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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

EHSC SPRING MEETING

March 2005, Kansas City

Make plans now to attend the Spring Meeting of the Environmental Health and Safety Council in March 2005. Final dates for the meeting will be announced shortly as we confirm availability of locations for meetings, tour options, and availability of speakers.

The meeting will be co-chaired by myself as President of EHSC and by Pam Barton with Quintiles, as President-Elect. Kansas City is in the middle of the country, so equally assessable by all. In addition, we are hoping to finalize some outstanding tour opportunities of local facilities. One confirmed tour will be of the multi-million dollar Sprint Campus located in Overland Park, Kansas.

Be watching for more details, but hold some time open in March to attend the Spring Meeting of EHSC. More details soon, very soon!



Linda DeTienne
President
EHSC



Cyber terrorism a Misleading Word, Expert Says

IT directors are affecting the amount of investment their companies are making in IT security by describing hacking and other attacks as "cyber terrorism," says former White House security advisor Richard Clarke.

According to an article by Daniel Thomas in Computing, Clarke made the remarks during his keynote address at the RSA 2004 Conference in Barcelona last week. "If you say cyber terrorism they get confused and think it's Osama Bin Laden in cave with a laptop," he said. "And CEOs don't want to spend money on that because they don't think it's a real threat to them, they think it's a cost and not a benefit."

Instead, Clarke urged his audience to use terms such as information security, information assurance, cyber security or cyber crime. However, he did say that firms need to do more to join up physical and IT security procedures, and that lack of attention to these procedures could threaten business continuity.

"We go into a lot of buildings and sign-in and most of the time no one knows who we are," he said. "I sign my name Benjamin Franklin most of the time and no one notices." Clarke recommends creating secure computing and using two-factor authentication devices for access to both buildings and technology systems as measures companies can use to improve e security.

REAL LIFE DISASTER RESPONSE

The following was an actual email sent by Robert Day, a Manatee County (Florida) Government volunteer recounting his deployment following Hurricane Charley. It serves as notice to each of us that we cannot prepare enough for the uncertainties we face when disaster strikes. This is reprinted with Robert's permission to better relay the experience from his first-hand perspective:

Fellow BC Folks,



Since I work a couple counties north of Charlotte County, Florida, I was deployed down to Punta Gorda during the first week following Hurricane Charley. My duties were day-shift Operations (0800-2000hrs) for the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). My duties were to make sure the center had whatever it needed to function.

This is the first time I've had some time available to catch-up on my E-mail now that I'm back in my office. Here are some random observations that I think might be a reality check (or at least verification) for people that think walking out of a devastated area with backup tapes on their back may not be a real possibility:



When I arrived Sunday morning at 0630hrs there were 4 Blackhawk helicopters landing at the Logistical Staging Area (LSA) at the airport across the street. We were on satellite phones and generator power for the first few days, but each day more infrastructure like landline phones and utility power came back on-line. Some of the generators that were running the entire week (or longer) were beginning to fail.



There were external air conditioning units brought in and plastic ducts run to the inside of the building; this did help some, but heat indices outside were around 101 degrees due to the humidity. About a third of the roof was gone and when the afternoon rains would come there would be 4 inches of water in adjacent rooms to the EOC and the emergency call center (9-1-1). Bug spray was a big item since mosquitoes would enter the building at night.



Sanitation was a concern since there were no functioning bathroom facilities until the porta-potties arrived and there was no running water. I brought enough water, food, ice, tent and other items to last me for 3 days. However, a food canteen did arrive on-site shortly after the storm left, so I did not have to use any of my personal food supplies. Towards the end of the first week a portable shower unit (4 male / 4 female) that ran via generator arrived.



Having cash on-hand was not really necessary since there was no place to spend it unless you were able to leave the county; which I was. I will say the First-In Teams did a great job at clearing the roads from the Interstate to the EOC. Road signs were few and far between (I found one sign that was a little over 1 mile from its original location), so I took my Global Positioning System (GPS) as a contingency.

