Chapter’s Next Re-certification Meeting

Not To Be Missed!

The Northern California/Hawaii NEBB’s next Associates and Re-certification Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 17th from 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Air Systems, Inc. Air Systems, Inc. has a beautiful conference room facility, with ample room for all our certified professional to comfortably attend the meeting.

New at this year’s re-certification meeting will be table top vendors displaying their product line and handing out information regarding their firm and services. Participating at this meeting will be Instruments Direct, Inc., Ultrasonic flowmeters sales and rentals. Firm representative Brent Baird will be on hand to answer any questions you may have.

Also, participating will be Air Systems, Inc. ALC Controls Division. On display will be their demo case - it’s essentially a building HVAC control system in a box. It will be connected to a laptop running WebCTRL 4.1 so that attendees can operate it just like they would a real-world system.

Cal Hydronics with Jeff Solberg will be a speaker as well as a table top vendor this year.

Lastly, we have the San Jose ASHRAE Chapter attending. They will be handing out information on ASHRAE and membership in their organization.

All these vendors will be available at our meeting starting at 11:30 a.m. Be sure to pick up your vendor card at the registration desk to enter the raffle drawing. To enter the raffle, you need to visit all four vendors and get a stamp on your vendor card. Place the card in the raffle box and 4 cards will be drawn at the end of the meeting for a prize. Please stop by the vendor tables and see what they have to offer.

For this year’s re-certification meeting, we have secured two speakers, Craig Farnell, LEED, AP, Project Engineer, with the Building Automation Systems Division of Air Systems, Inc. and Jeff Solberg of Cal Hydronics.

Craig Farnell will be presenting ALC’s WebCTRL. With DDC systems becoming standard equipment in new buildings and retrofits, their importance is undeniable. However, their capabilities are generally underutilized or misapplied. In the race to become green, it is important to remember that comfort comes first.

Automated Logic Corporation’s WebCTRL system is a full-featured Building Management System. All hardware is native BACnet and offers a high level of interoperability.
We are now accepting paid advertisement for our chapter newsletter.

“WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING PAID ADVERTISEMENT FOR OUR CHAPTER NEWSLETTER.”

operability. With new features such as Energy Reports and the Environmental Index, WebCTRL balances operational ease with comfort and energy efficiency.

Our second speaker, Jeff Solberg, from Cal Hydronics will be presenting Balancing Considerations for Variable Flow Piping and Heating Systems.

This year’s meeting will prove to be exciting and jammed with a lot of information.

If you haven’t signed up for this mandatory meeting yet, please email your response back to Audrey Kearns, Chapter Coordinator at akearns@nocalhawaiinebb.org. Flyer is attached.

Re-certification Meeting (cont)

Education Corner

Our next NEBB Northern California/Hawaii Semi-Annual Re-Certification Meeting is to be held on Wednesday, June 17, 2009 at the Air Systems, Inc. offices in San Jose. The re-certification meeting will start with lunch and our local NEBB Business meeting. Bill Neudorfer, NEBB National’s Treasurer will be speaking at our business meeting, updating us on the status of NEBB and any changes present and future. After the business meeting, we will have the following presentations and technical training:

NEBB Re-Certification Process Instrumentation & Paperwork, by Steve Smith, Northern California/Hawaii NEBB's Technical Chair.

Steve will review the NEBB Form C-1 documentation, the required instrumentation re-certification requirements and the process of re-certification to avoid delays.

Balancing Considerations for Variable Flow Piping & Heating Systems, by Jeff Solberg, Cal Hydronics:


Automated Logic Controls System, by Craig Farnell, Air Systems, Inc.:

Craig Farnell, will discuss the latest technology that is happening in Building Automation Controls and how they need to be properly applied and utilized. The web based BAS Controls systems are easier to operate and more energy efficient when applied correctly.

Our new Education Committee, Gordon Yu, Al Hardin and Steve Conn, was instrumental in putting this program together and I want to thank them for their input and assistance. Thank you and if you should have any suggestions on new training subjects or suggestions, please forward them to Audrey.
Hi all! Here we are at another interesting time. The economy is STILL all everyone is talking about – so I don’t think I will.

