

Epidemic Task Force Update

ETF Updates Building Readiness Guidance

ATLANTA—The ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force's updated Building Readiness guidance provides practical information and checklists for how buildings should operate during and after the pandemic and how to practically check operations. The guidance addresses:

- Energy recovery ventilation systems operation;
- Building readiness modes of operation, such as Epidemic Operat-

ing Conditions in Place (ECiP) and Post-Epidemic Conditions in Place (P-ECiP);

- Increased ventilation and filtration; and
- Building exhaust air re-entrainment.

The guidance also includes information on tactical commissioning and systems analysis to develop a Building Readiness Plan and how to make overall improve-

ments to a system's ability to mitigate virus transmission.

A specific building's actual conditions will vary, and the adjustments that should be made depend on factors such as local climate, system complexity and use, occupancy and activities that happen in and around the building.

Download the guidance: tinyurl.com/buildingreadinessguidance.

ETF Releases School Reopening Guidance

ATLANTA—As some schools prepare to reopen while others are occupied for the fall academic year, the ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force developed HVAC systems operation guidance to help mitigate the airborne transmission of SARS-CoV-2. The guidance:

- Includes checklists such as starting up HVAC systems prior to occupancy and checks and verifications to maintain during the academic year.
- Addresses determining building readiness, filtration upgrades, facility design recommendations and controlling infection outbreak in school facilities.

A section of the guidance is designed to help

designers plan how to improve indoor air quality and slow the transmission of viruses via HVAC systems. Download the guidance: tinyurl.com/schoolreopeningguidance.

Explore ASHRAE COVID-19 Resources

ATLANTA—ASHRAE's COVID-19 response resources webpage provides guidance from the Epidemic Task Force for health-care facilities, schools and other building types. The guidance includes recommended strategies and specific "how-to" information for various challenges. Visit the page: ashrae.org/COVID19.

Industry Roundup

EPA Updates Pandemic Benchmarking, Certification Guidance

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has updated its guidance on benchmarking and applying for 2020 Energy Star certification for commercial buildings affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The guidance allows for people to ap-

ply for certification while complying with medical experts' recommendations for reducing the risk of exposure to the coronavirus.

Source: EPA

DOE Releases Updated Energy Modeling Tools

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The U.S. Department of Energy and its National Laboratories released updated versions

of their state-of-the-art, open-source, whole-building energy modeling tools: the EnergyPlus™ engine and the OpenStudio™ software development kit and graphical application. The current version of the EnergyPlus engine includes refactored implementations of all coils and plant components and fixes for 76 known issues and bugs. *Source: U.S. DOE* ■