

January 2005



American Society of Plumbing Engineers

Eastern Michigan Chapter

www.aspeemc.org

Serving our membership since 1975

Vol. 8, Issue 1

Plumbing Design Class

Date: Tuesday, Jan. 25, 2005

Time: 5:30 - 9:00 PM
Dinner & Class

Cost: ASPE & ASSE Members:
No Charge
Non-members: \$15.00

Location: PMC Detroit Offices
14801 W. 8 Mile Rd.

Topic: Software for
Plumbing Design

Speakers: Sterling Systems &
Consulting, Inc.
(See bio on page 3)

Please confirm your attendance through the web site at aspeemc.org

ASSE Annual Awards Banquet
Saturday, January 29, 2005
5:00 PM

St. John's Conference Center
44045 Five Mile Road
Plymouth, MI 48170

\$40.00 per person (\$45.00 / door)
\$75.00 per couple (\$80.00 / door)

For information and registration form contact PMC Detroit at (313) 341-7661

inside...

2005 Technical Class Schedule 2
Professor Plumber sez 3
Sterling Systems & Consulting Bio 3

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Esteban Cabello, PE, CIPE

Welcome back everyone and happy New Year. I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday as we roll into a new year, 2005. Our technical program this month will feature an in-depth review of AutoCAD. If you do not know how powerful AutoCAD is, this meeting is for you. If you think you know everything there is to know about AutoCAD, this meeting is for you. For more information see the related article. As a reminder, the ASSE annual awards banquet will be held Saturday January 29th at 5pm. There is still room, I'm told, so hurry and get your tickets (see John Nussbaum). Also, you must register for our monthly meetings, this will allow us to get a head count and keep costs down. The preferred method is by email to Stacey Birkenhauer: staceyb@pmcdetroit.com.

On a final note, please support our many sponsors that are in our newsletter. They help make everything about ASPE possible. Many of our sponsors attend these meetings so as to stay informed on the latest code issues and trends that affect our plumbing industry.

*See you at our next meeting,
Esteban*

VP TECHNICAL REPORT

Wes Patton

Hello everyone, I hope you are having a great new year. We are now in our second half of the program for this year. The January class session will feature cost estimating programs and computerized drafting programs (CAD), with both being the best tools of the plumbing trades.

Mark your calendars for future class sessions on plumbing specialties, ASSE 1016 and 1017 standards, and medical gases. Also, we will be starting our Saturday classes. Please remember to pre-register for Saturday and monthly classes. Thanks you.

*See you in January,
Wes*

American Society of Plumbing Engineers

Eastern Michigan Chapter 2004-05 Technical Classes

*Held monthly at the
(except where noted)
PMC of Detroit
14801 West 8 Mile Road
Detroit, MI 48235*

January 25, 2005 Software For Plumbing Design

February 15, 2005
Plumbing Specialties (trap primer, water arrestor)

March 22, 2005
Replacement Standards For ASSE 1016 & 1017

April 26, 2005
Medical Gases

May 24, 2005
To be announced

Saturday Classes

April 2nd - Legislative Seminar
Michigan Plumbing Code Review Seminar

April 16th - Education Seminar
New Concepts in Hydronic Heating Seminar

MISSION: ASPE is dedicated to the advancement of the science of plumbing engineering, to the professional growth and advancement of its members, and to the health, welfare and safety of the public.

ASPE News is published 10 times per year (September through May, plus one summer issue). Yearly advertising rates are \$250.00 per ad for members and \$300.00 for non-members. Insert advertisements are \$250.00 per newsletter for one oz., \$100 for every oz. over. Help Wanted ads, fifty words or less, \$100.00 per issue. For quarter-page and half-page product ads, please contact Mary Chapman. Checks should be made payable to ASPE E. Mich. Chapter and send check with inserts or ad to Mary Chapman. Circulation 400-Distributed to: Engineers, Contractors, Inspectors, and other industry professionals in Michigan. For contributing articles contact Mary Chapman, Newsletter Editor at: mary@pmcdetroit.com.



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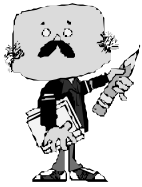


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Professor Plumber sez...

