

## Winter Break Week 2026 Speakers & Panelists

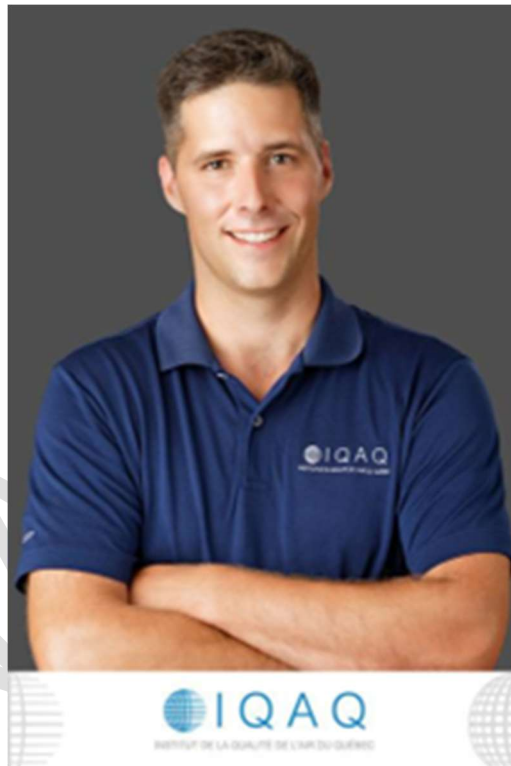
### *Commercial Flooring Symposium*

Biographical Details Listed in Alphabetical Order

#### **President, Institut de la Qualité de l'Air du Québec (IQAQ)**

#### **IICRC BMI Chair - IICRC Instructor**

Gabriel Bélanger is an IICRC-accredited instructor and President of the *Institut de la Qualité de l'Air du Québec (IQAQ)*. With over 20 years of experience in water damage restoration, indoor air quality, and building diagnostics, Gabriel brings a field-driven perspective to technical education. Recognized for his engaging and practical teaching style, Gabriel is passionate about advancing the industry through clarity, structure, and accountability. He founded IQAQ as a third-party consultation firm and volunteered in the development of the IICRC BMI class, to elevate inspection practices through science-based methods, measurable data, and defensible reporting.



**Speaker: Gabriel Bélanger**

**Gabriel Bélanger Sauvageau Président**

**For More Information: [info@iqaq.ca](mailto:info@iqaq.ca)**

**Website: [www.iqaq.ca](http://www.iqaq.ca)**

**Symposium Facilitator: Pete Consigli**  
**Symposium Moderator: Bob Blochinger**

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**Moderator & Speaker: Robert “Bavarian Bob” Blochinger, 3rd Party Flooring Consultant  
Moisture Mob East Coast Enforcer**

**IICRC Inspection Division Chair and Board of Directors Member**

**Phone: 954.830.4426 Email: [bob@blochinger.net](mailto:bob@blochinger.net)**

Bob was raised in New York City, working in the family construction business. He moved to Florida for college, majoring in business management and worked seasonally in the hospitality industry. Bob began his career in the flooring industry in 1970, offering carpet cleaning and installations while specializing in water and fire damage restoration work. In the early 1980's he expanded into the retail department store sector providing installation of floor covering sales. During the 1990's his company started to service the architectural and interior design trade with high-end floor covering product sales and installations for residential, commercial, and industrial application

In 1990, Bob attended Southern Tech GA, specializing in technical training for carpet manufacturing and inspection. This started his career in forensic review of floor covering products that have a negative impact on performance, appearance, and/or use. He is a multi-discipline flooring consultant. Bob also works as an expert witness, inspector and investigator for law firms, condominium associations, and flooring manufacturers. He consults for flooring projects on bid package formatting and review, installation supervision, and maintenance procedures. Bob's oversight consultation assignments often require moisture testing of concrete for public works projects and private corporations tracking major installations from the retail store to the manufacturing facility.