Northern California/Hawaii NEBB have ventured out on their own. We now have our own office and are no longer tied into the SMACNA office. We on the board are hopeful that some of the perceptions that we are not independent will benefit from that move. Another positive by product is that Audrey will now be able to respond much more completely and quickly to your needs. Please feel free to call whenever you have a need for support from your NEBB office. We will be learning how to perform our tasks in the coming months, but feel that this will definitely be an improvement in the service provided by Northern California/Hawaii NEBB.

One of the issues that will be brought up at our next meeting will come from the national rep visiting us. There is a growing number of firms that are not complying (or maybe it’s not growing, just becoming more evident) with the requirements as described in the latest procedural standards regarding report forms. The direction the organization is leaning towards is a mentoring program designed to educate the firms who have problems generating the correct forms. Northern California/Hawaii is already implementing our own version of that program. You will see that take form in the coming months. In the interim, please feel free to come to us for assistance if you feel that you may be in need of help.

On a national level, one of the biggest new things that came out of NEBB national this last year is the Quality Assurance Program (QAP). We have seen nationwide, improvement in response to firms that may not have NEBB or the procedures and quality in their foremost thoughts. The firms that do less than quality work hurt us all and that is now being addressed with zeal.

Other interesting things coming out of the national office are a new strategic plan. NEBB is in the process of reinventing itself – with a very positive spin. I think we will be seeing new and better programs coming out of NEBB including a new trend toward training. The move to online testing is in full swing and should roll out in the next year.

For those of you that did not know, NEBB TEC in Phoenix will be closing in May of 2011 and replaced with more regionalized training. With that evolution will come the retirement of a NEBB staple. Andy Nolfo will be retiring near the end of this year and NEBB is actively searching for a new “Director of Training.”

Another important thing that I would like to communicate at this time is the need for volunteers on the national level. NEBB’s new tactic to find highly qualified assistance is to encourage members to participate in sub-committees. That would involve a minimum of time and allow people to “get their feet wet” to find out if they may want to contribute more of their time. Please consider volunteering for a sub-committee. You can make your desire known to Audrey and she can forward it on up to national.

I sign off now wishing you all the best and continued success in the coming years.
Why Get NEBB Certified?

There are a number of reasons to become NEBB Certified such as increasing your qualifications and providing the NEBB Quality Assurance Guarantee on your projects. But the Number One reason to become NEBB Certified is to increase your potential work load! Did you know that building owners are demanding that their buildings be balanced and commissioned by certified personnel? Did you know work completed in Federal Office buildings also need to be completed by certified personnel? Did you know that LEED certification requires a certified commissioning agent/authority? Being NEBB certified allows a firm to compete on projects where NEBB certification is required, such as healthcare facilities, advanced technology projects and educational facilities. Non-NEBB certified firms can’t even compete for these projects. This equates to a loss in revenue.

Testing, balancing and commissioning are ever changing and are very dependent on the technical expertise of the industry. The present State Energy Code Title 24 requirements along with constructing LEED certified buildings, have added the need for more qualified testing and balancing firms, more quality assurance, more certified testing, balancing and commissioning personnel by a respected independent certification agency.

Building owners, engineers and contractors look to NEBB Certified firms to provide cost effective HVAC system design, installation, performance testing and commissioning of their systems. They know that when they hire a NEBB certified firm, they are hiring a quality assurance that the work will be done right the first time and every time.

NEBB’s Certification process of testing, education, re-certification, instrument calibration verifications and their “Quality Assurance Program (QAP)” ensures owner’s, engineers and contractors that the Testing, Balancing and Commissioning firm selected for the project will be the most qualified firm. This level of expertise and confidence will create ongoing relationships and repeat business for the NEBB certified firm.

Innovation, high standards and a proven track record have made NEBB the leader in its field. For more information on how to become NEBB certified, contact the Northern California/Hawaii NEBB Chapter at 510/386-1270 or akearns@nocalhawaiinebb.org.

