

Official Publication of the Building Operators Association (Calgary)











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#### **Important Phone Numbers**

Emergency	911
Alberta Boiler Association	403 291 7070
Alberta Labour (Emergency)	403 297 2222
Buried Utility Locations	1 800 242 3447
City Of Calgary (All Departments)	311
Dangerous Goods Incidents	1 800 272 9600
Environmental Emergency	1 800 222 6514
Poison Centre	403 670 1414
Weather Information (24hr)	403 299 7878



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December 2020

## President's Message





Building Operators Association Box 22116, Bankers Hall Calgary, AB T2P 4J5 www.boacanada.ca

## I hope this message finds you and yours well and in good health

It has been 10 months since we have entered the Isolation of the country and it is wearing hard on the Operators with-in our industry. A Building Operator has been deemed to be an essential service and the stresses of coming home every day thinking that you may be bringing the virus home to your family can be overwhelming. Operations management can do some of their work from home, not so much for the Building Operators, they must be there every day and the stresses are real. I was speaking to an Operator recently, who came from a country under siege and he likened this to living under those conditions. The need to stay healthy has become a priority if you have a cold or a flu, stay home for a set period. The daily wearing of face shields and the rules that are required of each of us has set new burdens where ones did not exist before.

The lack of operating income because of continued vacancies has put more pressures on operations. Many projects have been put on hold as revenue has fallen off and this adds pressure on maintenance budgets as well. Even with the wage subsidies offered by the government the need to reduce the staffing has added a further burden to the operators who remain. The costs of increased operating hours, the addition of higher filtration standards and the costs to purchase them. All these stresses have put a large burden on the operational costs to run the facilities.

Now the thinning of the operations staff has begun. This puts more pressure on those that remain. I wish I had an answer to the problems stated above. All I can say is that the Building Operators Association acknowledges the issues, and we will always be there if you want to reach out, lend an ear to anything you have to say. I will give you my number direct 403-921-0648. I will listen if you want to talk about anything. I feel your pain, whether you have been laid off or remain as one of the overworked. You are essential to the future; this Covid-19 Pandemic will end as there are vaccines that will be available soon. Keep yourselves and your families safe and healthy until then. Remember to take time to reflect on all that you have done to endure the hard times. We will get through this together.

Take Care and Stay Safe,

With kind regards,

Les Anderson PE, RPA

#### **JOIN US!**

For our <u>Virtual BOA Monthly Meeting</u> on Tuesday December 8, 2020 at 5pm





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## Jest.

#### TEST YOUR OPERATOR IQ!

Are you equally adept at troubleshooting problems in the boardroom and the boiler room? As the resident facility guru, there's a lot riding on whether or not you know the difference between sounds control and a sound investment.

Try our monthly Operator IQ challenge...answers on page 14

#### 1. The purpose of "wear rings" in centrifugal pumps is to:

- a. lower the pump pressure
- b. increase the efficiency
- c. eliminate the need for a relief valve
- d. prevent wear on the pump inlet
- e. prevent wear at the pump discharge

#### 2. The purpose of a lantern ring in a pump packing is to:

- a. replace the pump packing
- b. increase pump shaft wear
- c. distribute the sealing water to the packing
- d. increase the pump speed
- e. seal the shaft and housing

#### 3. The purpose of shaft sealing on a pump is to:

- a. keep air in the pump
- b. keep the packing gland cool
- c. stop fluids from leaking along the shaft of the pump
- d. prevent lubricating oil from leaving the pumps
- e. protect the seal

#### 4. The seal cage on the shaft of a centrifugal pump:

- a. holds the shaft packing against the shoulder of the stuffing box
- b. assists in reducing shaft vibration
- c. distributes sealing water to the packing
- d. prevents water from leaking out of the pump casing
- e. reduces suction pressure drop

#### 5. The type of centrifugal pump which is inherently balanced for hydraulic thrust is the:

- a. double suction impeller type
- b. single suction impeller type
- c. single stage type
- d. multistage type
- e. triple stage





## The Impact of Improving Thermal Weak Spots in Existing Building Envelopes

By Stephen Hunter, P.Tech.(Eng.), FSFE



Stephen Hunter
Senior Building Science Consultant at Building Science + Architecture Ltd.

Thermal weak spots in your building envelope can contribute significantly to heat transfer, even if they make up a relatively small area. Improving those weak spots can thus substantially improve thermal performance overall.

