

History

For this month's interview I decided to interview Mr. Joseph Marino (LEED Green Associate) the Manager of Facilities Engineering at Newsday. This was a very good interview because I learned how everyone in the engineering world is closely intertwined, and I was able to go on a very sweet tour of the Newsday Facility.



What made you become an engineer?

I wanted to know what made things work. In college I wanted to be in machine design, then I evolved into the HVAC world.

Where did you go to school and when did you graduate?

I graduated from the New York Institute of Technology in 1987.

When and where was your first engineering job?

My first job was with Ebasco Services in the World Trade Center, they were power plant designers and constructors. I designed HVAC on nuclear, fossil fuel, hydroelectric power plants.

What ASHRAE positions have you held? When were you the chapter president?

I was the chapter president in during the years of 1996 and 1997. I held all the committee chairs, plus government affairs which is no longer a committee chair. Now I help edit the ASHRAE Handbook under the printing plant section.

Did you have a mentor?

I still do, everyone needs a mentor. It does not matter if you are young or old. You should always strive to advance your knowledge. When I was younger I worked at Grumman in the Facilities Department, one of the senior engineers (Sal) took me under his wing and taught me how to do calculations, design etc.. Also when I used to work at Grumman we used to contract out our engineering design work to consultants. Don Stahl of Lizardos would sit down with me at my drafting board (pre-AutoCAD days) and he would explain to me why the engineers at Lizardos selected the specific equipment and how and why they designed the system the way they did. In addition my old boss used to let me leave work and attend Evans Lizardos' lunch hour tech sessions, I even got a free lunch with the training. Today, my boss at Newsday still mentors me with management skills, budgeting and capital planning.

What was the most memorable project you worked on?

One of the most memorable was at Grumman, we had to design an interactive flight simulator facility for the US Navy F-14 Tomcats. I designed the HVAC and the fire protection.

How has this industry changed in your tenure?

The country shifted from an industrial to a service based economy. The design work was not only commercial, it was also heavy industrial. It included factories, process plants, mills and ship building (naval architecture). Now the design has all transferred to commercial, schools, hospitals, and malls.

Which outside influences have made the biggest change on the industry?

The country outsourcing and the economy.

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Which technology has made the biggest change to the industry?

Computers; not only for drafting but for building automation controls, process controls, and equipment/building communications.

Where do you see this industry going?

This industry will be going towards sustainability. We have to be independent of foreign energy and oil. We have to be more energy efficient and our building systems have to address this and be designed for sustainability.

What do you think will be a game changer with the newer technologies?

I think green technologies and LEED is shaping the industry.

Any pearls of wisdom to the current engineers out there?

Yes, to all the young engineers; get all your licenses and credentials before you get married and start a family. Also, keep learning and never stop questioning, and have fun while doing it.

Charlie Lesniak
Chapter Historian

Please remember to send in any old ASHRAE photographs, papers, articles, and speeches of people who have been through the Long Island Chapter of ASHRAE. I would like to upload this information to our chapter's website. Everything sent in will be returned.

Membership

A benefit of ASHRAE membership is discounted pricing on ASHRAE educational materials and courses. A variety of courses are available at www.ASHRAE.org/education and at www.ashrae-elearning.org.

The ASHRAE E-learning website includes interactive courses that are perfect for individuals and corporations who need to update their technical knowledge, meet PDH/CEU requirements for licensing and certification, or provide engineering staff training.

ASHRAE eLearning offers over a hundred courses in HVAC, refrigeration, high-performance green buildings, and data centers. Each allows you to train around your schedule, saving you time and travel expenses.

Also available are Self Directed Courses, which offer you access to well-designed course material without leaving your home or office. The course format allows you to review and study the material at your own pace and provides exercises that enable you to evaluate how well you are learning the material. These fundamentals courses are available in print form for all topics.

Please take the time to review these resources.

Thomas J. Fields, PE, LEED AP
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