

THE LONG ISLAND SOUNDER



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President's Message

Happy New Year ASHRAE Long Island! I hope you all had a wonderful Holiday Season. We have so many exciting programs and events planned for 2025. Most importantly we will be ending the 2025 year by hosting Region I's annual conference. If you would like to sponsor, please let us know. Details are up on our website.

Don't miss the ASHRAE winter conference in Orlando! Make sure to jump on the ASHRAE website and register today!

[2025 ASHRAE Winter Conference](#)



We look forward to seeing you at our meetings and events in 2025.

President
Elizabeth Jedrlinic

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 & 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 Jedrlnic	c006@ashrae.net
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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
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Research Promotion (RP)	Peter Conte	c006rp@ashrae.net
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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.		

MEETING PROGRAM

Attendees
Will Earn
1 PDH!



Erik Ortmann



Elizabeth Marchionni

Date: Tuesday, January 15th 2025

Time: 6PM-9PM

6:00 PM - Cocktails and Hors D'oeuvres

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

Fees:

Members - \$50 pp

Guests - \$70 pp

Students - \$15 pp

Presentation Topic: Introduction to D/M/WBE Rules and Regulations

1. How do you evaluate the goals criteria based on a bid package? Bid package and funding sources
2. How do the certifying agencies evaluate ownership criteria? non-nominal indicia of sharing in risk/reward
3. What are 2 ways to document support for a waiver application? targeted NAIC's/region search on the directory; documented call/email log to firms (Good Faith Efforts)
4. What is CUF? Commercially useful function is an evaluation of whether a certified firm is performing a bona fide role on the project for the work and sum claimed on a utilization plan.
5. Which of the following is an indicia of a firm not fulfilling CUF? Check all
 - i. Sharing labor - correct
 - ii. Lending to a certified firm - correct
 - iii. Joint check agreement - limitedly ok
 - iv. Use of equipment/other job resources - correct

About our Speaker:

Elizabeth Marchionni and Erik Ortmann are partners with extensive experience in construction law. Elizabeth specializes in complex litigation, representing developers, contractors, and design professionals, and is a recognized leader in MWBE compliance and D/M/WBE rules and regulations. Erik, co-chair of the Construction Practice Group, brings over 25 years of expertise in litigation, contract negotiation, and compliance for clients in heavy highway, bridge, and vertical building industries. Both are highly accomplished and dedicated to achieving successful outcomes for their clients.



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!

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.

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.

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. The location is still being determined, and look out for registration to open in the New Year.

<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/young-engineers-in-ashrae-yea/yea-events-and-programs/yea-leadership-weekend-2-0>

Leadership Weekend 1.0

Coming to San Francisco this fall (November 8th-10th) is YEA Leadership Weekend 1.0 (YLW)! This event is for young professionals who are looking to improve in the areas of leadership, networking, communication, and professional development. YLW is led by Ralph Kison as he guides individuals through a self-discovery process that reveals their strengths, talents, gifts, and passion. In addition, there will be an optional technical tour of the iconic Salesforce Tower on November 7th. Please use the link below to register, and hurry if you are interested as registration closes on October 5th!

<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 open until October 9th. 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-leadrs-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>

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

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.

2024-2025 Decarbonization Challenge

ASHRAE Society President Dennis Knight has unveiled his presidential theme focusing on workforce development and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). As part of his plan, he will continue the Decarbonization Challenge Fund—a year-long competitive program offering grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000. This initiative aims to support decarbonization projects aligned with this year's presidential theme and will be executed through the YEA committee. Applications for the program will remain open until November 15th, 2024.

<https://www.ashrae.org/communities/young-engineers-in-ashrae-yea/yea-decarb-initiative>

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

Steven Gerazounis



Government Affairs

Updates from COP29

The U.N. Climate Change Conference, COP29, started on November 11th and runs through November 22nd. The event has over 50,000 attendees, and diplomats from nearly 200 member countries are seeking deals on climate financing and trying to build consensus on mitigation strategies. Some of the most notable negotiated outcomes from the conference so far are:

- Countries agreed on international standards for a centralized carbon market and on a mechanism for updating the standards, thereby finalizing how unfinished parts of the Paris Climate Agreement will be implemented.
- Stakeholders signed key agreements for the Loss and Damage Fund, a U.N. fund for responding to climate change harms in developing countries.

