



UPDATE

The Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute

Top Story



Experience Puerto Rico During the 2026 AHRI Leadership Forum

There is just one month until the 2026 AHRI Leadership Forum, to be held November 15-17 in Rio Grande, PR. Register by October 22 to avoid the late registration fee!

During registration, you'll have the opportunity to choose from a variety of [sports and tour options](#) that showcase the best of Puerto Rico, including an Old San Juan Walking Tour, ATV Adventure, sailing and snorkeling, and golf tournament on the River Course alongside the Mameyes River. The sports and tour offerings are the perfect opportunity to connect with industry peers outside of the conference room. From a relaxing afternoon on the water to an off-roading adventure, there is something for everyone.

The full agenda for the 2026 AHRI Leadership Forum is available [here](#). [Register](#) for the 2026 AHRI Leadership Forum by October 22 to avoid the late registration fee. Contact: [Meghan Cradock](#).

AHRI/Industry News

Making Life Better Podcast: An Update on the ACE Program

Earlier this year, the Making Life Better Podcast shared news about ongoing efforts to establish the new AHRI Certified EPD Program, nicknamed the ACE Program.



Now Sustainability Program Manager Kyle Kosmack is back to give an update and explain more about how members can get involved.

Environmental Product Declarations, or EPDs, provide standardized, third-party verified environmental information about a product's lifecycle impact. They support informed decision making for sustainable development and help address market demand for lower-impact products and materials. EPDs are becoming increasingly relevant for HVACR and water heating equipment manufacturers as another way to differentiate their offerings beyond just price and performance, and also for regulators, policymakers, and engineers, who need a source of consistent, trustworthy data as they target sustainability goals.

Listen to host Regan Spencer's interview with Kosmack on [YouTube](#), [Apple Podcasts](#), [Spotify](#), or wherever you get your [podcasts](#). Contact: [Regan Spencer](#).

Legislative/Regulatory

HVAC Industry Sends Letter to Governor and Legislature on Washington A3 Code Proposal

On October 6, AHRI, Heating, Air-Conditioning & Refrigeration Distributors International (HARDI), Washington Air-Conditioning Contractors Association (WACCA), the Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors Association — National Association (PHCC), and the Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors Association — Washington (PHCC WA) sent a [joint letter to Washington state Governor Bob Ferguson](#) (D) and all members of the Legislature. The letter requested that Ferguson and the Legislature direct the Washington State Building Code Council (SBCC) to remove the exceptions for allowing A3 refrigerants to be used in residential HVAC applications (Proposal 24-GP1-113). Contact: [Tom Deary](#) and [Samantha Slater](#).

CalRecycle to Hold EPR Advisory Board Meeting on October 16

On October 16, CalRecycle will hold an SB 54 Advisory Board meeting regarding implementation of California's extended producer responsibility (EPR) law. During the

meeting, the Advisory Board will receive an update from Circular Action Alliance (CAA) on the Producer Responsibility Plan. Interested members can attend in-person at California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) headquarters or register via [Zoom](#). Contact: [Matthew Smithhisler](#).

Certification

AHRI Welcomes New Certification Program Participants

AHRI is pleased to welcome Gree Electric Appliances, Inc. of Zhuhai to the Residential Water Heaters (RWH) Certification Program, and Guangdong Exinda Technology Co., Ltd. to the Air-Cooled Water-Chilling Packages (ACCL) Certification Program. Contact: [Bill Tritsis](#).

Standards

AHRI Draft Standard Open for Public Review and Comment

AHRI invites public comments on the technical content of [BSR/AHRI Standard 610-202x \(SI/I-P\)](#), *Performance Rating of Central System Humidifiers for Residential Applications*. Based upon comments received, the Humidifiers Standards Technical Committee will decide whether to make changes to the standard prior to publication. A copy of the draft and the list of revisions are available [here](#). The public review deadline is November 23. Contact: [Jacob \(Cobi\) Waxman](#).

Weekly Update from ASHRAE, ANSI, and SCC

This week's summary of ASHRAE, ANSI, and SCC standards activities that are relevant to AHRI's work is available [here](#). Current and previous standards activities for ASHRAE can be found [here](#). Current and previous standards activities for ANSI can be found [here](#).

International



AHRI Supports ASHRAE Conference in Cairo

AHRI MENA was proud to serve as a Supporting Partner of the ASHRAE Region-at-Large Chapter Regional Conference, held in Cairo, Egypt, from October 1-4. The event brought together HVACR professionals, industry leaders, consultants, and manufacturers from across the region to discuss key industry developments, share knowledge, and strengthen professional collaboration.

As part of the conference program, AHRI participated in a panel discussion focused on the ongoing refrigerant transition and its impact on the HVACR industry. The discussion highlighted key challenges and opportunities facing manufacturers, contractors, end users, and regulators, while emphasizing the importance of industry alignment and preparedness during this transition.

Representing AHRI at the event were Hassan Kal and Nabil Shahin, who participated in various conference activities, engaged with industry stakeholders, and supported coordination efforts throughout the event. They also had the opportunity to meet with many of its member companies and strengthen collaboration with ASHRAE leadership and members from across the region. More than a dozen AHRI member companies showcased their latest products, technologies, and solutions through the exhibition, demonstrating the industry's commitment to innovation, sustainability, and energy efficiency. Contact: [Hassan Kal](#).

AHRI Attends FEBRAVA Expo in Rio de Janeiro

The FEBRAVA Expo took place on October 6–8 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, bringing



together manufacturers, consulting engineers, and other industry professionals from across the HVACR sectors. Senior Director of Global Services Michael LaGiglia and Regional Manager Constantino Espinoza attended.

For AHRI, FEBRAVA offers a valuable opportunity to build relationships with industry stakeholders in Brazil and across Latin America while promoting awareness of AHRI's standards and certification programs. In addition to meetings with manufacturers interested in certification, LaGiglia and Espinoza met with counterparts in ABRAVA (Brazilian Association of Refrigeration, Air conditioning, Ventilation and Heating). AHRI was also fortunate to receive an invitation to a dinner hosted by the Brazilian chapter of SMACNA (Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors' National Association), attended by leading consulting engineering firms and manufacturers. *L-R: Constantino Espinoza, AHRI LATAM; Samoel Souza, ABRAVA; Michael LaGiglia, AHRI.* Contact: [Michael LaGiglia](#).



AHRI MENA Team Visit Lebanon's First Certification Participant, Present at ASHRAE Conference

AHRI MENA recently visited Unic Cooler, the first participant in Lebanon to achieve AHRI Certification.

The visit provided an opportunity to recognize this important milestone and discuss Unic Cooler's certification journey, future certification plans, and opportunities for continued collaboration. The meeting also highlighted the value of performance verification and certified products in enhancing quality, strengthening market confidence, and supporting industry best practices.

While in Lebanon, Managing Director of AHRI MENA Nabil Shahin delivered a presentation during the 7th International ASHRAE Conference on Efficient Building Design, Materials and HVAC Equipment Technologies. Attended by engineering consultants, industry professionals, and young engineers, the session focused on AHRI's approach to air-handling unit

performance and testing, highlighting the importance of proper testing, reliable performance data, and certification in ensuring equipment performs as intended. Contact: [Nabil Shahin](#).

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Institute



2311 Wilson Blvd, Suite 400

Arlington, VA 22201

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