#### **IAQradio+ Podcast and Blog:**

<https://www.iaqradio.com/robert-bavarian-bob-blochinger-one-mans-professional-journey-to-carve-a-niche-for-flooring-forensics-in-the-cleaning-restoration-industry/#more-6392>

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#### Round Table Panelist:

**Moisture Mob Hardwood Flooring SME**  
**Howard W. Brickman Aka, "Woodie"**

#### Work Experience:

**'84 to Present Self-employed** . Have established a full-service hardwood flooring consulting and contracting company. Specialize in custom installations such as Great Hall-Faneuil Hall, Hatch Memorial Shell, Boston; Henri Bendel Store, Boston; The Country Club, Brookline; Mechanics Hall, Worcester. Federal Reserve Bank, Boston; and This Old House Program WGBH .

Operate a private wood flooring consulting service providing service to the U. S. with regard to manufacture, storage, installation, finishing, & job site conditions. Also have conducted a complete courses of instruction on all aspects of installation, sanding, finishing, and inspecting of wood floors. Have conducted numerous seminars at NWFA and Floor Education Guild events. Winner "Floor of the Year" contest 2000. Technical consultant for Bob Vila TV "Home Again."

Charter member Wood Floor Guild. Certified NWFACP Wood Floor Inspector 2004 to January 2009, **did not renew in 2009 due to disagreement with NWFACP policies**. Certified NWFACP Install, Sand & Finish, Nov 2008 to 2013. Charter member NWFA 1986-2013 and member of Technical Committee **did not renew in 2013 due to disagreement with NWFA policies**.

#### Education:

Attended *State Technical Institute- Memphis* , 1977-78 Architectural Engineering  
Attended *University of Massachusetts-Amherst* , 1995-98 Building Materials & Wood Technology M.S. and Ph. D. coursework completed May 1997. Teaching Assistant in Wood Anatomy Lab Thesis and Dissertation not completed.

**Contact Details:** Phone: (781) 659-7209 E-mail: [hwbrickman@gmail.com](mailto:hwbrickman@gmail.com)

#### IAQradio+ Podcast and Blog:

<https://www.iaqradio.com/howard-brickman-hardwood-flooring-from-the-tree-tops-to-the-roots-an-intimate-fireside-chat-with-an-industry-trailblazer/#more-5687>

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#### **Winter Break Week Co- Host & Facilitator:**

**G. Pete Consigli, CR, WLS**

**Industry Adviser, RIA Honorary Member & Historian, IAQA Hall of Fame Inductee**

**A Moisture Mob Consigliere; Guest of Honor RIA's Roast of Pete Consigli!**

Pete Consigli is a Restoration Industry Association (RIA) Certified Restorer (CR) and Water Loss Specialist (WLS) and has been a member of the Restoration Industry Association since 1977. Over the years he has been an active volunteer and filled various association leadership roles. Pete is RIA's "Resident" Historian and an archival resource to the industry. In 2008, Pete received RIA's most prestigious honor for excellence in restoration, the Martin L. King award. In 2012 RIA made Pete the second honorary member to its association, only the third such honor in RIA's 75 years. In 2015 in Dallas Texas the Indoor Air Quality Association (IAQA) inducted Pete into the IAQA Hall of Fame. Pete has been an adviser and bridge between the restoration industry and IAQ and Building Science communities since the 1990's. Pete Consigli has been in the cleaning, restoration, and IAQ industry for five decades. He contributes to trade publications and standards development and participates in industry events. Pete has been an Adviser for RIA's Water Loss Specialist (WLS) advanced certification designation and enjoys Emeritus status as one of the WLS program's founding fathers to the program since its inception in 1999.

