Upcoming Events!

Big Storm Brewery Tour
- Cape Coral
- Friday December 11th

COST: $35.00 PER ATTENDEE
– RESERVATIONS ARE A MUST
NO COST FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS WITH A VALID STUDENT I.D.
Pre-Pay via www.paypal.com to swfl.ashrae@gmail.com
Please click here to RSVP!

Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, October 14th, 2020

Thanksgolfing Outing!
Saturday, November 7th, 2020
Please see the end of the newsletter for more information!

Pandemic Precautions

SWFL ASHRAE is committed to the health and safety of its members and their families. For the foreseeable future masks will be a requirement for all meetings in accordance with CDC recommendations.

SWFL ASHRAE will be adhering to social distancing guidelines by increasing table spacing, serving individual meals, and having hand sanitizer available.

We ask if you are feeling under the weather or have recently traveled out-of-state or out of the country that you please participate remotely.

Student Activities - Noe Gamez

Hello everyone,

One of our AHSRAE members was recently participating in a STEM event involving HS seniors. Many of them inquired about joining ASHRAE pre-college and it raised the question of any requirements to join at a young age. Student over the age of 18 years are more than welcome to join our organization. Pass this along for an up and coming student in our industry to benefit from everything we have to offer.

Thank you,

Webmaster - William Mejia

Hello,

Our Website has a new face. With the purpose to make our website more flexible and integrated with other platforms. We switch from GoDaddy to Wix. We still in construction phase.

Please remember that domain is www.swflashrae.org

Thanks,

Dave Jaworski - Sustainability

Scientists at the Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore) have developed a liquid window panel that can simultaneously block the sun to regulate solar transmission, while trapping thermal heat that can be released through the day and night, helping to reduce energy consumption in buildings.

The NTU researchers developed their 'smart window' by placing hydrogel-based liquid within glass panels and found that it can reduce up to 45 per cent of heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning energy consumption in buildings in simulations, compared to traditional glass windows. It is also 30 per cent more energy efficient than commercially available low-emissivity (energy-efficient) glass, while being cheaper to make.

Full Article
Greetings SWFL Chapter,

We are happy to announce that Golfsigving was a huge success thanks to all of our volunteers, sponsors and participants. We are well on our way to meeting our research promotion goal for the year. We are starting planning for our upcoming annual backwater fishing tournament as well so go ahead and start charting out your plan.

We are also excited to announce that we will be continuing our SWFL ASHRAE December tradition with a refrigeration tour at the new location for Big Storm Brewery in Cape Coral. We hope you can all join us as we kick off the holiday season with some cheer. I am certainly looking forward to putting 2020 in the books and bringing in the new year.

Stay safe and enjoy your holiday season!!

Thanks,
James Martin
SWFL Chapter President 2020-2021

OSHA Cites ASHRAE in Guidance on Ventilation in the Workplace

COVID-19 Guidance on Ventilation in the Workplace OSHA is committed to protecting the health and safety of America’s workers and workplaces during these unprecedented times. The agency will be issuing a series of alerts designed to keep workers safe. Ensuring adequate ventilation throughout the work environment can help to maintain a safe and healthy workplace. Employers should work with a heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) professional to consider steps to optimize building ventilation. An HVAC professional can ensure that the ventilation system is operating as intended.

The following tips can help reduce the risk of exposure to the coronavirus:

- Encourage workers to stay home if they are sick.
- Ensure all HVAC systems are fully functional, especially those shut down or operating at reduced capacity during the pandemic.
- Remove or redirect personal fans to prevent blowing air from one worker to another.
- Use HVAC system filters with a Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV) rating of 13 or higher, where feasible.
- Increase the HVAC system’s outdoor air intake. Open windows or other sources of fresh air where possible.
- Be sure exhaust air is not pulled back into the building from HVAC air intakes or open windows.
- Consider using portable high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) fan/filtration systems to increase clean air, especially in higher-risk areas.
- When changing filters, wear appropriate personal protective equipment. ASHRAE recommends N95 respirators, eye protection (safety glasses, goggles, or face shields), and disposable gloves.
- Make sure exhaust fans in restrooms are fully functional, operating at maximum capacity, and are set to remain on.
- Encourage workers to report any safety and health concerns.

