



“News and Announcements from the Nashville Chapter of ASHRAE”

JANUARY MEETING – RETRO-COMMISSIONING

**January 2008
Chapter Meeting**

**TOPIC:
Retro-Commissioning**

**Date:
Tuesday,
January 8, 2008**

**Location:
TN Engineering Center
@ The Adventure
Science Center**

**Meeting Time:
11:30 am to 1:00 pm**

**Speaker:
Paul McCown**

Fellow ASHRAE Members:

Happy New Year to every one from the ASHRAE Nashville chapter Board of Governors. To all of you who toured Nissan NA HQ last month, we want to thank you for taking time after normal business hours to tour this job site. The social gathering at Jonathan's gave every one a chance to sit down and get to know each other better. We hope to make this an annual (if not semi-annual) event.

This month's meeting features Paul McCown of the Smith Seckman Reid Commissioning department. Paul will be speaking to us on Retro-Commissioning and the LEED-EB process.

Commissioning is the systematic and quality oriented process of documenting that facilities' systems and equipment perform according to the design intent and meet the owner's needs and expectations. This same definition applies to Retro-commissioning (RCx) except that it is being applied to an aged building. The focus is the same, but the concerns vary. The LEED-EB process outlines a systematic, broad-scope approach in application of the RCx process. With LEED-EB, the RCx Agent is in charge of documenting a Building Operations Plan, executing functional performance tests for equipment, and organizing (or implementing) data trends for space temperature and system operation schedule. The presentation will thoroughly cover the LEED-EB RCx process as well as other applications of Retro-Commissioning which deal with energy, comfort and operational concerns.

Paul McCown is a registered professional engineer in the state of Tennessee and is also registered as a Certified Energy Manager, LEED Accredited Professional, and Certified Commissioning Authority. Paul has expertise in sustainable design and construction practices, specifically concerning application of the LEED® Green Building Rating System; heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems design; energy conservation analysis concerning energy management and system efficiency; and facilities commissioning for new construction and existing buildings. Paul is a current board member of the Tennessee Environmental Council, former board member of the USGBC Middle Tennessee Chapter and is a member of ASHRAE, BCA, and AEE

Don Reaville
President, Nashville Chapter of ASHRAE

Study Reveals How U.S. Could Cut Greenhouse Gases by 28%

A new report by consulting firm McKinsey & Company reveals that the United States could shave as much as 28% from the amount of greenhouse gases (GHG) it emits at fairly modest cost and with only small technology innovations. A large portion of the reductions could come from measures that would more than pay for themselves in lower energy bills. The report's authors said, however, that such steps are unlikely to happen under present circumstances. There is huge potential for energy and dollar savings in the lighting, heating and cooling of buildings, yet substantial barriers to adoption of efficient technologies remain. Landlords and builders typically purchase less efficient equipment with low up-front cost, leaving the tenant or home buyer using the equipment with a higher electricity bill. Another problem, the report said, is that consumers often pay no attention to energy use in choosing equipment. For example, computers can be designed to use less power. But, because most consumers are oblivious to energy efficiency when shopping for a computer, manufacturers perceive no competitive edge to spending the extra money on efficiency.

While the report focused on describing the scope of the problem, it did mention possible solutions. Rules for utilities could be rewritten, for example, so that utilities make as much money in promoting conservation as in selling electricity. Other proposed solutions included: government mandates for limits on GHG emissions and incentives such as tax breaks to promote efficient buildings, cars and appliances. The study compared such measures to more costly measures such as capturing and storing carbon dioxide from coal power plants, which would account for less than 10% of the potential to cut emissions.

Read: *Reducing U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions: How Much at What Cost?*, McKinsey & Company, December 2007, www.mckinsey.com.

Chapter OFFICERS and BOARD OF GOVERNORS

PRESIDENT
Don Reaville

PRESIDENT-ELECT
Chris Williams

VICE PRESIDENT
Matt Nicholson

SECRETARY
Jonathan Yeager

TREASURER
Matt Fruetel

AT LARGE MEMBERS
Nate Kloock
Barry Whitehead

CHAPTER COMMITTEE CHAIRS

PROGRAMS
Matt Nicholson

MEMBERSHIP
Russ Coffey

WEBMASTER
Barry Whitehead

STUDENT ACTIVITIES
Earl Keith
Burkley Allen

DIRECTORY
Jill Kueker

CHAPLAIN
Kevin Haas

RESEARCH PROMOTION
Dan Leonard

HISTORIAN
Mike Saunders

REFRIGERATION
Kevin Haas

HONORS & AWARDS
Burkley Allen

GOLF TOURNAMENT
Matt Fruetel

NEWSLETTER
Jonathan Yeager

DOE Adopts Final Rule for Energy Conservation in Federal Buildings

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is adopting with changes the interim final rule published on December 4, 2006 (71 FR 70275) that implemented provisions in the Energy Policy Act of 2005 that require DOE to establish revised energy efficiency performance standards for the construction of all new Federal buildings. The standards in the final rule apply to commercial and multifamily high-rise residential buildings and low-rise residential buildings, as designed and constructed. This rule is effective January 22, 2008.

EPA 2005 requires DOE to establish revised Federal building energy efficiency performance standards. Under the revised standards, new Federal buildings must be designed to achieve energy consumption levels that are at least 30 percent below the updated minimum standards (ASHRAE 90.1-2004 or 2004 IECC) if life-cycle cost-effective.

For a copy of the final rule (72 FR 72565), see <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr>

Student Night

Student night will be held on February 12th. More details are to follow in next month's newsletter. This has been and continues to be a great avenue to reach out to young engineering students to let them know what our industry is all about.

If you are a consulting engineer, contractor, or vendor and would like to participate, please notify Burkley Allen.

Upcoming Chapter Event Schedule for 2008

2008

February 12, 2008:	Student Night
March 11, 2008:	Tob Neuman: "Metering Systems" – 1.0 PDH
April 8, 2008:	Chris Muller: "IAQ and Energy Conservation" – 1.0 PDH
May 13, 2008:	Speaker TBD: "LEED for School Buildings" – 1.0 PDH

The meetings are held at the Tennessee Engineering Center at 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM, except as noted. The Tennessee Engineering Center is located in the Adventure Science Center at, 800 Fort Negley Blvd., Nashville, TN 37203. Please RSVP to these programs. The meal cost is included in your yearly dues, but we still have to order the correct amount of food for each meeting. The monthly newsletter will give more details concerning these meetings.

Costs:

Members who have PAID local chapter dues:	Included
Members who have NOT PAID local chapter dues:	\$15.00
Guests:	\$15.00