Curtis Worley Invited Guest Speaker at ASHRAE Hawaii

Curtis Worley, NEBB Chapter Vice President/Treasurer, and General Manager of TABCO (Total Air Balance Company, Inc.) was recently invited to speak to the Hawaii ASHRAE Chapter at their March membership meeting. He shared with the membership his “TAB Do’s & Don’ts”. How can consultants and contractors be more prepared when requesting TAB services for new construction prior to commissioning or for retro-commissioning work after a building is occupied? Having a great design without “TABing” the installed HVAC system does not constitute a job well done. Discomfort in many interior spaces is usually a result of missing TAB work or having a “pisspoor” TAB contractor, who does not understand the fundamentals of HVAC systems. Curtis also demonstrated the instrumentation & measuring devices used for the TAB work of the airside & waterside of the HVAC system.

ASHRAE Hawaii’s chapter Past President, Victor Russell thanked Curtis Worley, the technical session’s speaker, for providing an entertaining presentation pertaining to the TAB Do’s & Don’ts of HVAC systems.

(Excerpt from ASHRAE publication)”
### Nominating Committee Needed!

At our upcoming June 17, 2009 General Membership meeting, we will be taking volunteers for the nominating committee. This committee shall consist of five members in good standing with one member being a board member. The committee shall select from eligible members, candidates for the 2010 Board of Directors. This slate of nominees for the 2010 Board positions will be presented and voted upon at the January 2010 meeting.

Please considering participating as part of this committee. If interested in volunteering or have questions, please contact Audrey Kearns, Chapter Coordinator at 510/386-1270 or by email at akearns@nocalhawaiinebb.org.

### Is Your Re-certification Due This Year?

If your firm’s re-certification is due this year (2009), make sure that your instruments’ calibrations are current.

Also important is to be sure that your CEU hours are current and up-to-date. Each Certified Professional needs to have 12 hours of CEU completed during 2008 and 2009 at NEBB sponsored events only. Prior year’s hours are not accepted. With this in mind, turn your Form C-1 into the Chapter once your hours have been completed, whether you make those hours up at the June 17th re-certification meeting or the October 30th Annual Meeting in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Forms with incomplete hours will be returned. Form C-1 can be found on the chapter website at: www.nocalhawaiinebb.org.

If you have any questions on this, please contact your local chapter coordinator at 510/386-1270.

### Chapter Newsletter Advertisement

Starting with this edition of the Northern California/Hawaii NEBB Chapter’s newsletter, we are now accepting paid advertisement. We feel this will help support our membership by supplying you with information on vendors associated with our industry, who provide products and services. We want this newsletter to be your go-to publication for resources and information.

If you know of a vendor who might be interested in advertising with us, please send their contact information to the chapter and we will be more than happy to send them an advertisement and contract information packet or we will be happy to send you a packet to forward.

Please be sure to do business with those vendors who are supporting our chapter and let our vendors know that you saw their ad in our newsletter!
I want to start off by thanking our Technical Committee volunteers: Carey Tomasa, Air Balance Hawaii; Jason Huffman, Pacific Test & Balance; Joe Condon, Air-Con Mechanical; Art Deleon, Final Air Balance and the Northern California/Hawaii NEBB Board. Carey and Jason have been reviewing the mainland re-certification forms for us and Joe is consistently volunteering for the Certified Professional and Technician testing. Art helped out on an emergency testing when we had problems recently. Without their help I would be backed up even further. I cannot thank them enough as this year will be even busier for the Technical Committee with the addition of the report reviews. Anyone who would like to help the Technical Committee would be welcome.

At our March 21st exam we only had a few technicians testing. With NEBB National going down the road of requiring certified technicians on all our projects, we need to be gearing up for that prospect now rather than later. In addition, National wants to change the testing process and out-source the testing facility. This will mean higher testing fees in the future. The longer each of our companies and technicians wait, the higher the cost of certification will be. Presently, many companies are not working our technicians 100% so there is time for your technicians to be studying. I recommend that you contact Audrey Kearns, Northern California/Hawaii NEBB Coordinator, to get updated study material for your technicians.