The U-Value of a building envelope assembly is expressed in watts per square meter-Kelvin (W/m²·K) and represents the heat transfer through a 1m² area for each degree Kelvin in temperature difference across it. Well insulated assemblies have low U-Values, while poorly insulated assemblies have high U-Values.

Multiplying the U-Values of each assembly by their respective areas in m<sup>2</sup> and summing the results gives the total heat transfer through the envelope per degree temperature difference in W/K, not including that associated with air infiltration or solar heat gain through glazing.

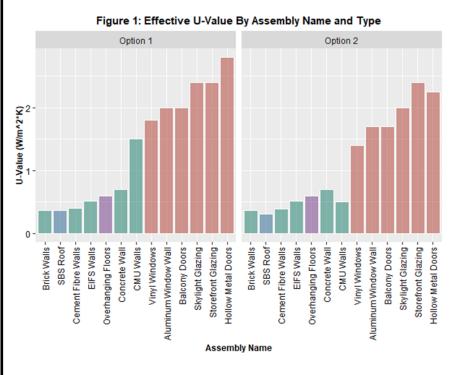
Consequently, the amount of heat transfer contributed to the total by an assembly is de-

termined by both its area and U-Value. If the U-Value of an assembly is sufficiently high it can contribute substantially to total heat transfer through the envelope, even if it makes up a relatively small area.

Building envelope renovations are usually the best time to make improvements to thermal weak spots. That's when energy efficiency measures can be 'piggybacked' onto a broader scope for the least possible additional cost. Even modest improvements can have a big impact.

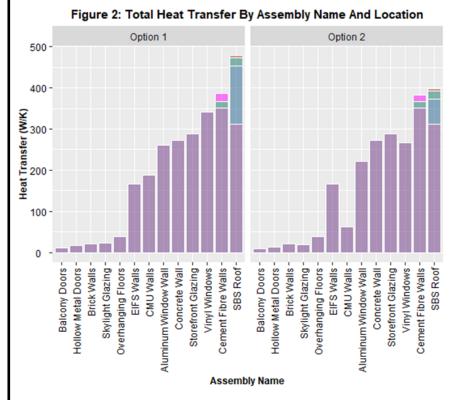
Take for example a design for a building envelope renovation on a 4 storey mixed use building in Calgary. The renovation includes substantial replacement of the low-slope roofing, cladding, and fenestration (windows and doors), so there are many opportunities for improvements.

Two design options are depicted in the plots below. The first option shows the envelope design before making improvements to the thermal weak spots. The second illustrates the effects of modest improvements to only the weakest areas. To show the impact of improving the weakest areas only, everything else is kept constant.



Assembly Type
Roofs
Walls
Floors
Fenestration

In Figure 1, the bars show the U-Values for each above-grade assembly in the building envelope. The different colours indicate assembly type: roofs, walls, fenestration, or floors.



#### Assembly Location

At Anchors

At Fenestration

At Concrete Wall

At Stud Parapets / Curbs

In Field

In Figure 2, the bars show the total heat transfer through each assembly in W/K. The different colours in each bar indicate where the heat flow is occurring: the field of the assembly or at thermal anomalies in those assemblies. Anomalies are areas with higher U-Values within assemblies where the insulation is interrupted (also known as thermal bridges).

## BOMA CALGARY

### BOMA ONLINE BUILDING OPERATOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM -150 HOURS

The BOMA Calgary Building Operator Training program is a comprehensive course that prepares students for the 5th Class ticket and provincial exam from the Alberta Boiler Safety Association (ABSA). More than just a 5th Class ticket, this course is specifically designed for commercial building operations and is instructed by veteran building operation experts. Taught over 150 hours (exceeding the industry standard), this program has a strong record of providing the industry with well educated and competent operators.

The next online 5th Class Course will begin on <u>January 12, 2021</u> from 5pm to 8pm and takes place every Tuesday, Thursday until June 2021. The course fees includes the text material and the certificate. Registration is now open. Contact Jessica at info@boma.ca or 403.237.0559 for more information.





