

The Utah Society For Health Care Engineering is committed to developing long-range plans and programs that meet the needs of members and the future challenges of the health care facilities management profession.

A MESSAGE FROM USHE President Larry Knowlden

Hello all USHE members,

On behalf of the USHE Board, we sure miss being with you but know we are thinking about you and your families every day.

We know you are all very engaged with the COVID-19 building areas to receive patients, setting up HEPA Filters, and preparing for more patients to arrive at our Hospitals. Thank you so much for your excellent work on the front lines.

Recently, USHE had an excellent turnout for our Look 'n' Learn with an excellent discussion of the Magna Earthquake and lessons learned. The look 'n' learn was presented by Reaveley Engineering instructors, Dorian Adams, Jerod Johnson, Jessica Chappell, Mark Harris.

The presentations were excellent and were a very informational Look 'n' Learn. We have some great resources in our USHE membership to call for help when needed.

The most important thing we can do is to be prepared and ready before the next earthquake hits. The ATC-20 course is something our members should plan on attending.

Thank you to Julie Attig and Clark Timothy for arranging this so quickly. Our Education Committee will be planning more Look 'n' Learns since we cannot meet in person, at least we can meet virtually. Remember, you can review the presentations given from our last conference by going onto our website - USHE.org.

As we all have been dealing with the rising COVID-19 Virus cases, the stress can be difficult, and we hope you are taking time off to regenerate and spend time away from work for some mental and physical rest and relaxation. In some of the projections, it's showing we will peak in COVID-19 cases around Mid-October, so make sure you are prepared for the surge. While the testing goes on, may you and your families be safe by wearing your masks, washing your hands, and social distancing.

Sincerely,
Larry Knowlden, USHE PRESIDENT

Be sure to mark your calendars for the annual ASHE Conference will be held August 2-5, 2020 in Chicago, Illinois



PG 2 / ASHE
ASHE Annual Conference
and Infection Prevention
and Best Practices



PG 4 / USHE
Annual Energy Award
Information



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Find out how you can help!



USHE is the local chapter of the American Society of Healthcare Engineering, ASHE, that is dedicated to optimizing the health care physical environment.

UPDATE ASHE 2020 Annual Conference

Be sure to mark your calendars for the annual ASHE Conference will be held October 4-7, 2020 in Chicago, Illinois

October 4-7, 2020 | Virtual Event

TAKE YOUR CAREER TO THE NEXT LEVEL

The ASHE Annual Conference is a chance to interact with health care facility and engineering professionals. This year will be a virtual conference to complement the in-person programming. The ASHE Annual Conference creates the ideal environment to connect with fellow colleagues while preparing yourself for future trends and challenges in health care. Attendees gain valuable tools and resources to better navigate the ever changing health care landscape. Plan to join us as we prepare for the future of health care, and take the time to review and develop your career game plan.

INFECTION PREVENTION

ASHE issues recommendations on COVID-19 for facilities managers
An update on the recent outbreak and six recommendations for facilities managers

Jonathan Flannery, CHFM, FASHE, MHSA, FACHE

The American Hospital Association continues to report on the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and monitor updates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and World Health Organization (WHO). First identified in Wuhan, China, in December 2019, the virus has spread to thousands in China, with more than 2,000 associated deaths. Cases in several other countries continue to grow, and WHO and CDC expect more confirmed cases globally, including the U.S.

The American Society for Health Care Engineering (ASHE) has identified specific issues and recommendations that ASHE members and health care facilities managers should consider in light of this public health concern:

- Review patient entrance and flow patterns throughout the facility;
- Evaluate accuracy of space pressure relationships – especially airborne infection isolation rooms;
- Review emergency management plans – especially in relation to surge capacity issues;
- Review security plans – especially related to surge and patient presentation;
- Devise contingency plans for a possible occurrence in which demand for isolation rooms exceeds capacity; and
- Those who also oversee environmental services should review the Association for the Health Care Environment's COVID-19 advisory.

Collaborating with a multidisciplinary team (i.e., Safety Committee, Environment of Care Committee, etc.) to accomplish the above items will increase a health care facility's readiness.



Earn CECs by reading Health Facilities Management magazine

ASHE member's, can earn continuing education credits (CECs) by reading Health Facilities Management magazine and taking an online quiz. The digital edition of the June 2020 Health Facilities Management magazine is available. To access the online quiz to earn your CECs, visit <https://ashe.digitellinc.com/ashe/>



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USHE SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

ENERGY TO CARE

UPDATE YOUR ENERGY STAR SCORED TODAY!

Energy Star scores will be updated for hospitals in Portfolio Manager. The updates will be based on survey results collected between 2016 and 2020. The expected date these updates will be launched is Feb. 2021.

ENERGY TO CARE CHALLENGE CANCELED

The 2020 Chapter Challenge will be canceled due to challenges and anomalies presented by building operations during the pandemic.



ASHE ANNOUNCEMENT - CAREER CORNER

ASHE is seeking sustainability-minded facility managers and building operators to serve on the Design, Construction, and Operation of High-Performance Buildings committee, which will provide guidance on ASHRAE 189.3. If interested, please contact robert.armstrong@hsc.utah.edu



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Please take a look at the new Energy to Care website which has many new educational tools and energy saving ideas: <https://www.energyto-care.org/>.

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USHE MEMBER MESSAGE & RESOURCES

USHE Members,

I want to thank everyone who supported Utah's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. I hope we can all learn from our experiences in dealing with this virus from the past few months, and that we are poised to meet the challenges ahead. As I write, this case counts are rising rapidly, and our medical systems are again feeling the stress of the additional associated hospitalizations. As you may know, I have the privilege of being the Chief Engineer at the VA hospital here in Salt Lake. The VA provides traditional services, including Veteran's Health Care, Veteran Benefits (GI Bill, home loans, life insurance, etc.) and the National Cemeteries, but we also have a 4th Mission. This 4th Mission is to serve in supporting national, state, and local emergency management, public health, safety, and homeland security efforts.

The 4th Mission drives the VA to construct resilient systems, develop plans for rapid bed expansion, and be at the ready to support the community when called.

I've learned from this pandemic that once you realize you need something, it's already too late. We must anticipate our patient's needs before they arise and develop contingencies. There are times I feel overwhelmed and not sure what to do, but there are several resources that have helped provide the necessary AIIR (Airborne Infection Isolation Rooms), temporary screening structures, and procedures for staff such as [ASHE's COVID Resources](#) and [ASHRAES COVID Resources](#). These resources have helped to expand my understanding and have been my basis for developing an internal plan.

One area that has emerged as our greatest concern (and one that likely needs special attention in your facilities) is the medical gas system. Outside of a simulated capacity test, ASHE provides [a good starting point](#) to consider how to estimate maximum system capacity. Once there is an established estimate for how the system will perform, a simulated test could be conducted if there is any uncertainty or concern. A simulated medical gas test was held at the VA, which was much more complicated than anticipated and was very resource intensive.

I have several recommendations for procedures to execute a proper simulation:

- Write a clear objectives statement (i.e., how many ventilators can operate in my ICU?)
- Create/Maintain close coordination with your pulmonary team.
- Reach out to your vendors for suggestions on how to conduct the tests.
- Share lessons learned and information you have found helpful.

Feel free to reach me if you feel stuck. There are resources out there that can help guide you. Everyone here at USHE is supportive and more than willing to share their experiences.



Joshua Farber

Past-President USHE



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