EPA Finalizes Methane Pollution Regulations

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a [final rule](#) establishing how new fees on methane emissions by oil and gas companies will be implemented. The rule, “Waste Emissions Charge for Petroleum and Natural Gas Systems: Procedures for Facilitating Compliance, including Netting and Exemptions,” is one of a number of greenhouse gas reduction efforts included in the Inflation Reduction Act. According to an accompanying [press release](#), EPA estimates the rule will cumulatively reduce methane emissions by 1.2 million metric tons of methane through 2035, equivalent to “taking nearly 8 million gas-powered cars off the road for a year.” The rule was published in the Federal Register on November 18 and is set to take effect January 17, 2025. The future of the rule is uncertain following the election of Donald Trump.

IRENA Report: Renewables not growing fast enough

The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)'s 2024 World Energy Transitions Outlook report found that current national climate action plans will only deliver half the renewable energy growth needed to keep global temperatures from rising by 1.5 Celsius by 2050 as laid out in the Paris Agreement. The report urges countries to readjust their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to triple their renewable energy capacity and double their energy efficiency by 2030 and found that current pledges would only reduce energy-related CO2 emissions by 3 percent by 2030 and by 51 percent by 2050.

The report also found that most renewable energy capacity was concentrated in the key markets of China, the European Union, and the United States, which do not comprise most of the global population. Furthermore, the report noted that fossil fuels still produce over 70% of global energy. More information, including a link to the report can be found [here](#).

LinkedIn Releases Green Skills Gap Report

In its annual report on green jobs, online platform LinkedIn found that by 2030 one-in-five green jobs will lack the talent to fill them and that approximately half of jobs in the 2050 green economy will lack the green talent to fill them.

The report noted that the demand for green jobs grew by 9.8% between 2023 and 2024 while supply only grew by 3.1% during that time. The report also found that women and young people are less likely to have “green skills” than male or older workers.

The report also outlined several key recommendations including greater investment in workforce development for climate goals, highlighting workforce investment at COP29, and integrating workforce development strategies into climate policy, including greater collaboration between educational institutions and energy companies You can find other key findings and a link to the report [here](#).

Closing Thoughts

COP29 revealed an important fact about the people and their Attitude behind the electrification Agenda.

If we do not meet our Goals, we need to shorten the time to comply. So, a 2050 Goal now becomes a 2035 Goal and the Product development is projected to have better solutions by 2060.

New Energy producing power plants are not hear yet, but we move forward as if they were.

I will leave the final assessment up to you.

Hope to See you at the Monthly Meetings!

Richard Smith – GAC Chair.

Matt Catan – Co-Chair

006ggac@ashrae.net

Renewables Not on Track to Meet Growing Energy Demand

According to a September report released by McKinsey & Co., fossil fuels are still expected to be the primary source of energy for 40%–60% of global energy dependence in 2050 (a projected decrease from 78% in 2023.) The report found that global emissions may not begin to decrease until 2035 due to the increasing energy demand. Due to the fact that nations are currently in very different stages of enacting their decarbonization plans and goals, the McKinsey report cites a higher-range projection that global temperatures are expected to increase by almost three degrees Celsius by 2050. Clean energy is expected to eventually be the worldwide majority fuel choice, meeting an estimated 80% of energy demand by 2050. However, progress has been slow due to the challenges of rising costs, longer project timelines, and badly needed grid expansion. Though solar and wind energy generation is expected to continue to grow, hydrogen as well as carbon capture and storage are expected to remain stagnant due to increased costs and regulatory uncertainty.

Closing Thoughts

The Stage is clear, and the new direction of the Federal Government will create a divide between the Electrification and Renewable expansion in the cities, suburbs, and more rural areas. Some plans may be scrapped, and old school Natural Gas and Oil may be around longer than planned.

Richard Smith – GAC Chair.

Matt Catan – Co-Chair

006ggac@ashrae.net



Historian

"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

Manufacturers offer resources and guidance on refrigerant detection systems. The article can be found via accessing the below link:

[Detect and Protect: Everything Techs Need to Know About RDSs | ACHR News](#)

Manufacturers offer resources and guidance on refrigerant detection systems

Per the AIM Act, starting January 1, 2025, most new comfort cooling systems are required to use lower-GWP refrigerants like R-32 or R-454B, which are classified as mildly flammable (A2L). Due to this flammability level, safety features, including refrigerant detection systems (RDSs), must be integrated into new split systems, in compliance with UL safety standard 60335-2-40.