December 2020



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## Kenken Puzzle

How to solve the Kenken puzzle:

(Answers on page 15)

- Fill in the numbers from 1-6
- Do not repeat the number in any row or column
- The numbers in each heavily outlined set of squares, called cages, must combine (in any order) to produce the target number in the top corner using the mathematical operation indicated
- Cages with just one square should be filled in with the target number in the top corner
- A number can be repeated within a cage as long as it in the same or column

5-	2-	3-	2÷	10×	
				4	
10+	3+		2÷	12×	
	2-			3+	5
	3-		5		2÷
2÷		5	5-		

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#### The Importance of the Logbook

#### Logs can be divided into two classifications:

- 1. Boiler logs
- 2. Daily occurrences within the facility

#### **Boiler Logs**

A logbook, in any boiler heating plant is a legal document that is required by Regulation to record such activities as maintenance work, Inspections, tests. The Power Engineers Regulation requires that a permanent logbook be updated and maintained for, boiler heating plants. This logbook should be provided in each boiler room to record maintenance work, inspections, certain tests, and other pertinent data. Brief



details of repairs or other work done on a boiler plant including time started, time completed, and signature of person in charge should be recorded. The log book must be a permanent record that cannot be altered. That is to say is that it must be written in ink and continuous so that more entries cannot be done at a later time.

As technology has advanced, so have the methods of recording information. In some jurisdictions an electronic log can be acceptable if and only if it can be shown to be a permanent accurate record.

#### The Engineers Regulations State: Section 6

- 6. The chief power engineer of a power plant and the power engineer in charge of a heating plant or a thermal liquid heating system must ensure that a logbook is updated and maintained to record:
  - (a) matters relating to the operation and maintenance of that power plant, heating plant or thermal liquid heating system
  - (b) the testing and servicing of safety valves and other safety devices and controls, and
  - (c) any other matter that may affect the safety of the power plant, heating plant or thermal liquid heating system.

#### **ASME Section 6 Part 6.09**

B. Log Book. A permanent logbook should be provided in each boiler room to record maintenance work, inspections, certain tests, and other pertinent data. Brief details of repairs or other work done on a boiler plant (including time started, time completed, and signature of person in charge) should be recorded. Performance and results of tests, inspections, or other routines required by codes or laws, insurance company inspection reports, and initial acceptance test data should be recorded

Examples of Steam Boiler and Hot water heating Boilers logs can be found in ASME Section VI: Exhibits A and B

#### **Daily Occurrence logs**

Although not a requirement by law. Daily Record keeping may me a requirement by Company policy. It is good practice to keep a log of daily occurrences within a facility. Building management is a busy job and to keep a record of repairs, replacements and conversations that have gone on, is in keeping of good business practice. Operators have a busy and varied day. To have a record to review when asked of a certain event is much more professional than trying to remember.

Other logs may be: Chemical Treatment logs, Equipment maintenance

**COVID-19 INFORMATION** 



## OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDANCE FOR WORKERS DURING A PANDEMIC

#### alberta.ca/covid19

Classification: Public Find updated versions of this bulletin on the OHS Resource Portal

This bulletin gives a brief overview of occupational health and safety (OHS) information for workers who are returning or continuing to work during the COVID-19 pandemic. You can also find links to OHS resources that have more information on specific topics, on page three.

Go to <u>alberta.ca/covid19</u> for the most up-to-date information on restrictions related to COVID-19.

#### **Key information**

Alberta's *OHS Act* defines fundamental rights and responsibilities for work site parties. For workers, these include the:

- · right to know,
- right to participate,
- · right to refuse dangerous work, and
- responsibility to work safely and ensure the safety of themselves and others.

#### Alberta's OHS legislation

The OHS Act sets minimum standards to protect and promote the health and safety of workers throughout Alberta. OHS legislation also includes regulations made under the OHS Act. These regulations (including the OHS Code) set specific rules and work together with the OHS Act.

Alberta's OHS legislation applies to most workers and employers in Alberta, including domestic workers. The legislation does not apply if you are:

- under federal jurisdiction (for example, Canadian chartered banks, interprovincial transportation, aviation), or
- a farm and ranch operations owner, family member of the owner or non-waged individual.

If you are a waged, non-family farm and ranch worker, you are covered by the basic safety standards set out in the *OHS Act* only.

#### Know about health and safety

You have the right to know about workplace hazards and have access to health and safety information at the work site.

Your employer has the responsibility to make you aware of your rights and duties under OHS legislation and make sure you have the skills and training to do your work safely. Your employer must also provide you information about hazards at the work site, controls used to eliminate or control the hazards, and any relevant work practices and procedures.

#### Hazard controls at your workplace

In addressing the COVID-19 pandemic, your employer must review and, where needed, revise your workplace hazard assessment documents to include controls for the viral hazard. An employer must involve affected workers in the hazard assessment and the control or elimination of the hazards identified.