At our last Northern California/Hawaii NEBB Board meeting we approved a report review along with the C-1 re-certification application. All firms re-certifying must submit two final TAB Reports prepared by the firm during the prior year (2008) via email. They will be reviewed by the Technical Committee in conjunction with Form C-1, with written results provided back to the firm. All efforts will be made to ensure that the reviewer will be from a non-competitive firm. The two reports need to reflect a wide sample of your forms such as VAV, Air Handling Unit, Air Conditioning Unit, Exhaust Fan, Economizer, Differential Pressure, Pumps, Air Distribution, Water Distribution, etc. Reports need to be a minimum of 10 pages in a PDF format only. For firms with more than one location, each certified location will need to submit 2 reports for each locations. The firm must supply to whom this report was issued and their contact information. The owner of the report may be contacted to verify report authenticity and content at time of issue. If the firm states they have not issued any reports for that period then another time period will be selected by the Technical Committee until a report which qualifies is received. If the firm states that no reports have been generated during the periods requested then a written statement to that effect must be issued by the firm attesting to such. At that point, the firm will be considered to be completed with this process. If significant deviations from procedural standards are present, then the committee has the obligation to request another report no sooner than 30 days and no later than 120 days from the date of the review results letter. The intent is to verify that the items noted in the review process have been corrected. If corrections are not implemented as recommended by the Technical Committee then a complaint may be issued by the Board of Directors to NEBB National as prescribed in the complaint resolution section of the by-laws. As per the last newsletter, if your company produces certified and non-certified reports, you will need to supply one of each type. As clarified by NEBB National, even if a report is not certified “The NEBB firm/professional is still required to follow NEBB minimum standards unless a specific request for work to be performed to a lesser standard is made. If this is the case, it should be documented in the write up, noting what was requested as opposed to what the NEBB standards are.” At this time, report review is for Air and Hydronics disciplines only. Other disciplines will be coming on line at a later date. We will be reviewing the check off list and standards at our next general meeting.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEMINARS

TAB Technician Training Seminar
Chapter General Membership and Recertification Seminar
Vibration Technician Seminar
Sound Technician Seminar
TAB Certified Professional Review Seminar
Sound Technician Seminar
National Written Exam for Certified Professional

JUNE 8-13, NEBB TEC
JUNE 17, Air Systems, Inc., San Jose
JULY 15-16, NEBB TEC
AUGUST 7, NEBB TEC
AUGUST 14-16, NEBB TEC
SEPTEMBER 18, NEBB TEC
SEPTEMBER 19, Location TBA
Air Systems, Inc. (ASI) recently celebrated 35 successful years in business by building strong relationships with their customers, providing comprehensive design/build mechanical and electrical contracting, architectural sheet metal, high purity process piping, building automation systems, energy solutions and preventive maintenance services to Bay Area clients and partners. ASI was founded in 1974 by John Davis who had a vision of building a full-service design/build mechanical construction and service company with its primary focus on “Building Relationships”. Through the years, the company has gone through several acquisitions, but always continued to be spearheaded by a dedicated management team. The current management team includes Art Williams, President, Don Billups, Executive Vice President, and Marty Cull, Vice President and CFO. ASI currently has 85 office employees and approximately 150 craftspeople in the field.

ASI’s core business philosophy is, and always has been, based on Building Relationships—and it is this foundation that has allowed them to maintain consistent repeat business and retain a core group of dedicated employees. In their constant search for ways to improve service, adjust to changes in the marketplace, and grow their technological capabilities, ASI is fully staffed with Professional Engineers, NEBB-Certified Professionals, 3-D CAD drafters/detailers and a host of complimentary infrastructure resources including automated shop fabrication equipment, a Class 10,000 Clean Room, and an in-house auto/fleet maintenance shop.