An RDS identifies specific refrigerants when they reach set concentration levels and activates safety measures if these levels are exceeded. Typically, this involves turning on the blower, which disperses refrigerant vapor until the sensor no longer detects a leak. RDSs are generally required in A2L systems with refrigerant charges exceeding 4 pounds (64 ounces) and may be installed in the field or in the factory, depending on the manufacturer. As described below, manufacturers are offering a variety of resources and guidelines to ensure technicians have all the information they need regarding RDSs.

Bosch

To support their partners as they navigate the transition from R-410A to the new R-454B refrigerant, Bosch has developed training focused on safety, installation, operation, and service for these new units, said Phil Rains, applications engineer and trainer at Bosch Home Comfort. "Through ongoing in-person sessions and online webinars, we are addressing when and where an RDS is needed for air-source and water-source heat pumps," he said. "Bosch is also paying close attention to evolving requirements for manufacturing and handling low-GWP refrigerants, and we'll be continuing to announce new product updates throughout 2024 and 2025."

Additionally, Bosch includes a dedicated section in each air-source heat pump's installation, operation, and maintenance manual, which includes instructions for determining when and where an RDS is needed, according to the UL60335-2-40 standard. Contractors and technicians can quickly refer to these requirements when installing units onsite, noted Rains.

On all current Bosch air-source heat pumps, the RDS will be factory installed, regardless of R-454B refrigerant level. The sensor is positioned on the evaporator coil and connected to the control board of the unit. For Bosch IDS air-source heat pump air handlers, this means the factory-installed A2L sensor will be installed on the evaporator coil that directly connects to the indoor unit control board.

All Bosch Climate 5000 mini-split ductless systems will include a factory-installed A2L sensor on the indoor unit evaporator coil that directly connects to the unit's control board.

“Bosch water-source heat pumps that include more than 64 ounces of refrigerant will have a factory-installed leak detection sensor internally on the evaporator coil and connected to the unit controller,” said Rains. “The sensor is optional on all water-source heat pumps with less than 64 ounces of R-454B refrigerant and can be field installed if necessary.”

For third-party furnaces and legacy Bosch furnaces that were designed for use with R-410A coils, Bosch will offer a Refrigerant Sensor Adaptor Box, said Rains. “With a new or existing furnace, there will be a cased coil attached to the furnace with an evaporator coil inside. Bosch cased coils will include a factory-installed A2L sensor on the evaporator coil that directly connects to the control board of the Bosch Rev C — our R-454B furnace. Use of the field-installed A2L accessory kit will enable communication of leak detection. This will start up the blower of the third-party furnace and shut down the compressor of the condenser, as well as the burner of the furnace.”

The lifetime of the Bosch RDS sensor is roughly 15 years for air- and water-source heat pumps. When the sensor is due for replacement, Rains noted that there will be a fault code and/or a blinking LED light displayed on the unit.

Carrier

Carrier has taken a multi-pronged approach to RDS training, said Matt Vargo, residential strategic product manager at Carrier.

“We have online training, in-person training, printed launch kits, training webinars, an online launch page with a wealth of resources, and we have trained the Product Management and Sales teams to be able to handle any type of questions regarding our RDS.”

Carrier’s RDS consists of two primary components — a refrigerant sensor and a control board — and all the company’s fan coil and ductless products will have the RDS factory installed. Vargo said the furnace coils are a little trickier, since the control cannot be located in the wet environment of the coil.

“For that product, the sensor is factory installed, and all the necessary components for the rest of the system are shipped in a box within the coil to be installed in the field,” said Vargo. “This means that regardless of which product is being ordered, our dealers will have all the necessary RDS components without the need to order additional kits.”

Because refrigerant is heavier than air, Vargo explained that all of Carrier’s sensors will be placed low on the indoor coil, and this placement will remain consistent across commercial, residential, and multi-family equipment.