Having even simple office supplies was a problem, but I was able to find a section of a warehouse that still had a roof on it and I was able to acquire some paper, pens, and an old stapler; I never did find a 3-hole punch. However, we did find some toner that we were able to give to the copier repair technician (vendor) so he could get a copier working.



A neighboring county brought in their ID badge printing system so we could set up some security. I was then assigned a group of National Guard troops on 24hr rotation to use at my disposal for security checkpoints at the entrance to the EOC.



The full-time Emergency Management (EM) staff we augmented in Charlotte was a staff of 2 people. We sent down approx. 6 staff and were very proud to be able to keep the county on "life-support" for the first week. We were relieved by a staff of 18 people from North Carolina and they should be able to start the true recovery process. This obviously doesn't count the dozens of other agencies in the EOC and the thousands of responders throughout not only Charlotte County, but the other impacted counties in central Florida.

Remember, it's the "little" things that we may not think of that can make all the difference. My advice, try going camping for the weekend and be able to do work on your laptop computer at the same time on a self-sufficient basis and then you might be on a good start to being prepared.



FYI,
Robert Day, MBCI
Manatee County Government

What's in Your "Go Bag"?

Suppose your organization has to declare a disaster, perhaps from the impact of a major natural event like a hurricane or earthquake. Many companies have begun providing their employees with an emergency bag to keep in their offices to grab if the building needs to be evacuated. If your organization is considering such an activity, here is a list of items to include in your "go bag". It's compiled from members of the Business Continuity Institute's New York City Forum, a group that meets periodically to discuss key BC issues. You may decide to arrange for different kinds of go bags, perhaps for employees, guests (e.g., clients, vendors), and floor wardens and members of emergency teams. The list is not in any particular order.

- Water (drinking and potable for washing dust off face and mask)
- Flashlight
- Glow stick (12-hour light sticks; last longer, need no batteries, environmentally friendly)
- Energy bar
- Paper respirator
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Goggles
- Space blanket (protection against the elements when outside, visible from a distance, compact)
- Whistle
- Reflective vest
- Gloves
- Laminated card with key company numbers, police/fire/EMT, and space for adding personal numbers
- Grundig wind-up radio (no batteries)
- Poncho with hood
- Small first aid kit
- List of what to take in an emergency (e.g., laptop, documentation)
- AM/FM/Weather radio
- Pen and paper
- Laminated card with Red Cross information for home emergencies
- Locations for disaster services
- Directions to emergency meeting places
- Local road maps and primary/alternate evacuation routes
- Public transportation schedules, e.g., trains, buses, boats
- Company safety and security information brochures
- Copy of BC plan highlights
- Building evacuation plan
- Calling trees

Strategies for dealing with go bags:

1. Bring go bags to all exercises and evacuation drills
2. Bring go bags for spot audits during fire prevention month (October)
3. Provide access to vendors for those who want personal kits at home
4. Conduct spot check for go bags
5. Ensure that go bags are inexpensive, easy to carry, easy to store (e.g., store several in conference rooms, storage closets)
6. Do not use go bags for BC plan documentation; these should be at home or on laptop PCs
7. Consider placing go bags in multiple locations, unless the go bag is carried with you all the time
8. Do not depend on a go bag as a security blanket

What's in Your "Go Bag"? Cont...

9. Carry keys, purse, wallet, and ID at all times
10. Do not locate irreplaceable personal items in an office
11. At a minimum, carry a whistle and small portable flashlight at all times

Sources of emergency provisions:

Simpler Life Emergency Provisions (www.simplerlife.com)

Emergency Lifeline (www.emergencylifeline.com)

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After Fire, Office Tenants Say Planning Pays

October 15, 2004

By THOMAS J. LUECK

A fire in a Park Avenue office tower that forced the evacuation of thousands of lawyers, investment advisers and other workers is providing a test of contingency planning in the aftermath of the 2001 attack on the World Trade Center, according to real estate experts and several of the building's tenants.