Full Article
Biden-Harris Transition: CLIMATE CHANGE

From coastal towns to rural farms to urban centers, climate change poses an existential threat — not just to our environment, but to our health, our communities, our national security, and our economic well-being. It also damages our communities with storms that wreak havoc on our towns and cities and our homes and schools. It puts our national security at risk by leading to regional instability that will require U.S. military-supported relief activities and could make areas more vulnerable to terrorist activities.

The current COVID-19 pandemic reminds us how profoundly the energy and environmental policy decisions of the past have failed communities — allowing systemic shocks, persistent stressors, and pandemics to disproportionately impact communities of color and low-income communities.

At this moment of profound crisis, we have the opportunity to build a more resilient, sustainable economy — one that will put the United States on an irreversible path to achieve net-zero emissions, economy-wide, by no later than 2050. Biden is working to seize that opportunity and, in the process, create millions of good-paying jobs that provide workers with the choice to join a union and bargain collectively with their employers.

President-elect Biden is leading the world to address the climate emergency and leading through the power of example. Biden knows how to stand with America’s allies, stand up to adversaries, and level with any world leader about what must be done. He will not only recommit the United States to the Paris Agreement on climate change — he will go much further than that. He is working to lead an effort to get every major country to ramp up the ambition of their domestic climate targets.

President-elect Biden will ensure that — coming out of this profound public health and economic crisis, and facing the persistent climate crisis — we are never caught flat-footed again. He is working to launch a national effort aimed at creating the jobs we need to build modern, sustainable infrastructure now and deliver an equitable clean energy future.

The current coronavirus crisis destroyed millions of American jobs, including hundreds of thousands in clean energy. It has exacerbated historic environmental injustices. Biden will immediately invest in engines of sustainable job creation — new industries and re-invigorated regional economies spurred by innovation from our national labs and universities; commercialized into new and better products that can be manufactured and built by American workers; and put together using feedstocks, materials, and parts supplied by small businesses, family farms, and job creators all across our country.

President-elect Biden is working to make far-reaching investments in:

- **Infrastructure**: Create millions of good, union jobs rebuilding America’s crumbling infrastructure — from roads and bridges to green spaces and water systems to electricity grids and universal broadband — to lay a new foundation for sustainable growth, compete in the global economy, withstand the impacts of climate change, and improve public health, including access to clean air and clean water.

- **Auto Industry**: Create 1 million new jobs in the American auto industry, domestic auto supply chains, and auto infrastructure, from parts to materials to electric vehicle charging stations, positioning American auto workers and manufacturers to win the 21st century; and invest in U.S. auto workers to ensure their jobs are good jobs with a choice to join a union.

- **Transit**: Provide every American city with 100,000 or more residents with high-quality, zero-emissions public transportation options through flexible federal investments with strong labor protections that create good, union jobs and meet the needs of these cities — ranging from light rail networks to improving existing transit and bus lines to installing infrastructure for pedestrians and bicyclists.

- **Power Sector**: Move ambitiously to generate clean, American-made electricity to achieve a carbon pollution-free power sector by 2035. This will enable us to meet the existential threat of climate change while creating millions of jobs with a choice to join a union.

- **Buildings**: Upgrade 4 million buildings and weatherize 2 million homes over 4 years, creating at least 1 million good-paying jobs with a choice to join a union; and also spur the building retrofit and efficient-appliance manufacturing supply chain by funding direct cash rebates and low-cost financing to upgrade and electrify home appliances and install more efficient windows, which will cut residential energy bills.

- **Housing**: Spur the construction of 1.5 million sustainable homes and housing units.
Significant New Alternatives Policy Program

Under section 612 of the Clean Air Act (CAA), EPA reviews substitutes in a comparative risk framework. EPA lists these substitutes as acceptable, acceptable subject to use conditions, acceptable subject to narrowed use limits, or unacceptable (prohibited) for specific uses. Section 612 requires EPA to list as acceptable those substitutes that do not present a significantly greater risk to human health and the environment as compared with other substitutes that are currently or potentially available.

As part of the evaluation of overall risk to human health and the environment, EPA considers many criteria, including the flammability or toxicity of a substitute, as well as environmental risks such as ecosystem impacts, local air quality, or impacts on the global atmosphere.