“The exact location on the coil will be based on that coil’s design to ensure that the sensor is in an optimal location for refrigerant detection,” he said. “The only reason that the sensor would be in a different location than low on the coil would be for horizontal applications of multi-poise equipment. In that situation, the sensor will need to be moved to a predetermined mounting location that is clearly marked for the field.”

Carrier coils are compatible with any furnace, because its RDS is designed to intercept the thermostat signal before it goes to the furnace and change it based on the needs of the system, said Vargo.

“During dissipation, the control will disable the active call and replace it with a call for constant fan,” he said. “This means that the furnace is not ‘aware’ of the dissipation mode and is simply responding to a new thermostat input. This allows our coils to be used on any furnace, making installation much easier. The only change that needs to be made is that the thermostat first needs to be connected to the dissipation control, and then the control needs to be connected to the furnace. Here again, we are focused on making this easy for the dealer by having all the connections made at the furnace where we would normally have them. In addition, all of the wires are clearly marked and color-coded for easy identification.”

On properly installed Carrier equipment, the RDS is designed to last the full life of the product, negating any need for regular or preventive maintenance, noted Vargo. In the event that the sensor was to fail, he said that it is available as a replacement component that can be easily ordered.

“If at any time the sensor stops working, the control will enter a fault sequence where the error is being displayed on the control and sent to any dealers that are connected to our equipment via the cloud.”

Daikin

Daikin is educating dealers about its RDS through product announcements, technical bulletins, training, installation and operation manuals, service manuals, and dealer meetings, said Josh Barr, director of technical services at Daikin Comfort Technologies North America Inc. He added that Daikin’s RDS can be factory or field-installed.

“Our new Daikin, Goodman, and Amana brand furnaces and air handlers engineered for R-32 systems include factory-installed RDSs,” said Barr. “We also have a Furnace Integration Kit for R-32 systems that are field installed, to provide RDS for furnaces and modular air handlers engineered for current R-410A systems that do not have a factory-installed RDS compliant control board.”

Once installed and operational on existing Daikin, Goodman, and Amana brand furnaces, the Furnace Integration Kit provides the mitigation protocol if a leak of R-32 refrigerant is detected in the evaporator coil, including third-party R-32 coils equipped with R-32 leak detection sensors, added Barr.

Daikin's new R-32-compliant furnaces have a factory-installed RDS control board in the blower section of the furnace, with the sensor located near the evaporator coil, said Barr. The R-32 sensor cable from the evaporator coil is routed into the furnace blower section and plugged into the new RDS control board. In air handlers, the factory-installed RDS control board is in the blower section with the sensor located near the evaporator coil.

The RDS control and sensor are expected to last the life of the Daikin equipment in which they are installed. Barr stated that no maintenance of the RDS controller or sensor is required, and both the RDS controller and sensor can be replaced in the field. The RDS control board also includes error codes to help with troubleshooting diagnostics. The operating temperature range of the sensor is -40°F to 175°F, and the sensor is IP53 approved, so there is no concern with condensation getting on the sensor, he said.

When installing an A2L system, technicians should read the installation and operations manuals provided, follow the instructions, and use proper installation procedures, said Barr.

"Make sure indoor and outdoor equipment is properly wired and grounded," he said. "During installation and commissioning, verify proper airflow, check for leaks, and test the RDS system operation in heating, cooling, and continuous fan modes to confirm the entire system is properly installed, and the RDS is working correctly."

Johnson Controls

The goal at Johnson Controls is to make the transition to low-GWP equipment as seamless and confusion-free as possible for contractors and distributors, said Ketan Namjoshi, product manager of residential controls and digital solutions at Johnson Controls Residential and Light Commercial, so they can focus less on calculations and conversions and more on providing comfortable, efficient, safe, and compliant installations. That is why, in September 2024, Johnson Controls launched an industry-first Refrigerant Detection System (RDS) Calculator within the Ducted Systems Solutions (DS Solutions) mobile app, he said.

“The RDS Calculator determines when packaged commercial and residential products using R-454B refrigerant require a refrigerant leak detection system per standard UL/CSA-60335-2-40, based on actual building applications,” said Namjoshi. “This tool considers the refrigerant volume, supply air discharge height, total area being conditioned, and potential ignition sources to determine if an RDS is required. It will also determine if exhaust air is required in the conditioned space. The user-friendly calculator gives straightforward recommendations in just a few, simple steps.”