The fire, of unknown origin, occurred on Saturday and left the 31 floors of 425 Park Avenue, at 55th Street, structurally intact. But it destroyed the building's electrical system, wiping out elevator service, computers and telephone communication. And by yesterday, the tenants remained effectively locked out, with little prospect of returning for at least a week.

But Kaye Scholer, one of the city's largest law firms, was prepared. "We spent significant money to see that if a situation like this were to arise, we could handle it," said Barry Willner, managing partner of the firm, which normally occupies the 8th through 22nd floors. Now, the firm's 350 Manhattan lawyers and other staff members have been dispersed to space that the firm leased in Long Island City, Queens, as a security measure after 9/11, and to conference rooms at the Drake Hotel at 440 Park Avenue.

"We can function and deal with our clients' needs," Mr. Willner said yesterday by cell phone, an all-but-essential piece of equipment for tenants of the building. "This would have been much different prior to 9/11."

Not all the building's tenants were faring as well. Several could not be reached yesterday by phone, suggesting that they had not managed to transfer their office calls to cell phones or answering services.

"You live today by computers, fax machines, and we can only keep our fingers crossed," said Charles Stillman, a partner in Stillman & Friedman, a law firm that was forced out of its two floors. By Tuesday, he said, the firm's staff of 40 had moved to training rooms in the Manhattan offices of its information technology provider, Kraft, Kennedy & Lesser.

He said the law firm's computer data was saved by a backup security system under which each day's entries are copied on disks that are removed from the building at night. Although the system has been used since the 1990's, "you can say 9/11 has kept us much more on our toes," he said.

Other tenants said they had so far avoided major business disruptions by having employees work from home.

"We haven't missed a beat," said Jeffrey W. Pagano, a partner in King, Pagano & Harrison, a law firm with offices on the 29th floor. He said the firm had long encouraged employees to work at home as a "family-friendly policy, which, in this instance, has provided a tactical advantage."

But Mr. Pagano said the firm would be forced to rent temporary space if it could not return to 425 Park Avenue for more than two weeks.

The building is managed by Cushman & Wakefield, a major real estate concern. "We are diligently trying to get our tenants back," said Frank Freda, a company executive, declining to predict when that might occur.

Mr. Willner's law firm has already prepared for the long haul. By yesterday, he said, it had signed month-to-month leases at nearby office buildings, and was prepared to move many of its employees there early next week.



Salt Lake City

WORLD WORKPLACE 2004 – SALT LAKE CITY

By Linda DeTienne

The annual World Workplace of IFMA was held in Salt Lake City on Oct. 17-19.

The three-day event was packed with educational sessions, networking opportunities, a large vendor expo, and the annual awards banquet. The events began on Saturday with the House of Delegates Meeting. I had the opportunity to present one of the IFMA scholarships on behalf of the Kansas City Chapter to a young promising student.

Sunday morning was the Council and Industry sessions hosted by 12 of the IFMA councils, including the Environmental Health & Safety Council. The actual Opening Session of World Workplace was Sunday afternoon, followed by a dedicated session to the large Vendor Expo. Educational sessions ran throughout the remainder of the conference, with between 10-12 options to choose from for every segment. It was very difficult to select just one per segment!

The conference was concluded with the Awards Banquet on Tuesday evening, where new officers were elected to the IFMA board and various achievement awards were given to individuals and chapters within the IFMA community.

Next year IFMA will celebrate its 25th year and World Workplace will be held in Philadelphia. Mark your calendars now for October 23-25, 2005 and plan to attend!



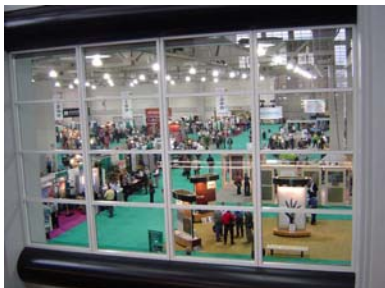
The Salt Palace Convention Center



Francine Schumacker (International IFMA Board) and Chris Hodges (EHSC Council Speaker)



Pam Barton, President-Elect of EHSC and Linda DeTienne, President, man the IFMA Booth



View of the Expo Hall from above



EHSC Council and Industry Meeting

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For more *exhibitor or sponsorship information* contact Christine Donnell, Greening the Heartland Exhibit Manager at 703-567-3476 or email exhibits@greeningtheheartland.org.