Part of the Air Systems company philosophy and culture is based on community involvement and “giving back”. ASI extends this guiding principle by supporting local charitable organizations, community outreach groups and a host of community youth programs. The “Air Systems Car Show and Family Fun Fest” is a fundraiser benefiting the Air Systems Foundation; this semi-annual event first started in 1984 and has raised over $2.6 million dollars for the ASI Foundation in support of over 70 different children’s programs and charities throughout Santa Clara County. Benefiting from the funds raised by the ASI Foundation is the “Messenger VI-South Bay Children’s Medical Center-Mobile Health Van”, which fills the critical gaps in urgent health care on evenings and weekends for children of all ages in Santa Clara County regardless of their financial circumstances. In additional to supporting health care needs of local children, the ASI Foundation sponsors several annual community events benefiting children including “Kids Free Fishing Days” and “Pumpkins in the Park” - offering children a fun, healthy outdoor activity while providing them with education on the environment.

Upwards of 80% of Air Systems business is design/build, and as a NEBB-Certified firm, many of their clients are confident in them self-performing all TAB activities. The ASI TAB department started in 1984 when current ASI President, Art Williams, became certified in Air and Hydronics. ASI currently has four (4) NEBB certified professionals on staff: Byron Rifenburg, PE, Steve Conn, PE, Jeff Balvanz and Alan Whitman.

Byron Rifenburg is the Director of the ASI MEP Division and has been with...
ASI for 15 years. Byron graduated from Santa Clara University with a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering and has experience in HVAC, Cleanroom, Process Exhaust, Process Piping and Plumbing. His specialties are Energy and Building Retrofit and complex projects in existing buildings. Byron received his Air and Hydronics certification in 1998 and became certified in Cleanroom Performance Testing in 2000.

Steve Conn is a Senior Project Manager in the ASI MEP Division and has been with ASI for 10 years. Steve graduated from San Jose State University with a BS in Mechanical Engineering - he worked for ASI his last year in school and went to work for them directly out of college. Steve has experience in HVAC, Cleanroom, Process Exhaust, Process Piping & Plumbing. He specializes in building retrofit, complex projects in existing buildings, large scale design/build HVAC and chilled water central plant construction. Steve has been NEBB certified in Air & Hydronics since 2004.

Alan Whitman is the Service Manager and started in the field as a technician, he has been with ASI for 19 years. Alan received his NEBB certifications in Air and Hydronics and Building System Commissioning since 1999.

Jeff Balvanz is the ASI General Foreman for the Start Up and Balance Department. He started in the field as a technician and has been with ASI for 21 years. Jeff supervises the company’s four balancers (2 NEBB certified technicians and 2 supervisors) and has 25 years of experience in the HVAC industry. Jeff has experience with Cleanrooms, HVAC, Data Centers, Energy Management Control Systems, Retrofit, New Construction, and Project Management. Jeff received his NEBB Air & Hydronics certification in 1998.

Over the course of the last 25 years, Air Systems has completed hundreds of successful self-performed NEBB-Certified projects. Some of the noteworthy standout projects completed over the last couple years include: Network Appliance Building 2 High Density Data Center (HD Data Center with 2600-ton chiller plant and 100% air-side economizer system), Qualcomm Campus (3 building campus with office space, café and labs), Form Factor (building campus with office space and labs), Microsoft SVC4 Rack Lab (500-ton chiller plant and HD Rack Lab), Cisco Systems Child Care, Fitness & Life Connection Center (60,000sqft. specialty use building, LEED-certified Gold), Cisco Systems McCarthy Ranch Campus (120,000sqft. Office space and labs, LEED-certified Gold).

When asked what value ASI finds in their NEBB certification, all four certified professionals endorsed the company philosophy that NEBB certification provides another level of quality and service for ASI to provide to their clients. NEBB Certification separates ASI from other (uncertified) design/build companies and is a tangible marketing and sales tool for ASI as well. Guided by adherence to the NEBB standards, ASI offers quality assurance to their clients while providing a stream-lined process of construction through and including the TAB process.
New Members

Our first Nevada firm has completed their NEBB certification this past March. Please welcome them as our newest NEBB certified firm and certified professional:

**Quality Control Systems**
Ronald Jenkins, Certified Professional
Air & Hydronics Balancing
600 S. 18th Street
Sparks, NV 89431
775/359-1691
775/359-1693 fax
roni@qcs-inc.org

Congratulations to Troy Stenstrom for completing his Air & Hydronics certification! **Troy Stenstrom** with **Therna, Inc.** has been cleanroom certified for a number of years but has added Air & Hydronics certification to his credentials.