Some COVID-19 controls are required by law. For example:

- OHS laws require employers to ensure workers have the training they need to work safely. During a pandemic, this includes training on new policies, procedures and equipment related to the virus.
- Public health orders may require specific controls. At time of publication of this bulletin, these requirements include:
  - A rapid response plan that sets out a fastaction plan for employers, supervisors and workers when a worker or visitor shows symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19.
  - New rules (for visitors or customers) and safe work procedures (for workers) that support hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette, and enhanced cleaning and disinfection, especially of high-touch surfaces and objects.
  - New practices that minimize the risk of transmission of infection at the work site.

Public health orders change during an emergency such as COVID-19. This bulletin was published on July 28, 2020. Check current public health orders at <a href="mailto:alberta.ca/COVID19">alberta.ca/COVID19</a> to make sure you know the current requirements.

alberta.ca/covid19

Practices that minimize the transmission of infection will be workplace specific. Depending on the type of work you do and your work site, you might see:

- Rearranged floor plans, work stations and/or new physical barriers.
- New rules (for visitors or customers) and safe work procedures (for workers) that support physical distancing.
- Updated sick leave/absence policies that are consistent with public health guidelines.
- Staggered or adjusted shifts and breaks to reduce the number of workers in common areas at one time.
- Pre-screening and contact tracing procedures to prevent and control outbreaks at the work site.
- Workplace rules or guidelines about wearing non-medical masks.

#### Participate in health and safety

You have the right to meaningful participation in health and safety activities related to your work and the work site. Your employer is required to respond to health and safety issues raised by workers.

If your workplace has a health and safety committee (HSC) or health and safety (HS) representative, they bring work site parties together to work on activities such as preventing, identifying and controlling hazards, investigating health and safety incidents, and responding to health and safety concerns at the work site.

If your workplace does not have an HSC or HS representative, your employer must still involve affected workers when assessing hazards at the workplace and implementing control measures.

#### Refuse dangerous work

Workers have the right to refuse dangerous work if you have reasonable grounds to believe that there is a dangerous condition at the work site, or that the work is dangerous to you or any other person.

Health and safety hazards that are not normal for the job, or normal hazards that are not properly controlled, are considered dangerous conditions that could trigger a work refusal. A dangerous condition is a risk that directly threatens the health and safety of a worker.

Theoretical, anticipated or potential risks are not reasonable grounds for a work refusal – you should bring these to your employer's attention under the worker's general duty of reporting an unsafe or harmful act or condition.

When employers and workers work together to resolve concerns, most situations can be resolved without a work refusal. However if you are in a situation where you feel it is necessary to refuse work, make sure you follow the work re-

fusal steps that are set out in the law – including promptly reporting the refusal and the reasons for it to your employer, supervisor or another designated person. The steps of the work refusal process that both you and your employer must follow usually result in issue resolution. If this isn't the case, you can contact OHS for more information and/or file a complaint with OHS.

Refusing unsafe work does not entitle a worker to abandon the work site or refuse other work. Your employer may give you other job duties until the dangerous condition is remedied.

If your employer has implemented reasonable controls to address the risk of COVID-19 exposure – such as those required or recommended by Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health – the dangerous condition associated with the virus should be addressed and it's unlikely that there will be a dangerous condition under OHS legislation.

If you still feel uncomfortable with those controls, you are encouraged to discuss your concerns with your employer.

#### Your responsibilities

OHS legislation is based on the internal responsibility system, which says that everyone – including workers – is accountable for workplace health and safety, each according to their authority and level of control. As a worker, your obligations include:

- Cooperating with your employer or supervisor by following the health and safety rules.
- Reporting concerns about unsafe or harmful work sites or work site conditions to your employer or supervisor.
- Cooperating with any person following the OHS legislation and following the OHS legislation yourself.

#### Contact us

#### **OHS Contact Centre**

Complaints, questions, reporting serious incidents

#### Anywhere in Alberta

• 1-866-415-8690

#### Edmonton & surrounding area

• 780-415-8690

#### Deaf or hearing impaired

- 1-800-232-7215 (Alberta)
- 780-427-9999 (Edmonton)

Albertan

December 2020

#### File a complaint online

ohsComplaintsPortal.labour.alberta.ca

#### Online incident reporting

Potentially serious, mine or mine site incidents

oir.labour.alberta.ca

#### **OHS** website

alberta.ca/ohs

#### **Alberta Health Services**

COVID-19 public health order violations

ephisahs.albertahealthservices.ca/create-case

#### For more information

Do you know how to refuse dangerous work? (PTR008) <a href="https://ohs-pubstore.labour.alberta.ca/ptr008">ohs-pubstore.labour.alberta.ca/ptr008</a>