Spelling Not Important?

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Techniques for Management and Dispersal of Canada Geese: urging geese to go — NOW!

PHILIP C. WHITFORD, Biology Department, Capital University, 2199 E. Main Street, Columbus, OH 43209, USA

Expanding resident urban Canada goose populations have led to concomitant increases in human/goose conflicts in municipal parks and golf courses. Geese in such locations have proven difficult to displace and keep away. Their preference for short, highly fertilized grass and ponds of golf courses, and parks attract geese to these environs (Smith et al. 1999). As they said in the film, *Field of Dreams*, "If you build it, they will come." So it is with the geese and corporate parks or golf courses with pampered lawns and picturesque water holes. They will come. And, when they do, their numbers will quickly swell to problem causing proportions, eventually decimating lawns, fouling the waters and covering the sidewalks with droppings. At this point the question becomes one of, "How do we get rid of the geese?"

Until recently, all Canada geese were protected by international treaties covering migratory bird species. As urban goose populations and problems rose those rules changed to permit egg and nest destruction to slow their population growth, and more recently lethal removal of adult geese- all of which will be discussed in detail later. Non-lethal control options and their efficacy are presented in "Managing Canada Geese in Urban Environments" Smith, et al. (1999), and shall be discussed individually in a moment. First, I feel it is essential to provide some information about the habits, annual patterns of behavior, intelligence and learning ability, and the manner of learning of Canada geese.

Goose Behavior 101

First and foremost, one needs to understand that Canada geese are creatures whose lives are dominated by learned traditions and instinctive annual patterns of behavior. In migratory populations, goslings learn their migration and stopping points by flying the route with their parents. Goslings of resident Canada geese learn where to be at each season of the year from their parents, just as their migrating cousins do. Also, resident geese attract migrants in fall, and the odds are these same geese will return year after year to "winter vacation" on your property. In the instinctive changes in seasonal behavior geese have a strong tendency to go back to where they hatched; nested; brooded young, or were brooded themselves; or where they successfully molted their feathers in past years. What this means to a property owner is that, once geese have established a tradition of use of the property for any of these activities, they will predictably attempt to return again the following years at the proper seasons. This is especially true of establishment of nest sites and territories. Such geese become more difficult to remove and keep away because you must break them of old traditions and help them establish new ones. So, what is the lesson to carry away from this discourse? Zero tolerance is the only option for long-term success! Prevent geese from starting to use your property if they are not doing so at present. Geese comfortable and at ease on a site attract more geese. They begin creating traditions of use. Soon, multiple generations of birds are fighting over territories, nesting in your flower beds, raising 4-6 goslings per pair, and leaving 1.5 pounds of droppings per day per goose across your sidewalks and lawns. Your only option for success is not to let geese stay on your property for any length of time. Chase them away as quickly as you can, for geese when they first arrive on unfamiliar grounds are edgy and easily spooked into leaving. When chased off early after arrival they seldom return.

Anyone working in the realm of wildlife damage control is certainly aware that animals are driven by internal clocks that determine daily and seasonal behaviors. That goes for Canada geese also. To effectively disperse geese from urban settings, it is imperative that you understand these seasonal changes to help you minimize effort and gain the maximum benefit per man-hour of dispersal effort time.