In addition, Johnson Controls offers online in-depth public resources and ongoing webinars, as well as in-person training at its Ducted Systems Academy. These programs cover the low-GWP refrigerant transition, including new A2L equipment and RDS familiarization training.

New R-454B equipment from Johnson Controls with refrigerant charge in the largest circuit under 4 lbs. will not require an RDS sensor, while units with charge over 34 lbs. in the largest circuit will have an RDS sensor factory installed. For units with a charge between 4 and 34 lbs. in the largest circuit, some products will come with a factory-installed sensor, while others can be field installed.

“This will depend on factors such as product type, heat source, area requirements, supply air discharge height, total conditioned area, potential zone impact, and ignition sources,” said Namjoshi. “For A2L units without factory-installed sensors, field-installed accessories specifically designed and tested for their specific equipment will be available. We will also offer field service kits for sensor replacements.”

The general location of the sensor within the unit will not change depending on the type of application, said Namjoshi. For example, in residential units and commercial rooftop units (RTUs) from Johnson Controls, the RDS sensor will be located in the air stream near the evaporator coil. “In larger RTUs with bigger evaporator coils, multiple sensors may be used to monitor for leaks across the entire face area of the coil,” he said. “The sensor(s) are in the air stream flowing directly across the evaporator coil, and the RDS is wired into the unit’s main control board or mitigation board, depending on the unit type.”

Both commercial and residential RDS sensors should last the expected life of the unit, said Namjoshi, and they have mandatory, built-in self-diagnostics, which will let the technician know if a sensor has failed via an error signal. If the sensor should fail, technicians can replace it in the field; however, Namjoshi noted that they must be sourced from the OEM that manufactured the unit, as the sensor and its controllers are specifically approved by a nationally recognized safety agency for each specific product.

Lennox

Lennox offers comprehensive educational resources about RDS kits through multiple platforms that utilize subject matter experts and industry professionals, said Doug Smiley, technical training manager at Lennox Residential HVAC.

“These resources include webinars, instructor-led videos, and presentations. Dealers can access all of these materials through [LennoxPros.com](https://www.lennoxpros.com) and the Lennox Learning Center. Lennox field technical consultants also serve as a valuable resource, providing dealers with up-to-date information and guidance, alongside Lennox Learning Solutions for extended training so that all involved are knowledgeable about low-GWP refrigerant.”

At Lennox, RDSs may be installed either in the factory or the field. For example, on Lennox -71 coils and air handlers, RDSs are factory installed, said Smiley, while on -01 coils and air handlers, RDS kits are separate and field installed on the evaporator coil.

“For Lennox Residential products, the sensor is always installed at the evaporator coil,” said Smiley. “For Lennox Commercial products, each rooftop unit has a specific spot for its RDS placement, with some units requiring one sensor and some requiring two. Some are by the compressor, and some are by the evaporator coil.”

When it comes to installing A2L equipment with an existing furnace, very few modifications must be made, said Smiley, except when installing the appropriate blower control board (communicating or non-communicating) for the system to function with the new refrigerants.

“In the first half of 2025, Lennox will introduce our new lineup of gas furnaces that will have these controls factory installed.”

The Lennox RDS kits do not require regular maintenance; however, if a technician follows proper diagnostic procedures and identifies that the RDS is not functioning as expected, it should be replaced, said Smiley.

NGH

NGH is aware that the new refrigerant and associated components might be intimidating for some contractors, so the company made a concerted effort to educate them as much as possible using a variety of methods, said Dan Ayres, product manager at NGH. He added that one of the more impactful resources the company provides is the Lunch & Learn videos on their [YouTube page](#).

“The Lunch & Learns provide us an opportunity to deliver a great deal of information in one video and allows technicians the ability to go back and review the content as needed,” said Ayres. “Our first round was released in the Spring, where we discussed several topics ranging from how we came to our RDS solution, to how the new refrigerant will impact installation. We were even able to bring in our friends at Copeland to do a deep dive on the inner workings of the new refrigerant, so there’s a lot of good content available. Our customers found so much value in the early videos, we decided to do a second round, which launched earlier this month. We’re focusing more on the actual installation and wiring of our sensor in the latest round, so I’m sure technicians will find a lot of value in those videos as well.”

