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Volume 10, Issue 3

2015 General Meeting Dates

Mark your Calendar!

March 12, 2015

R-22 Retrofit Gases

John P Maiorana

Arkema Inc.

DoubleTree -Meadowlands

March 16 - 19, 2015

ACCA Convention

Grapeville, TX

April 9, 2015

Truck Selections!!!!

Peter's Place - Bridgeville

May 14, 2015

Tool Time!!

Latitude 360 - Robertson

Air Conditioning Contractors of America
ACCA

Is a non-profit association serving more than 60,000 professionals and 4,000 businesses in the indoor environmental and energy services community.

Founded 40+ years ago, ACCA sets the standards for quality comfort systems, provides leading-edge education for contractors and their employees, and fights for the interests of professional contractors in every state in the country.

ACCA is the only nationwide organization of, by, and for small businesses that design, install and maintain indoor environment and building performance systems.



ACCA Update.....

DOE Proposes 92% Efficiency Standard for Residential Furnaces

Last week, the U.S. Department of Energy proposed a new 92% AFUE standard for residential gas and mobile home furnaces.

These standards would effectively ban the manufacture of non-condensing furnaces starting in 2021. Any stockpiled inventory of non-condensing furnaces manufactured before the compliance date would be legal to install, but supplies would likely quickly run scarce.

The standards would **apply nationally and require condensing furnaces for retrofit or new construction**. The DOE will accept public comments on the proposal for 90 days and a public meeting is scheduled for March 26, 2015.

This is a proposed rule. The DOE must publish a final rule by April of 2016. ACCA will be aggressively representing our member interests throughout this rulemaking process.

ACCA Victory: HVAC Included in Extended Expensing Bill

On Friday, the U.S. House of Representatives voted 272-142 to approve HR 636, legislation that would permanently extend the \$500,000 expensing limits for small businesses. In a victory for ACCA, **the bill would also add HVACR equipment to the list of qualified improvements eligible for 179 expensing.**

Senate leaders expect to work on tax reform and tax related bill through the summer, but the window to pass the bill before the Presidential election season is closing.

House Energy Chairman Outlines Upcoming Energy Bill

It's been **nearly 7 years** since Congress passed a major energy bill.

House Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Fred Upton (R-Mich.) released his initial plans for a **massive overhaul of our nation's energy policy.**

His four main focus areas: updating our energy infrastructure, including the security and reliability of our pipelines, transmission lines, and emergency response systems; improving the energy and manufacturing workforce; strengthening our position as a global energy leader; and energy efficiency and accountability through new technologies, private sector innovation, and more efficient energy usage in households, businesses, and the federal government.

This bill text will be released in the coming weeks.

Impaired Drivers – Federated Insurance

Most of us think of impaired drivers as those who are under the influence of drugs or alcohol. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) reported alcohol-impaired driving was involved in 32 percent of traffic fatalities, translating to 11,773 alcohol-impaired driving fatalities in 2008.

However, a driver doesn't have to be legally drunk to be "impaired." Other factors may be just as dangerous and these impairments are as alarming as alcohol consumption:

- Blood-alcohol at lower levels
- Medications
- Drowsiness
- Cell phones and other distractions

Medications

Most of us have probably driven under the influence of drugs without realizing it. Many common prescription and over-the-counter medications may cause adverse effects such as slowed reactions, sleepiness, nervousness, or agitation—especially during the initial course of treatment. It's important to heed warning labels on all medications and be aware of the hazards of driving while taking them.

Drowsiness

Drowsy driving is an increasing factor in accidents. Fatigue and sleepiness may be the result of not getting enough sleep, interrupted sleep, shift work, or untreated sleep disorders such as sleep apnea and narcolepsy. The combination of sleepiness and even a small amount of alcohol compound the adverse effect on psychomotor skills. One study showed that drivers with a low level of alcohol were four times more likely to stray off the road after four hours of sleep than after eight hours of sleep.

Cell Phones

Studies also show that talking on a cell phone while driving can be more dangerous than being drunk behind the wheel. Results of a British study showed that drivers' reaction times averaged 30 percent slower when talking on a hand-held phone compared to being drunk and nearly 50 percent slower than under normal driving conditions. Drivers were less able to maintain a constant speed and keep a safe distance from the car in front.

Help your employees understand the dangers of impaired driving and take advantage of the countless risk management resources Federated can provide.

Sources: U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration 2009; NCSDR/NHTSA Expert Panel on Driver Fatigue and Sleepiness 2008; Insurance Information Institute, Cell phones and Driving, February 2010.

For more information on ACCA-WPA's Federated Insurance program contact John Ballard ACCA-WPA's Federated representative at 859-312-9896 (jballard@fedinsl.com)



EDUCATION & EVENTS

To register : www.acca.org

2015 HVACR & Mechanical Conference For Education Professionals

March 9 - 11, 2015

ACCA 2015 & IE3 Expo

March 16 - 19, 2015



Smart Words You Must Remember

"The delicate balance of mentoring someone is not creating them in your own image, but giving them the opportunity to create themselves."

— Steven Spielberg

Product Spotlight

Mastering Core Service

Learn how to successfully take and pass the NATE Service Core Exam – the fundamentals to general, construction and HVACR-specific knowledge required for certification.

To learn more about this and other tools ACCA has to offer, visit: www.acca.org/store.

March 16/19, 2015 ACCA National Convention

The single largest source of contractor education in the country!



Welcome New Members....

WELCOME!

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Donwil Company

Gregg Massetti
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greggm@donwil.com

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kurt@beaversteel.com

ACCA – How Do We Do IT!!!

We write the standards for the design, maintenance, installation, testing, and performance of indoor environment systems. We bring contractors together with other contractors through unique learning opportunities and online communities. We provide exclusive technical, legal, and marketing resources. We bring customers to our members, since they come to our website trying to find quality contractors. And we fight aggressively for contracting business interests in Washington, DC and in every state in the country.

Manual J®

ACCA announced the release of Addendum E to ANSI/ACCA 2 Manual J – 2011, which updates the weather data contained in Manual J®.

The Addendum underwent an ANSI Public Review period (August 29, 2014 – October 13, 2014) and was ANSI-recognized on October 20, 2014. The addendum updates the weather data values for outdoor design conditions in MJ8 Table 1A and Table 1B and provides a new degree day ratio (HDD base 65°F / CDD base 50°F) column.

The purpose of the changes are to provide the most recent weather data by consolidating information from two separate authoritative sources and to present HDD/CDD ratios as required in ANSI/ACCA 3 Manual S® – 2014 for the optional heat pump selection and sizing procedure. This proposed revision has no effect on the underlying Manual J or Manual S procedures that use weather data values.

The information in Addendum E will be added to a future printing of Manual J. In the interim, you can download a free PDF copy (65 pages) of Addendum E from www.acca.org/standards/ansi.

For questions about Addendum E:

Luis Escobar, ACCA's manager of codes and standards, at luis.escobar@acca.org.