The RIA recognized Pete in 2021 at their 75<sup>th</sup> Diamond Anniversary Convention in Orlando, Florida by naming its new scholarship program, "The RIA Pete Consigli Educational Scholarship Award" in his honor. RIA presents the award at its Annual Convention and Exposition. Pete has been an advocate of Purdue University's Disaster Restoration and Reconstruction Management (DRRM) program. He has provided guest lectures to the DRRM students assisting with internships & employment in the industry. Pete advises the RIA education committee and staff on matters impacting the restoration industry and its members. In his 5<sup>th</sup> decade in the industry Pete enjoys his reoccurring role on IAQradio+ as the "Restoration Global Watchdog. Pete is well-known as the Building Science Summer Camp's "Executive Chef Emeritus."

#### **3 Part History of the Restoration Industry Podcast and Blog:**

<https://www.iaqradio.com/iaq-radio-classic-pete-consigli-the-z-man-a-history-of-the-restoration-industry-parts-1-3/#more-4609>

**Symposium Facilitator: Pete Consigli**  
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**Speaker: David Daniels, Head of Sales  
North America Flooring, Tramex USA**

David is an accomplished professional, in charge of Sales and Technical Support for North America, at Tramex Meters. He has a strong dedication to the Flooring Industry, he brings extensive expertise and a passion for delivering exceptional technical support to customers.

David was born into a family deeply rooted in the Flooring Industry, He possesses a wealth of knowledge that spans two generations. Prior to joining Tramex Meters, he actively contributed to his family's Floor Covering business in various capacities, gaining invaluable experience and insights along the way. David's commitment to advancing industry standards is evident through his involvement on the ASTM F06 committee. As a member, he actively contributes to the development and implementation of cutting-edge practices within the flooring sector.

Recognizing the critical importance of staying ahead of industry trends, David spearheads the implementation of Tramex Training initiatives throughout North America. He places a special emphasis on advocating for Time of Install moisture testing for concrete, ensuring that professionals are equipped with the necessary tools and knowledge to make informed decisions. David's proven track record of leadership, technical expertise, and a deep-rooted passion for the Flooring Industry, slows him to continue to make significant contributions, driving growth and innovation within Tramex Meters and the broader flooring community.

**Contact Details:** [david@tramexmeters.com](mailto:david@tramexmeters.com) and **Visit:** <https://tramexmeters.com/>

**Symposium Facilitator:** Pete Consigli  
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**Speaker: Robert “Concrete Bob” Higgins**  
**Moisture Mob Capo Concrete Family**

Bob Higgins has expertise in moisture-related concrete issues, having been involved with waterproofing, technical committees, professional groups, lecturing, teaching, and construction defect litigation.

Bob Higgins is equally involved in product and process development, having developed most of the products manufactured and marketed by his former company SINAK Corporation, as well as owning or co-owning patents for moisture testing. Bob has authored articles in local and national publications, lectured in regional and national conventions. Bob has contributed to, used as an expert resource, or written over 100 papers involving moisture-related concrete issues including deterioration mechanisms, testing protocols, diagnosis, inspection, and repair.

**Construction Defect** - expert opinion and testimony

**Inspection - Before Installation:** How to rigorously evaluate, analyze and determine what-if steps may be needed prior to floor installation.

**When Problems Arise:** Determine what went wrong, why, and how to evaluate and analyze correctly and accurately; determining root-cause.

**Specifications** - Assisting in Architects/Engineers/Designers to develop sound concrete specifications for the ever-changing environmental restrictions and product changes.

**Professionally** - Bob has been involved with waterproofing since 1976 and has functioned as an expert in construction litigation since 1985. Bob was Vice President and Chemist/Product Development for SINAK Corporation for 30 years (1979-2009).