NGH's RDS is factory installed on the delta plate for both its cased coils and air handlers, said Ayres. "We were focused on minimizing the impact to technicians as much as possible, and we feel our solution is one of the easiest solutions to install, while still providing the highest level of safety available."

In an effort to minimize SKU changeover as much as possible, NGH made sure its RDS solution did not require a change to the furnace.

"Our solution operates between the thermostat and the air mover, so a few simple wire connections mean we can engage any necessary mitigation activity without the need for special blower boards or external equipment," said Ayres.

The RDS on NGH equipment has a projected life of at least 15 years, noted Ayres.

"Another great thing about our solution is it's basically maintenance-free. There are LEDs on the sensor to inform the technician what the sensor is reading, and, in the unlikely event the sensor fails, it 'fails safe,' which means it locks out the system and lets the homeowner know it's time for a service call without introducing an unmitigated hazard."

Rheem

Rheem is committed to ensuring that its dealers and contractors are well-prepared to handle the evolving refrigerant landscape, which is why the company has introduced two comprehensive training presentations focused on key aspects of A2L refrigerants, said Jose De La Portilla, senior manager of education and training at Rheem.

"The first training, 'A2L Steps to Success,' covers the basics of A2L refrigerants, including safety protocols, transportation, handling, and best practices for installation and service," he said. "The second section, focused specifically on RDSs, provides detailed guidance on regulations that mandate A2L sensors, the different types of sensors available, proper sensor installation techniques, and troubleshooting tips. Through these presentations, Rheem provides contractors with the knowledge and tools to determine when and where an RDS is needed, ensuring safety and compliance on our ducted A2L systems."

Rheem's RDS can be factory or field-installed, depending on the unit and application. Factory-installed sensors typically come shipped for upflow installations, said De La Portilla, but for horizontal or downflow installations, a field conversion is required. For residential air handlers and coils, he noted that units can be sold either with or without factory-installed sensors, while Resipack and commercial units always come with sensors factory-installed.

“If installing sensors in the field, Rheem provides kit options, which are often model-specific and include the necessary components: sensor, wires, wiring harness, bracket, and installation instructions,” said De La Portilla. “For field installation of sensors on coils or air handlers, it’s important to check the orientation (upflow, downflow, horizontal), install the sensor on the bracket according to the applicable orientation, and ensure proper wiring following the installation instructions and wiring diagrams. For applications with cased coils or PSC air handlers, a relay will also need to be installed. These kits are designed specifically for Rheem equipment, ensuring seamless integration and optimal performance.”

While the RDS sensor must always be placed in the lowest part of the indoor coil to detect any pooling refrigerant, the exact location will differ due to variations in cabinet design between residential and commercial products, said De La Portilla.

“This ensures the sensor is optimally positioned to sense refrigerant accurately in each type of application.”

When installing an A2L system with an existing furnace, De La Portilla noted that technicians should be aware of the following key considerations to ensure proper integration and safety:

- Ensure that the existing furnace is compatible with the A2L refrigerant system. A2L refrigerants require specific safety measures due to their mildly flammable nature, so it’s critical to follow Rheem’s guidelines for retrofitting or upgrading equipment.
- If the RDS is not factory installed, technicians will need to install the sensor kit (including sensor, wiring, harness, and bracket) according to the furnace’s orientation (upflow/downflow or horizontal) and wiring instructions. Attention to orientation and wiring is crucial for ensuring proper sensor functionality.

The RDS in Rheem’s systems is designed with an expected lifespan of around 10 years, although this can vary depending on maintenance frequency and the environmental conditions the system operates in, said De La Portilla.

For example, exposure to corrosive environments may reduce the sensor’s lifespan. Technicians can replace the sensor in the field if needed, and replacement parts are readily available in our system for quick and efficient servicing.”

Trane

Trane has offered its dealers many resources on the upcoming refrigerant transition, said Sean Goddard, product manager for coils and indoor air quality at Trane Technologies.

“Specific to the RDS, we offer online and in-person trainings on the function and components of an RDS in detecting and mitigating refrigerant leaks,” he said. “In addition, we have hosted and continue to host product reviews to pair with marketing materials generated to help educate dealers in a simple and engaging method.”

The RDS is factory-installed on nearly all of Trane’s indoor equipment, including air handlers, cased coils, and packaged systems. This streamlines the work for technicians during the refrigerant transition, as it does not require any additional processes for installation, said Goddard.

