National HVACR Educators and Trainers Conference

Industry Trends with Major Shifts in System Design and Application

Presented by Gordon V.R. Holness, P.E., ASHRAE President

The HVACR industry is undergoing significant changes and there are many more to come. This general session will address HVACR trends with major shifts in system design and application. Issues like refrigerant management and control will become paramount.

In the future we will see far more modular and packaged systems rather than "central" systems all requiring more technicians for installation and maintenance. Operator training, technician training, code officials and inspector training will all become key factors for our success.

Increasingly the issues we will face will not be technical or economic or even political. The biggest issues that we will face are that of culture and the need to change behavior patterns and mindsets. That is going to take raising public awareness and education at all level. We can learn from Europe and the Building Performance Directive that had to be revised and slowed down while needed code officials and inspectors were trained.

Bio: Gordon V.R. Holness, P.E .is Chairman Emeritus of Albert Kahn Associates, Inc. Architects and Engineers, in Detroit. He retired from the firm in 2001 having served for over 32 years including roles as Chief Mechanical Engineer, Treasurer, Board Member, President and CEO. He currently serves in a consulting capacity and as an expert witness for design and construction issues

He is a Professional Engineer, registered in 42 States and 5 Provinces. He is a chartered engineer in the United Kingdom.

He has over 50 years experience in design and construction, specifically in mechanical engineering and HVAC&R services for industrial, health care and institutional buildings in England, Canada and the United States.

He joined The American Society of Heating Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) in 1965 and is currently Society President serving on the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee. His presidential theme – "Sustaining Our Future by Rebuilding Our Past" focuses on Energy Efficiency in Existing Buildings as our greatest opportunity for a sustainable future.

He has Chaired Publishing and Education Council, Members Council, the Advocacy Committee and the Steering Committee on Building Information Modeling and Interoperability. He has won 12 Regional and National Awards for Technology and Energy Conservation.

He has written numerous articles and is a frequent speaker is such areas as Improving Energy Efficiency in Existing Buildings, Building Information Modeling, and Integrated Building Design.