



# ASHRAE

*Technology for a Better Environment*

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Region One CTTC Chairs, Chapter Presidents and Region One EXCOM:

I attended the Ashrae Society Refrigeration Committee Meeting held on January 24, 2010 and writing to inform you on some of the important highlights. The committee consists of approximately 15 individuals, some from around the globe however the names of those familiar include: Kent Anderson- Society Chair of Refrigeration Committee, Cynthia Gage, PhD, Refrigeration Vice-Chair, Don Siller, PE Past Chair and Ron Vallort, PE Past President of Ashrae Society.

- One of the first topics to be discussed is the use of Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) as a substitute alternative for refrigerants. Although CO<sub>2</sub> has been utilized for many years in the past, it appears to have lost its appeal in the design and application community. A few reasons behind this theory is the higher use of energy to circulate CO<sub>2</sub> due to high operating pressures, higher cost for installations and lack of knowledge amongst the design and installation professionals. Visit website <http://www.R744.com/> for further information on the use and application of CO<sub>2</sub>.
- CO<sub>2</sub> is making a tremendous comeback in the industry since the implementation of the sustainable design incentive. This is evident as Ashrae has now launched their version of EQ for sustainable design similar to the USGBC known as the Building Energy Quotient Program. (please visit <http://www.buildingeq.com/> ). CO<sub>2</sub> can be used to eliminate the use of harmful refrigerants into the ozone which is one of the incentives and goals of this program. While the USGBC has a numerical scoring system to obtain basic certification, silver gold or platinum, Ashrae uses an alphabetical scoring system. (Within our region, we have a sustainable site super market known as Price Chopper located in the Albany area. I visited the Northeast chapter in October 2009 and we toured this facility. The refrigerators utilize CO<sub>2</sub> in lieu of common refrigerants seen in direct expansion applications (ex:R-22))
- With regards to energy efficiency and sustainable (green) buildings, Ashrae has published their own documentation and is currently known as Ashrae standard 189.1. The ultimate goal is also to partner with the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) and the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America (IESNA).
- Ahsrae Standard 90.1 (Standard for Energy Efficiency) will be revised for version 2010. Within this document, specific systems will be required to be 20-30% higher in energy efficiency than those published in the current 2004 version.

*American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc.*

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- The 2010 Refrigeration Ashrae Handbook will be the next publication available. Within this book is a more elaborative description, application and operation function for the use of Carbon Dioxide (CO2) as Refrigerant substitution. The 2006 Handbook had very little information regarding this topic.
- Also on the comeback trail is the use of Ammonia in refrigeration equipment. Currently, there are six new standards in development at the International Institute of Ammonia Refrigeration (IIAR).. Please visit <http://www.ammonia21.com/> for further information regarding the use and application of this product.
- Further discussions between CTTC and Society continue on how to filter information more efficiently to the regional and chapter level chairs. The communication trail seems to be lacking and Society is trying to promote the awards process.
- I have saved the best for last. This is truly mind boggling however at the Winter Meeting, the Society Refrigeration Committee reviews applications for the Milton Garland Commemorative Award and the Comfort Cooling Award. (Apparently this is why the deadline for application is in September of each year). With 52,000 plus Ashrae members worldwide, there were only **TWO** applications for the Milton Garland Award and... **ZERO** applications for the Comfort Cooling Award.. I encourage the CTTC chairs to participate in these two award processes as well as the other four. I did mention at this meeting that since our fiscal year technically begins July 1 and most chapters have meetings beginning in September, there is not enough time for the application process of incoming chairs. I suggested that the CTTC chair position be evaluated to extend to a two year term at minimum, this way will allow a chair to participate in these two awards beginning second term. This is up for discussion. Society Refrigeration Committee is considering restructuring the grading for these two awards.

Should anyone have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am also available to help any CTTC chair with the award application process.

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