**For More Information:** [rcconsulting.higgins@gmail.com](mailto:rcconsulting.higgins@gmail.com)

**IAQradio+ Podcasts and Blogs:**

<https://www.iaqradio.com/robert-higgins-concrete-moisture-fact-vs-fiction/#more-5448>

<https://www.iaqradio.com/robert-higgins-concrete-moisture-inspection-the-fundamentals/#more-7496>

<https://www.iaqradio.com/robert-concrete-bob-higgins-surface-influences-with-concrete-connecting-the-dots-new-research-confirms-bobs-theories/#more-8194>

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**Speaker: Dr. Frederick M. Hueston**  
**Stone Forensics**

Fred Hueston is the Owner of Stone Forensics, based in Melbourne, Florida, The firm is a leading authority and subject matter expert for marble, stone, and tile.

Stone Forensics, is comprised of engineers, scientists, and geologists with an expertise in natural stone installations and failures relating to natural stone installations. Our clients are located worldwide and include government, casinos and hotels, general contractors, insurance companies, tile contractors, attorneys, architectural and engineering firms, property managers, and homeowners.

Our services range from specifying and consultation to providing expert witness testimony. Problems we are presented with include, "How do we restore an historical building?" "Why is my stone falling apart?" "Do I have the proper specifications?" "How do I remove stains from a monument?" "Has flooding ruined my floor?" and Slip / Fall accident prevention.

**Frederick M. Hueston**

[www.stoneforensics.com](http://www.stoneforensics.com)

**Office:** 321-514-6845

**For more details see the training section at:** [www.stoneforensics.com](http://www.stoneforensics.com)

**Check out the Stone and Tile Radio Show:**

<https://www.spreaker.com/podcast/the-stone-and-tile-show--6441721>

**Blog:** [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaXeHDTeUD28j2AJsaNAqTQ?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaXeHDTeUD28j2AJsaNAqTQ?view_as=subscriber)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/stoneforensics1>

**Articles:** <https://stoneforensics.com/articles/>

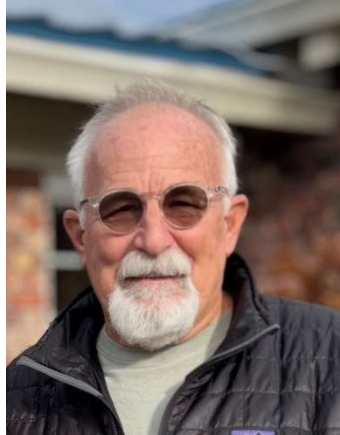
**Other home improvement articles:** <https://fredsshed.wixsite.com/website/blog>

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**Round Table Panelist:**  
**Moisture Mob Installation Troubleshooter**  
**Larry “The Hitman” Marvel**

Larry Marvel is a third-generation installation professional. After graduating high school in 1972, he served over three years in the Army with the 4th Infantry Division. Upon completing military service, he embarked on a career in flooring. The journey began with four years of apprenticeships through the IUPAT Northern California, culminating in the attainment of Journeyman status. After eight years of hands-on installation experience, he successfully tested for and obtained a California Contractors License.

Over the span of 50 years, this professional has held various roles in the installation aspect of the floor-covering industry, including managing a group of 40 installers with well over 1000 residential and commercial projects. Their expertise encompasses a wide range of flooring materials, such as hardwood, vinyl, rubber, textile broadlooms, laminates, and more.

In the last 12 years, Larry transitioned to the manufacturer’s side, working in Technical Support for Tarkett. This role was a long-standing aspiration, driven by Tarkett’s desire to understand and influence installation guidelines that he had adhered to throughout his career.

Tarkett’s strong emphasis on the importance of a properly prepared and tested substrate, they have invested in education around testing and preparation, recognizing that successful floor covering installations depend on a solid foundation. Larry is passionate about supporting installers, he actively engages in site visits, testing, training, and inspections. As he approaches 70, he remains committed to driving positive change in the industry, aiming to give back to a trade that has enriched his life.