**Bill Grayzar, CPD
VP Education**

Additional views and comments on my articles each month are welcomed and appreciated. This month, I would like to share with you additional views and comments, regarding December's article on Siphonic Roof Drainage, which were provided to me by Mr. John M. Rattenbury, PE of Rattenbury Engineering, LLC.

Additional Information, Views and Comments on Siphonic Roof Drainage:

Bill,

I was pleased to see your mention of siphonic roof drainage in the December newsletter of your local ASPE Chapter. Your recount of the seminar was very good. However, I'd like the opportunity to add one or two details. First, Dr. Per Sommerhein was not present at the Cleveland ASPE convention although his son, Michael, was. Although I had invited Per, he had been recovering from a recent foot operation. I was happy, however, that Michael was able to participate as he gave a good synopsis of siphonic roof drainage theory and prepared a helpful primer which served as the seminar handout. As you may recall, I spent the remainder of the seminar showing several examples of installed systems in the US.

As you wrote, the seminar was only a brief overview of the technology. There is only so much information that can be presented in 60 minutes. Undoubtedly, the absence of many relevant details could cause anyone some concern when first contemplating the merits of this design technique. However, I have to disagree that the "concept has a long way to go." This technology has been around for thirty years and has proliferated in the US from no representation in 1999 to about 5.2 million square feet of installed buildings or systems approved by local authorities to be built. In fact, about three projects are currently underway in Michigan.

Ultimately, designing a siphonic roof drainage system is the same as designing an automatic sprinkler system for a building. The design process is facilitated by suitable software. Unfortunately, the necessary design software for siphonic roof drainage is available to only a handful of people at this time. I anticipate that this will change in the future. In addition, I have been informed that ASME has recently voted for approval a standard for siphonic roof drains. You said that we will be seeing more of the concept in the near future. In my opinion, the future is now.

Thanks again for your interest.

Regards,
John M. Rattenbury, PE

Thank you, Mr. Rattenbury, for your additional views and comments on siphonic roof drainage. Additional views and input from other ASPE members and individuals in the Plumbing Engineering field is, and will always be, welcomed and appreciated.

Look for a synopsis of other courses I attended at the Convention in upcoming ASPE newsletters.

Bill

Sterling Systems & Consulting BIO

Founded in 1990, Sterling Systems & Consulting, Inc. is a leading provider for CAD and design technologies in the United States. As an award winning Autodesk Value Added Reseller and one of Autodesk's largest resellers in the United States, Sterling Systems has achieved the Preferred Solution Provider status, Autodesk's highest level of authorization. The company is headquartered in Madison Heights, Michigan, with several regional offices.

One of the most important certifications that Sterling Systems has achieved is the Autodesk ASC (Autodesk Solutions Center) Certification for both Architectural Design and Civil Engineering. The Autodesk ASC Certification is the highest certification that a dealer may receive, and indicates a tremendous investment in personnel and training.

Autodesk Building Systems 2005 dramatically improves MEP engineering design productivity, accuracy, and project coordination. Eliminate design conflicts with automatic, interference detection, share clear 3D views to reduce errors, accelerate projects with dynamically linked schedules, and export engineering data to standard file formats for third-party analysis applications.

Dustin Tiemeyer graduated from Lawrence Technologic University in 1999 with a B.S. in Architecture. As an architect, Dustin's experience includes assembling instruction documents, field measuring and translation into CAD drawings. Progressing from an architect to an application engineer, Dustin has trained over 500 students as well as supporting architectural and engineering firms of all sizes throughout the country. Dustin trains and supports large and small engineering and architecture firms and specializes in supporting: Building, Engineering, Plant and Utility companies; including: Consumers Energy, Smith Group, and Pfizer. Recently, Dustin has been consulting for Autodesk Professional Services to implement Autodesk Building Systems, a tool for creating 3D Piping and HVAC models as well as Plumbing layouts and Electrical systems in buildings.

ASPE NEWS

American Society of Plumbing Engineers-Eastern Michigan Chapter

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**Local Chapters Not Authorized To Speak
For The Society**

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