“Using direct dealer feedback, we have developed A2L-specific equipment that simplifies the transition for technicians and installers. Our factory-installed solutions for RDS reduce changes required on a job site. And, A2L equipment can be installed with existing Trane furnaces, because there are no changes to furnace equipment for the transition.”

On Trane’s residential equipment, the leak detection sensor is installed near the drain pan of the indoor coil, because in the event of a leak, refrigerant will sink to the lowest point in the system.

“For split air handlers and cased coils that can be installed in multiple orientations, the sensor is factory configured in upflow orientation, but for other orientations, the sensor can be easily relocated to ensure it is at the lowest point,” said Goddard. “The mitigation control board (MCB) can be found on the exterior of the coil, while for split air handlers, the MCB is located next to the existing controls. There are more details on installation guidelines in the installer’s guide that is shipped with the unit.”

Trane’s RDS should last the duration of the unit’s life, or approximately 10 years, and requires no regular maintenance, noted Goddard.

“In the event of a sensor failure, the RDS will default to mitigation mode,” he said. “If using a communicating system, the system may be able to identify the issue and provide details on the alert.”

Kenny Balci



Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

ASHRAE's Commitment to DEI

ASHRAE is committed to providing a welcoming environment. Our culture is one of inclusiveness, acknowledging the inherent value and dignity of everyone. We proactively pursue and celebrate diverse and inclusive communities understanding that doing so fuels better, more creative, and more thoughtful ideas, solutions and strategies for the Society and the communities our Society serves. We respect and welcome all people regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, physical appearance, thought styles, religion, nationality, socioeconomic status, belief systems, sexual orientation or education.

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Sustainability



Modern engineering sustainability emphasizes reducing environmental impacts while fostering technological advancements. A key focus area is the integration of sustainable materials and practices in construction. Engineers are increasingly adopting renewable and low-impact resources, such as recycled steel and bamboo, to minimize waste and carbon emissions. Technologies like energy-efficient systems and smart controls further enhance building performance by optimizing resource use, demonstrating a commitment to creating resilient and environmentally responsible infrastructure.

Digital innovation plays a critical role in achieving sustainable engineering goals. Artificial intelligence and machine learning are being leveraged to design and optimize energy-efficient systems, while augmented and virtual reality streamline the visualization of sustainable designs. These advancements improve project efficiency and reduce waste, highlighting the synergy between technology and sustainability in modern engineering practices.

Sustainability efforts also extend to life-cycle considerations and resilience. Engineers are designing adaptable buildings that can be modified or repurposed over time, reducing the need for future demolition and construction. Green building initiatives, like using passive design strategies and incorporating renewable energy solutions, are essential to meet global sustainability targets. These efforts align with international goals such as net-zero emissions by 2050 and underscore the engineering sector's pivotal role in combating climate change.

In conclusion, sustainability in engineering is no longer an optional consideration but a vital commitment to addressing global environmental challenges. By integrating renewable materials, optimizing energy use, and embracing innovative technologies like AI and smart systems, engineers are shaping a future where development harmonizes with ecological responsibility. This approach not only meets regulatory and societal demands but also offers long-term economic and environmental benefits, demonstrating the transformative power of sustainable practices in engineering.

As the industry continues to evolve, the adoption of sustainable principles will remain crucial for building a resilient and resource-conscious world. Through a commitment to sustainable engineering, professionals have the opportunity to drive meaningful change, ensuring that technological advancements support both people and the planet.

For reference, please see the below links:

- [Deloitte United States](#)
- [La Salle Campus Barcelona](#)
- [Cromwell Architects Engineers](#)



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.

Thank you to our contributors!

Individuals

Mr. John D. Nally

Mr. Peter J. Conte, PE

Ms. Elizabeth Jedrlinic

Mr. Kenny Balci

Mr. Steven Gerazounis

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Mr. Michael Steven Gerazounis

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Contributions can be made in the following ways:

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Peter Conte

ASHRAE Research Promotion Chair

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Commack, NY 11725

Hand check to me at any of the chapter meetings.

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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. 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



Certified

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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- Assure employers and clients of subject mastery
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FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO - <https://www.ashrae.org/education--certification/certification>



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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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