**Contact Details:**

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**LinkedIn Profile:** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/larry-marvel-23966525a/>

**Symposium Facilitator:** Pete Consigli  
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**Speaker: Seth Pevarnik**

Director of Technical Services

ARDEX Americas

**Phone:** 724-203-5215

**Email:** [seth.pevarnik@ardexamericas.com](mailto:seth.pevarnik@ardexamericas.com)

**Website:** [www.ardexamericas.com](http://www.ardexamericas.com)

Seth Pevarnik has worked for Ardex Americas in the Technical Service Department since 1991 and is currently their Director of Technical Services. His areas of expertise are Concrete, Moisture in Concrete and Proper Substrate Preparation. Seth has been certified in Subfloor and Substrate Inspection as well as Subfloor and Substrate Preparation. He has presented information on moisture in concrete, proper substrate preparation, flooring adhesives, and tile & stone to many industry groups including FCICA, ICRI, INSTALL, NAFCT and NFCA. Seth is active in several industry associations and standards organizations including ASTM, FCICA, INSTALL, IICRC, NAFCT, NFCA as well as MMSA and is currently a Board Member for FCICA as well as NAFCT. Seth serves as the IICRC Chair for the ISSI Certification, helped develop the ANSI/IICRC S220 Hard Surface Floor Covering Inspection Standard, helped review and improve the second addition of the ANSI/IICRC S800 **Standard and Reference Guide for Professional Inspection of Textile Floor Covering** and is helping develop the ANSI/IICRC S230 Standard for Professional Inspection of Flooring Subfloors and Substrates.

Seth has presented at IICRC sponsored events on, **“Causes and Remedies of Concrete Slab Imperfections.”** The presentation discusses Joints & Cracks, Slab Curl Relaxation, Pop Outs, Blistering, Osmotic Blisters, ASR/AAR/NSAR, Scaling, Dusting, Condensation, Fly Ash, and Harvesting Samples. The information presented is targeted at 3<sup>rd</sup> party flooring inspectors, flooring installation contractors, insurance restoration contractors evaluating flooring after a disaster event, and other stakeholders charged with determining causation and liability.

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**Round Table Panelist:**

**William “Sticky Fingers” Thornton**

**Technical Manager Indoor PRD Tarkett Sports Floors**

William Thornton has almost four decades experience in the flooring industry. He started out as an installer, and his first school was the Armstrong class held in the early 1980's by legendary resilient trainer Mike Rotelli. Over the years he attended well over a dozen other technical schools specific to flooring.

Early in William's career he was a shop owner having multiple locations in the Kansas City metro area. That led to him becoming an educator for the local union in Kansas City. That experience led to his involvement in the creation of two floor covering associations, the FCICA and CFI. During this phase of his career, he served as president of the Heartland Floor Covering Contractors Association.

Throughout Mr. Thornton's career, he has taught in the floorcovering industry in the US and Canada and on occasion outside of North America. He has been a manufacturing technical manager since 2003. In 2009 he joined the Tarkett team.

Mr. Thornton is a member of the ASTM F06 committee for resilient flooring. He is the chairman of the ASTM F08.52 committee for miscellaneous playing surfaces. He is a technical member of MFMA and participated in educational seminars at the World of Concrete and Surfaces trade shows held annually in Las Vegas. He is currently the Technical Manager for Indoor PDR Tarkett Sports Floors. He teaches Tarkett and flooring industry stakeholders, manages research and development, writes specifications, for builders and architects and provides best practices and industry standards language for installation guides.

#### **Contact Details:**

Tel: +1 706 383 5847 Other: +1 888-364-6541 ext. 150

Email: [William.Thornton@tarkettsports.com](mailto:William.Thornton@tarkettsports.com)

#### **IAQradio+ Podcast and Blog:**

<https://www.iaqradio.com/william-thornton-flooring-confidential-the-underbelly-of-cradle-to-grave-from-manufacture-to-installation-use/#more-5632>

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**Speaker: Roland A. Vierra**  
**3rd Party Flooring Consultant**  
**Moisture Mob West Coast Enforcer**  
**President and CEO of FLOORING FORENSICS, INC.**

Flooring Forensics is an independent consulting firm specializing in the science and forensic evaluation of floor covering performance failures. Flooring Forensics, Inc. is a foremost authority in concrete moisture testing. Flooring Forensics, Inc., supports legal insurance, design, construction, manufacturing and installation professionals through proficient advisory and consultant services, specific to the performance and behavior of all floor coverings and floor coating systems.