**Troy Stenstrom**
Therna, Inc.
1601 Las Plumas Avenue
San Jose, CA 95133
408/347-3400
408/347-3535 Fax
tstenstrom@therma.com

THIRD EDITION OF BSC PROCEDURAL STANDARDS NOW AVAILABLE


For more information and pricing details, you can log onto the website at nebb.org and view the information under Publications or contact Elana@nebb.org.
As a NEBB Certified Professional and NEBB Certified Firm, you have access to several turn-key solutions which have been designed for results—increased sales, increased customer loyalty, a greater understanding of NEBB, and greater perceived value of the services you provide. NEBB provided resources include:

- Discount pricing on website development and hosting.
- Marketing plan assistance.
- A standard advertisement which can be customized for your firm.
- The NEBB Video: A six minute video which explains the services and value of NEBB certification. Video can be customized.
- Brochure on NEBB’s Quality Assurance Program, which can be customized for your firm.
- Brochures which can be customized, including *Turning Your HVAC Systems Green*.
- Speaking opportunities on a local and national level.
- Opportunity to share your success stories through NEBB’s magazine, The NEBB Professional.
- And so much more!

For more information, please contact Karen D. Groppe, Director of Marketing & Communications at Karen@nebb.org or call 301-977-3698.

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**Marketing News**

![Vic Congi, Carter Air Balance Marketing Chair](image)

Our Chapter website is a continually changing and growing entity! We have added a video portion to our website. Our first video features our own Marketing Director, Vic Congi of Carter Air Balance in Napa extolling the value of NEBB and what NEBB certification means to our industry.

We have also included a new section called, “News and Events”. This section will have our Calendar of Events, as well as our current and past newsletters. So if you missed any of our past editions, you can catch up here.

Take a look at the new additions and give us feedback on what you think!
NEBB 2009 SEMI-ANNUAL RECERTIFICATION AND ASSOCIATES MEETING

Wednesday, June 17, 2009
11:30-4:00 p.m.
Lunch: 11:30 a.m.
Meeting: 12:00 p.m.

SPEAKERS:
Bill Neudorfer, NEBB National Treasurer
Steve Smith, NEBB Technical Chair
Re-certification Form C-1
How to complete Form C-1, what instruments and paperwork are needed, when to turn forms in to avoid delays

Cal Hydronics
Jeff Solberg
Air Systems, Inc.
Craig Farnell
LEED, AP, Project Engineer
Building Automation Systems Division
**ALC Web-Based Control System**

With DDC systems becoming standard equipment in new buildings and retrofits, their importance is undeniable. However, their capabilities are generally underutilized or misapplied. In the race to become green, it is important to remember that comfort comes first. Automated Logic Corporation’s WebCTRL system is a full-featured Building Management System. All hardware is native BACnet and offers a high level of interoperability. With new features such as Energy Reports and the Environmental Index, WebCTRL balances operational ease with comfort and energy efficiency.

**FEE:**
$50 per person
Make check out to NEBB

**NEW LOCATION:**
AIR SYSTEMS, INC.
940 REMILLARD COURT
SAN JOSE, CA 95004
DEADLINE: June 5, 2009

Return form to akearns@nocalhawaiinebb.org and mail check to:
39899 Balentine Dr., Suite 200, Newark, CA 94560
510/386-1270

Company: ________________________________________________
Certified Professional: _______________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
Guests: _____________________________________________________
Email: _______________________________________________________

**TABLE TOP VENDORS**
On Display From 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

*A raffle will be held at the end of the meeting. Every person who has visited each vendor and received a stamp on their vendor card is eligible for this raffle. Cards will be given out at the registration desk at the meeting.*

**Instruments Direct, Inc.**
*Ultrasonic Flowmeters Sales & Rental*

**Air Systems, Inc.**
*Building Automation Systems Division*

**ASHRAE**
*San Jose Chapter*

**Cal Hydronics**
*Variable Flow Piping & Heating Systems*