Today’s Action

Under this proposed rule, a number of substances would be listed as acceptable; acceptable, subject to use conditions; or acceptable, with narrowed use conditions, in the refrigeration and air conditioning sector and the foam blowing sector. This action also proposes to remove an acceptable subject to use conditions listing for the fire suppression sector where EPA has more recently listed the substitute as acceptable with no use restrictions. Consistent with CAA section 612 as it has historically been interpreted under the SNAP program, EPA is proposing to issue these listings and modifications based on evaluation of the substitutes addressed in this action using the SNAP criteria for review and considering other available and potentially available substitutes.

Proposed Rule

What is proposed in the Rule?

- Lists several substances as acceptable, acceptable subject to use conditions, or acceptable subject to narrowed use limits
- Clarifies status of acceptable fire suppression alternative

Which industrial sectors are included?

- Refrigeration & Air Conditioning
- Foam Blowing
- Fire Suppression & Explosion Protection

Who would be affected?

- Chemical producers
- Air conditioning and refrigeration equipment and foam manufacturers
- Some end users of equipment and products using refrigerants, fire suppressants, and foam blowing agents

When are public comments due?

Must be received by 45 days after publication in the Federal Register.
### Summary of Proposed Rule

#### ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>End-Use</th>
<th>Substitutes*</th>
<th>Further Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foam Blowing</td>
<td>Extruded Polystyrene (XPS): Boardstock and Billet</td>
<td>Blends of 40 to 52 percent HFC-134a by weight and the remainder HFO-1234ze(E); Blends of 40 to 52 percent HFC-134a with 40 to 60 percent HFO-1234ze(E) and 10 to 20 percent each water and CO₂ by weight; Blends with maximum of 51 percent HFC-134a, 17 to 41 percent HFC-152a, up to 20 percent CO₂ and one to 13 percent water</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Notwithstanding the unacceptable listings in general for blends of HFC-134a in XPS, EPA is proposing these specific blends of HFC-134a to be acceptable in this end-use. EPA is also proposing to add an exception to the unacceptable listings for HFC-134a, HFC-245fa, HFC-365mfc, and blends thereof in XPS where a blend is specifically listed as acceptable.

#### ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVES, WITH USE CONDITIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>End-Use</th>
<th>Substitutes</th>
<th>Decision</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Refrigeration &amp; Air Conditioning</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential and light commercial air conditioning and heat pumps (New)</td>
<td>R-452B, R-454A, R-454B, R-454C, R-457A</td>
<td>Acceptable Subject to Use Conditions*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential and light commercial air conditioning and heat pumps (New) excluding self-contained room air conditioners†</td>
<td>R-32</td>
<td>Acceptable Subject to Use Conditions*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* For specific use conditions for substitutes listed as Acceptable Subject to Use Conditions, consult the Proposed Rule.

† EPA previously listed R-32 as Acceptable Subject to Use Conditions for self-contained room air conditioners (April 10, 2015; 80 FR 19454).

#### ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVES, WITH NARROWED USE LIMITS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>End-Use</th>
<th>Substitutes</th>
<th>Decision</th>
<th>Narrowed Use Limits</th>
<th>Further Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Refrigeration &amp; Air Conditioning</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Retail food refrigeration – medium-temperature stand-alone units (New) | R-448A, R-449A, R-449B | Acceptable Subject to Narrowed Use Limits | Acceptable only for use in new medium-temperature stand-alone units where reasonable efforts have been made to ascertain that other alternatives are not technically feasible due to the inability to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. | Users are required to document and retain the results of their technical investigation of alternatives for the purpose of demonstrating compliance. Information should include descriptions of:  
• Process or product in which the substitute is needed;  
• Substitutes examined and rejected;  
• Reason for rejection of other alternatives, e.g., performance, technical or safety standards, ADA requirements; and/or  
• Anticipated date other substitutes will be available and projected time for switching. |

#### OTHER CHANGES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>End-Use</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fire Suppression and Explosion Protection</td>
<td>Clarify that Powdered Aerosol E (FirePro™) is listed as acceptable, and that the previously issued use condition is no longer required as of October 4, 2018.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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