

June 24th, 2021
Lunch Hour CE

Building Design Responses to Mitigate COVID-19 Virus Threat

Course Number - M20-0519

Session Code - 5

Description

The recent SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus pandemic and the resulting infectious disease COVID-19 has created an unprecedented challenge to our health, our lives, our families, our businesses, and our society. After months of being self-quarantined and 'working from home', we now prepare to slowly return to work and reopen our places of business. This transition comes with some fear and much apprehension about the collective readiness to deal with this new world in which we live. Recent news reports and some preliminary studies suggest that buildings' mechanical system may be aiding the transport and distribution of the virus and may potentially increase the risk of infection to the inhabitants. In fact, in April of 2020, researchers from the University of Alberta, Canada determined that a buildings' HVAC systems can contribute to the spread of the SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19 disease (Coronavirus). Building design engineers are now evaluating possible changes to improve the ability of these systems to deal with this new challenge and to reduce the risk of human infection to the building's inhabitants. This course was designed for building owners, developers, architects, engineers, and others concerned with the impact of buildings, building systems and design decisions on the health and well-being of the building occupants as we all grapple with the devastating impact of this health emergency. The course will address specific steps that can be made in the design, implementation, operation, and maintenance of building mechanical systems to decrease the risk of infection. The course describes the technologies available and science (engineering and virology) behind their effectiveness. The lecture will provide information regarding the impact of these measures on the virus as well as the pros and cons associated with each measure. The lecture will also include a discussion on cost, energy, air quality and comfort implications associated with the various COVID-19 response strategies.

RSVP Required – Email aia@aiasww.org (subject line rsvp June 24th CE – include your member if you want CE)

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