



Memorandum of Understanding IEA-EBC and ASHRAE

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.

Launched in 1977, the International Energy Agency – Energy in Building and Communities Program ([IEA-EBC](#)) is an international energy research and innovation program that enables collaborative R&D projects among its member countries (currently 26). The mission of the IEA-EBC is to accelerate the transformation of the built environment towards more energy efficient and sustainable buildings and communities. The IEA-EBC accomplishes this mission by disseminating knowledge developed through open innovation and collaborative research.

FOUNDATION FOR COLLABORATION

ASHRAE and the IEA-EBC have a longstanding, rich and ongoing history of collaboration including:

- ASHRAE and IEA-EBC Annex 5 (Air Infiltration and Ventilation Centre, AIVC) jointly organize an IAQ conference every third year.
- ASHRAE and IEA-EBC Annex 79 (Occupant-Centric Building Design and Operation) jointly developed a database for buildings on occupant behavior. Annex 79 also contributed to the ASHRAE handbook series, ASHRAE conference seminars and ASHRAE Performance Measurement Protocols publications.
- IEA-EBC Annex 69 (Strategy and Practice of Adaptive Thermal Comfort in Low-Energy Buildings) has contributed to the ASHRAE Global Thermal Comfort Database
- There are several newer annexes that would be of interest for several ASHRAE technical committees and could present at ASHRAE conferences.:
 - IEA EBC Annex 86: Energy Efficient Indoor Air Quality Management in Residential Buildings
 - IEA EBC Annex 87: Energy and Indoor Environmental Quality Performance of Personalised Environmental Control Systems
 - IEA EBC Annex 88: Evaluation and Demonstration of Actual Energy Efficiency of Heat Pump Systems in Buildings
 - IEA EBC Annex 89: Ways to Implement Net-zero Whole Life Carbon Buildings
 - IEA EBC Annex 95: Human-centric Building Design and Operation for a Changing Climate
 - IEA EBC Annex 96: Grid Integrated Control of Buildings
- ASHRAE engagement in and contributions to the IEA-EBC Building Energy Codes Working Group.

ASHRAE and IEA-EBC agree to support this Memorandum of Understanding to advance and promote the mutual interests of their respective organizations. We are committed to working together toward the following activities and goals:

COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES AND GOALS

1. CONSISTENT LEADERSHIP INTERACTIONS AND COMMUNICATION

Recognizing the importance of communication in organizational collaboration, both organizations commit to hold a liaison meeting annually (either in person or virtually) of designated ASHRAE and IEA-EBC senior representatives to:

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

ASHRAE will name a liaison to IEA-EBC with the concurrence of IEA-EBC leadership; the liaison will participate in the biannual IEA-EBC Executive Committee meetings. ASHRAE shall take responsibility for initiating the first annual liaison meeting. Action items with assigned responsibilities shall be recorded at each meeting.

2. CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

ASHRAE and IEA-EBC 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.

IEA-EBC is urged to organize seminars, workshops or symposiums at ASHRAE conferences together with appropriate ASHRAE technical committees or standard project committees. IEA-EBC is urged to organize Annex meetings in conjunction with ASHRAE yearly and topical conferences. ASHRAE will provide meetings rooms to support the IEA-EBC efforts.

3. ADVOCACY

Where mutually beneficial and to the extent allowed by laws and corporate policies, ASHRAE and IEA-EBC 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.

4. PUBLICATIONS

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

- Explore opportunities to jointly produce publications of mutual benefit.
- Explore opportunities for using Annex reports as basis for ASHRAE publications
- Urge IEA-EBC Annexes to publish in ASHRAE research journal *Science and Technology for the Built Environment* and in *ASHRAE Journal*.
- Explore mutually beneficial ways to translate publications for member benefit.

5. TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES COORDINATION

ASHRAE and EBC-IEA agree to foster technical cooperation in areas of common interest by:

- Encouraging members in each organization to participate on technical committees and task forces.
- Providing opportunities to participate in and comment on proposed standards, guidelines, policies, and position statements developed on technical subjects as they relate to buildings and community developments.
- Establishing liaison representatives to key technical committees where mutually beneficial to do so.

6. RESEARCH

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

- Promote research in areas where research results will add to the body of knowledge and support respective organizational initiatives.
- Disseminate research results quickly, focusing on high-impact findings.
- Identify opportunities for ASHRAE funding of Annex initiated research.
- Identify opportunities for research funding from other sources.

POINTS OF CONTACT FOR COMMUNICATIONS

The parties responsible for ensuring this MOU is actively pursued through the term of the agreement and as points of contact for communications for the respective parties are:

For ASHRAE:

Jeff Littleton
Executive Vice President
ASHRAE
180 Technology Parkway
Peachtree Corners, GA 30092
United States
Phone: +1-404-636-8400
Email: jlittleton@ashrae.org

For IEA-EBC:

Simon Jones
EBC Secretariat
Sint-Pietersnieuwstraat 41, B-9000 Ghent,
Belgium
Phone: +353 (0)86 0252210
Email: simon@inive.org

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.

LEGAL STANDING

This MOU reflects a commitment by ASHRAE and IEA-EBC 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 IEA-EBC. 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.

**Originally signed on May 22, 2023 by Farooq Mehboob [ASHRAE] and Takao Sawachi [IEA-EBC].
Renewed by the parties below in February of 2026.**

APPROVAL OF THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

<p>FOR ASHRAE</p>  <p>Mr. Bill McQuade, President</p> <p>Date: February 27, 2026 _____</p>	<p>FOR IEA-EBC</p>  <p>Mr. Meli Stylianou, Chair</p> <p>Date: April 1, 2026 _____</p>
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------