Mr. Vierra has been a third-party claims consultant for more than 40 years. During that time, he has advised numerous clients on product and installation selection, evaluated performance and installation failures, and been designated as an expert in many construction defect litigation actions.

**For more information contact:**

**Phone:** (408) 999-0922

**Email:** [Roland@FlooringForensics.com](mailto:Roland@FlooringForensics.com)

**Website:** [www.FlooringForensics.com](http://www.FlooringForensics.com)

**IAQradio+ Podcasts and Blogs:**

<https://www.iaqradio.com/roland-vierra-the-life-times-of-a-renown-flooring-inspector-stories-from-the-dark-side-in-the-trenches/#more-5715>

**Moisture Mob “Enforcer” Podcasts and Blogs:**

<https://www.iaqradio.com/roland-mr-stick-vierra-robert-bavarian-bob-blochinger-here-come-the-moisture-mob-enforcers-the-forensic-aspect-of-3rd-party-evaluations-moisture-related-issues-affecting-wood-and-con/#more-6458>

<https://www.iaqradio.com/roland-mr-stick-vierra-robert-bavarian-bob-blochinger-here-come-the-moisture-mob-enforcers-the-forensic-aspect-of-3rd-party-evaluations/#more-6528>

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**Winter Break Week Blogger:** Cliff Zlotnik, CR, WLS, CMH, CIEC  
RIA Honorary Member & IAQA Hall of Fame Inductee  
**TRSCA President: An IICRC Shareholder**  
**A Moisture Mob Consigliere**

When Cliff Zlotnik entered the field of insurance repair in 1974 the industry was embryonic. Cliff is inquisitive and creative with a talent for problem solving. Cliff learned the business of insurance repair by doing it. Using his disaster repair business as a laboratory, he developed methods, procedures, and products to successfully accomplish tasks which were previously undoable. Cliff's techniques in cleaning, odor removal and procedures have become industry standard practices and relied upon globally. Through his articles, presentations, training programs and IAQradio+ broadcasts and Z-man Blogs, Cliff has shared his knowledge and expertise with thousands of insurance damage repair contractors and stakeholders in the Property Restoration Industry.

Cliff Zlotnik is universally known as one of the Restoration Industry's 4 Founding Fathers, a trailblazer and is a pioneer and living legend in the field of insurance damage repair and odor control methodologies. Cliff is the founder of Unsmoke Systems & Microban Systems, and a founding father of RIA's Water Loss Specialist (WLS) Certification Designation.

**Contact Details:** 412-771-2300 or [czlotnik@cs.com](mailto:czlotnik@cs.com)

### **IICRC S-700 Podcast and Blog on IAQradio+**

<https://www.iaqradio.com/bran-lynch-john-pletcher-mark-springer-cliff-zlotnik-rusty-amarante-co-host-ansi-iicrc-s700-standard-for-fire-and-smoke-damage-restoration/#more-8227>

### **3 Part Series IICRC and RIA Historic Agreement:**

<https://www.iaqradio.com/mark-springer-cr-ed-cross-esq-maturing-of-the-cleaning-restoration-industry-ria-iicrc-announce-strategic-partnership/#more-5053>

<https://www.iaqradio.com/kevin-pearson-craig-kersemeier-iicrc-marketing-chair-past-board-member-maturing-of-the-industry-part-2-iicrcs-unique-perspective-on-historic-strategic-partnership-with-ria/#more-5112>

<https://www.iaqradio.com/kevin-pearson-mark-springer-detente-between-ria-iicrc-strategic-agreement-2020-update/#more-5815>

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