orlando February 8-12, 2025. The conference will be an opportunity for students and other HVAC professionals from around the world to share industry ideas and learn more about ASHRAE.

Registration is now open.

[Learn More](#)

## **Kick-Off Virtual Round Table Branch Officers and Advisors**

**Thursday Sept 12th 1-2:30pm**

Come speak to and learn from Student Branch Officers and Advisors in our first Round Table of the year. We will discuss how to get a good start to the ASHRAE year, challenges that you may face in the first few months and some tips and tricks for success!

[Register Here](#)

## **Student Travel Grant**

**Applications due September 30th**

The Student Activities Committee is offering five \$1,000 USD travel grants to help subsidize students to travel to the Winter Conference in Orlando, Florida in February 2025.

[Apply Here](#)

## **44 Society Scholarships Available 2025-2026**

**Applications due December 1, 2024**

Through its scholarship program, ASHRAE seeks to motivate students worldwide to pursue an engineering or technology career in the HVAC&R field that will further promote sustainable technology for the built environment. Scholarships range from \$3,000 to \$12,500 and awarded for the academic year following the application deadline beginning with the fall semester. Qualified students are encouraged to apply at [ashrae.org/scholarships](http://ashrae.org/scholarships). Now accepting applications for our Society Level Undergraduate Engineering, Engineering Technology, Regional/Chapter, & University-specific Scholarships.

[Learn More](#)



## **Undergraduate Program Equipment Grants Applications due December 15, 2024**

The ASHRAE Undergraduate Program Equipment Grants provide funding to engineering, technical and architectural schools worldwide with the goal of increasing student knowledge, learning and awareness of the HVAC&R industry through the design and construction of equipment. Grants are to be used to fund equipment and supplies for senior projects and 2-year technical school projects that focus on ASHRAE-related topics. Grants may cover projects lasting from one academic term up to one year.

NEW grant award of up to \$25,000 for the top application!

[Learn More](#)

## **2024 ASHRAE High School Design Competition Submissions due December 30, 2024**



This competition is for students 13-18 years of age and provides the opportunity to take the first steps in designing a building's HVAC system. This competition will expose high school students to the process that designers and engineers go through when designing building systems.

[Learn More](#)

## **Registration open for the 2025 Student Design Competition**

The 2025 student competition focuses on a new medical office building in the heart of Manchester, England. Each team must register online to participate. The first deadline for the 2025 competition is May 4th, 2025. ASHRAE will recognize the outstanding student design projects at the 2026 ASHRAE Winter Meeting to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada January 31st-February 4th, 2026.

**[Learn more and register today!](#)**

## **2025 Setty Family Foundation Applied Engineering Challenge**



The 2024 Applied Engineering Challenge is focused on an innovative carbon capture and utilization module that integrates with existing HVAC&R systems. ASHRAE will recognize the winner with a \$5,000 prize and invite the entire team to the 2026 ASHRAE Winter Meeting to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada January 31st-February 4th, 2026.

**[Learn more and register today!](#)**

## 2025 Building Energy Quotient Competition

Students will have the opportunity to evaluate and audit building energy consumption for buildings in operation to give the building a Building EQ score using the ASHRAE Building EQ online tools.

[Learn more and register today!](#)

## Registration is now open for the Solar Decathlon® 2025 Design Challenge!



**Are you a student or professor interested in transforming buildings  
to tackle the climate crisis?**

Each year, interdisciplinary collegiate teams compete to create high-performance, low-carbon building designs that address real-world issues such as existing building retrofits, community impacts, affordability, and resilience. Learn more about the competition through the 2024 Design Challenge Recap video. Collegiate students and faculty—start gathering your team and register by October 23, 2024, to compete.

[Learn more and register today!](#)

## Transfer your membership to the Smart Start Program!

SmartStart is a 3-year program that allows Student members to transfer to Associate grade membership at a rate that is recent-graduate friendly.

Visit the [SmartStart](#) page to learn more.



Thank you for being a part of our ASHRAE family. If you have any suggestions or would like to assist in anyway with student activities, please let us know. Together, let's make this a year of growth, learning, and success.

Warm regards,  
Zhigang Xu  
Student Activity Chair

## Certification



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*ASHRAE, accredited by ANSI under ISO/IEC 17024 for the High-Performance Building Design Professional (HBDP) program, has certified more than 2,000 Built Environmental Professionals.*

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- Are developed by industry practitioners who understand the knowledge and experience that are expected for superior building design and system operation
- Assure employers and clients of subject mastery
- Serve as a springboard for continued professional development
- Offer an easy-to-apply process

FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO - <https://www.ashrae.org/education--certification/certification>



Follow **ASHRAE** on **Twitter** @ashraenews for up-to-date news, events, and articles about HVAC&R. Search #MyASHRAE on Twitter to see member photos from around the world.

Follow us on [Twitter](#)



## Most Popular Tweets

**Does It Cost More To Build Green? Benefits include reduced operating costs & construction waste.**

**Online Thermal Comfort Compliance Tool Included In New ASHRAE User's Manual.**

**87% of households in the US have #AC, 5% do in India. India's tough choice on air-conditioning and climate.**



**The November issue of the Journal is tested for binding strength to see how many times a page can be turned before the binding would fail.**

**Harvard & SUNY Upstate Medical University find that workers are healthier and happier in certified green buildings.**

**ASHRAE Standard 90.1 has been redefining energy savings since 1975. A new version is available now.**

**Adapting historical buildings for sustainable reuse.**

Get To Know ASHRAE





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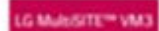


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