Memorandum of Understanding
ASHRAE and AIHA

Founded in 1894, ASHRAE, Atlanta, Georgia serves humanity by advancing the arts and sciences of heating, ventilation, air-conditioning, refrigeration, and their allied fields. The ASHRAE vision is a healthy and sustainable built environment for all.

Founded in 1939, AIHA is the association for scientists and professionals committed to preserving and ensuring occupational and environmental health and safety (OEHS) in the workplace and community. The AIHA vision is a world where all workers and their communities are healthy and safe.

ASHRAE and AIHA agree to support the Memorandum of Understanding to advance and promote the mutual interests of their respective members. We are committed to working together toward on the following activities and goals:

CONSISTENT LEADERSHIP COMMUNICATION

Recognizing the importance of communication in organizational collaboration, both organizations commit to hold a liaison meeting annually (either in person or via conference call) of designated ASHRAE/AIHA senior representatives to:

- Ensure ongoing advancement of collaborative projects.
- Keep each respective organization informed of major initiatives.
- Discuss new opportunities for collaboration.

ASHRAE/AIHA shall take responsibility for initiating the first annual liaison meeting. Action items with assigned responsibilities shall be recorded at each meeting. The parties responsible for ensuring this MOU is actively pursued through the term of the agreement are:

For ASHRAE:
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CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

Each organization agrees to provide the other with a meeting invitation and two complimentary VIP registrations to the primary annual meeting.

ASHRAE and AIHA agree to explore opportunities to provide speakers at the other organization’s meetings to help provide updates and perspectives on technologies and trends of mutual interest.

Where mutually beneficial, each organization shall help publicize the other organization’s meetings and promote attendance.

CHAPTER COLLABORATION

ASHRAE and AIHA agree to coordinate promotion of joint grassroots meetings of respective members. Exchange of Chapter/Section leader contact information will be considered as one way to accomplish this objective.

ADVOCACY

Where mutually beneficial and to the extent allowed by laws and corporate policies, ASHRAE and AIHA agree to work together on common public affairs goals and ideologies. During annual liaison meetings, public affairs strategies will be discussed, and common goals identified. Collaborative opportunities to be considered include:

a) Joint promotion of codes and standards at the local, state, and federal levels.

b) Promoting mutually beneficial positions during the development and passage of state and federal legislation.

c) Education of legislators on issues important to the members of each organization (targeting those that directly impact public and occupational health, such as indoor air quality and pandemic preparedness and response)

PUBLICATIONS

Recognizing that electronic and print publications are a primary means of disseminating new technologies, trends, and practices, ASHRAE and AIHA agree to:

a) Provide at least one complimentary subscription of the primary membership periodical to be received at the headquarters location of the other organization.

b) Explore opportunities to jointly produce publications of mutual benefit.

c) Use periodicals to promote the other organization’s events, publications, and other activities.

d) Create reciprocal discounted pricing on ASHRAE standards and AIHA publications (i.e., consider setting up AIHA as an ASHRAE standards distributor).

e) Explore feasibility of creating new guidance documents that help interpret relevant ASHRAE standards vis-a-vis industrial hygiene/OEHS practice.

f) Offer opportunities for thought leaders from each organization to be featured in the other organization’s magazines and journals.
The ASHRAE Journal includes a periodic column entitled, 'IAQ Applications'. Extend AIHA an opportunity to provide up to three (3) articles per calendar year. For the AIHA Synergist and the Journal of Occupational and Environmental Health (JOEH), extend ASHRAE a corresponding opportunity to submit articles from a mechanical engineering perspective.

EDUCATION

As leading providers of conventional and online educational services and in recognition of the vital role professional development has for our respective members, ASHRAE and AIHA agree to:

a) Cross-market educational offerings and the regional, national, and international levels.
b) Explore opportunities to co-develop new courses or other training programs that take advantage of overlapping and complimentary expertise between ASHRAE and AIHA.
c) Discuss ways that certifications programs can be jointly developed or promoted.
d) Co-host conferences related to IAQ. Explore the idea of a periodic “ASHRAE track” at AIHA’s annual conference (AIHA Connect). Similarly, explore the idea of a periodic “AIHA track” at an ASHRAE annual meeting.
e) Offer up to two (2) complimentary full-access registrations (consider earmarking for the CEO/Exec VP and Board Presidents) for one (1) annual event hosted by each organization.

TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES COORDINATION

ASHRAE and AIHA agree to foster technical cooperation in areas of common interest by:

a) Offer opportunities for selected representatives of each organization to participate in the other’s technical committees, task forces, etc. where interests align and intersect (if voting privileges cannot be extended, consider a “corresponding” member” status). This includes opportunities for each other’s members to provide input and peer review on reports, articles where appropriate.
b) Related to (a), establish official AIHA liaison representatives on key ASHRAE and AIHA technical committees. As an example:
   o For AIHA, IAQ Task Force and IEQ Committee
   o For ASHRAE, Environmental Health Committee, 62.1, 62.2, and 241

RESEARCH

Recognizing the importance research plays in accelerating the transformation to a more sustainable built environment, ASHRAE and AIHA agree to:

a) Promote research in areas where research results will add to the body of knowledge and support respective Society initiatives.
b) Disseminate research results quickly, focusing on high-impact findings.
c) Identify opportunities for research funding from other sources.
LOCAL COMPONENT COLLABORATION
   a) Provide opportunities for AIHA and ASHRAE members to speak at meetings of ASHRAE chapters and AIHA local sections.
   b) Explore opportunities to co-host joint meetings of domestic ASHRAE local chapters and AIHA local sections in selected metropolitan areas.

PUBLIC OUTREACH / COMMUNICATIONS
   a) Commit2Care.org (focus on protecting workers and communities from airborne transmitted diseases). Have ASHRAE be a non-paying Partner. Offer opportunities for ASHRAE subject matter experts to contribute to Commit2Care e-newsletter, blogs, webinars.
   b) For other public-facing publications developed by each organization, communicate externally through various channels (e.g., e-newsletters, web, social media)

TERMINATION

Either party may terminate this MOU, with or without stated cause, upon providing the other party with thirty (30) days written notice of intent to terminate.

TERM

The term of this Memorandum of Understanding shall begin when signed by both parties and shall terminate at the end of three (3) years unless extended at that time by written agreement.

LEGAL STANDING

This MOU reflects a commitment by ASHRAE and AIHA to continue and enhance their working relationship and individual efforts toward achieving mutual objectives described above. It does not create a binding obligation or agreement between the two organizations, and neither organization has an obligation to negotiate toward or enter into a binding written agreement. In addition, this MOU does not create a partnership, joint venture, fiduciary relationship, or similar relationship between ASHRAE and AIHA. Furthermore, it is understood that this Memorandum of Understanding is conceived as a dynamic document, meant to change as circumstances and priorities warrant. It may be modified or amended by written agreement between both organizations.