Hazard assessment and control: a handbook for Alberta employers and workers (BP018)

ohs-pubstore.labour.alberta.ca/bp018

Health and safety committees and representatives (LI060)

ohs-pubstore.labour.alberta.ca/li060

Respiratory viruses and the workplace (BP022)

ohs-pubstore.labour.alberta.ca/bh022

Right to refuse dangerous work (LI049)

ohs-pubstore.labour.alberta.ca/li049

Worker's guide to occupational health and safety (LI008) <a href="https://ohs-pubstore.labour.alberta.ca/li008">ohs-pubstore.labour.alberta.ca/li008</a>

Go to <u>alberta.ca/biz-connect</u> for workplace guidance and supports to help businesses and non-profits affected by COVID-19 begin reopening and resuming operations safely.

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alberta.ca/covid19

#### WISHING YOU ALL A HAPPY &



#### **TEST YOUR OPERATOR IQ ANSWERS**

Answers: 1) b 2) c 3) c 4) c 5) a

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All batteries can be a fire hazard, but did you know 9-volt batteries can be especially hazardous because of the closely spaced terminals?



If the two terminals come into contact with keys, steel wool, or other conductors...



...fire can ignite!



Keep unused batteries in their packaging until ready to install.





Cover terminals of all spent batteries with electrical tape, or put them back in their original packaging.

Store batteries awaiting recycling in a non-flammable container.



www.canadasafetycouncil.org

General Meeting Minutes			
Chaired by:	Minutes by:	Call to order:	Webinar: November 10, 2020
Mark Arton	Monika Bhandari	5:03pm	

#### **New Business:**

Introduction from Mike Arton

**New Business:** 

**Introduction from Mike Arton** 

**Guest Speaker:** 

Joanne Ogilvie from Sanuvox

**Topic of Presentation:** 

**UV HVAC Applications During SARS-CoV-2 Pandemic** 

#### **New Business:**

- BOA Meetings will be virtual and providing relevant Covid-19 safety during this time
- Tradeshow postponed until May 2021 due to Covid-19
- Memberships can be made on our website through paypal on www.boacalgary.com
- Guest Speakers video will be posted on website and YouTube
- Next virtual (zoom) meeting on December 8, 2020, 5PM



#### JOIN US ON TUESDAY DECEMBER 8th AT 5PM FOR OUR VIRTUAL MONTHLY MEETING

December General Meeting Guest Speaker: Curt LaMontagne, C5 PLUS LTD.

Title: Clearing the air: IAQ and the COVID-19 pandemic.



**Brief:** There's a lot of information and advice out there regarding appropriate indoor air quality related responses to the current COID-19 pandemic. Some of it's even worthwhile – but there's a large component that's at best misguided or just plain snake oil. Building operations should be focused on using credible sources and simple, well established IAQ principles as the backbone of their responses. There are some promising technologies in the mix, but there are no IAQ "silver bullets" for dealing with the pandemic as of yet.

#### Bio:

In 1988, Curt started his environmental career as one of the first US EPA accredited asbestos management planners. As such he was responsible for conducting asbestos assessments for millions of square feet across multiple school districts throughout southern California.

He's since managed indoor environmental consulting projects for all levels of business and government in both Canada and the US, shifting more in recent years to a focus on quantitative IAQ and indoor environmental quality for large office towers.

An enthusiastic educator, Curt is also a published writer and an experienced public speaker on indoor environmental issues. He's also an accomplished software developer, having written several commercial environmental software packages. Curt holds a First Class Honours degree in Philosophy from the University of Calgary, and has successfully completed the Graduate Program in Strategic Management offered by the University of California, San Diego.



#### Kenken Puzzle Answer

<sup>5-</sup>	²- <b>3</b>	³- <b>6</b>	²÷ <b>4</b>	<sup>10</sup> × <b>5</b>	2
6	5	3	2	44	1
<sup>10+</sup> <b>5</b>	³+ <b>1</b>	2	²÷ <b>6</b>	12× 3	4
2	²- <b>6</b>	4	3	³+ <b>1</b>	⁵ 5
3	³- <b>4</b>	1	⁵5	2	²÷ <b>6</b>
²÷ <b>4</b>	2	⁵ 5	5- <b>1</b>	6	3

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December 2020 20



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