Seasons of the Goose: a very brief perspective into the life of Canada geese,,,

FALL BEHAVIOR - SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER

In September the first arctic nesting geese come riding the winds south to swell the ranks of the resident goose populations. The secret to moving migrants is to catch them when they first arrive. Strike fast and early to get migrants to go someplace else. If the birds night roost on a pond or small lake, use boats, lights and firecrackers or alarm calls at sunset and/or after dark to cause the birds to find another sleeping location. They will move, because geese like a quiet night's rest as much as we do. Keep up the effort 2-3 times per night for 2-3 weeks to get them to permanently change night roosts. Force all birds to leave during harassment, day or night. Any single bird that remains will serve as the nucleus for reforming of the flock if it stays on the pond, calling to passing geese, as is the normal pattern for the species.

Winter - December to Mid-February

Flocks spend days resting, making daily feeding flights to harvested suburban fields. Plowed walks and parking lots absorb heat in the sun. Geese warm their toes, leaving copious droppings in exchange. Yet, these are great times to remove resident geese using alarm calls and human disturbance. They quickly find new, quiet places to live for the rest of the winter. After a few weeks living elsewhere, those geese usually won't come back, unless they nested on the original property in prior years.

February/March

Migrants start moving north in short hops. Resident giant Canada geese begin fighting over nesting territories adjacent to water. Pairs call at territorial boundaries and chase each other. Once territories are established, geese become much more difficult to move, returning day after day to try to reclaim the territories. They can only be moved off by continual harassment effort. Concentrate harassment on the female. If she leaves the male will go with her. If she stays, they both stay.

Mid-March to mid May

Nest construction, egg laying and incubation begin. Non-territorial birds move to new locations to feed and rest because they are excluded from the usual sites by aggression of territorial birds. Non-territorial birds are fairly easy to scare away within hours of arrival at new locations. Initiating goose dispersal programs concerning nesting birds will be labor intensive and unrewarding in terms of apparent results. Covering nests with sticks, etc. so the goose can't incubate may cause her to leave the property.

Mid May to Mid June

Eggs hatch. Nests and territories are abandoned. Geese with goslings seek open grassy brood rearing areas with high quality foods. Young alternately feed and rest during the day. Parents and goslings are unable to fly during this period. They stay near the safety of water to which they can escape if people or predators approach. Flightless birds can't move far if harassed. This is generally not a good time to initiate Alarm and Alert call usage on resident birds since they can't get out of hearing range.

June 15 to July 10

Virtually all geese are flightless due to molt of primaries and tail feathers. Birds can't fly and gather near water for safety. You can exclude them from pond access by use of low fencing. Since they can't climb or fly over it, geese may go elsewhere to find water to enter when threatened. This is the only time of year where roundups of geese are possible. Geese can be driven into small enclosures and captured, translocated to other areas or euthanized with proper permits.

July 1 to September

Goslings begin flying, and adults regain ability to fly. Resident birds move goslings from brooding areas to their normal residence sites, eventually to be rejoined by non-breeders. Daytime activities center on feeding and napping on lawns near water. If your geese have been gone for a few weeks, this is a good time to start a fresh harassment program, put out alarm call units and prevent them from settling back into routine use of the property. Use of Alarm and Alert calls coupled with harassment helps improve success and also helps prevent recolonization of attractive sites by new geese.

Options for Physically Removing Geese and/or Reducing Goose Recruitment

The primary time for gathering and removing geese from a property is during the flightless period mid-June to early July. This is referred to as lethal removal and/or translocation. Cost in Ohio at present is about \$25.00/bird removed plus \$400-\$600 or more in set up and transportation costs to take the goslings to wildlife refuges. This is a great option to use to remove final birds from properties treated with harassment and alarm calls. Removal gets rid of the geese that have a long-term habit of use of specific areas, making it easier to prevent new geese from setting up housekeeping in future. Permits are gained from the State DNR after demonstrating that you have attempted several methods to scare geese away or reduce property attractiveness to them. Special urban hunting seasons when only resident geese are present are used to reduce goose numbers. These have liberal bag limits and encourage local golf courses to permit restricted morning hunting to eliminate problem geese. Egg addling- oiling, or shaking eggs to prevent them from hatching, requires permits from state and federal wildlife authorities and, in the long term, may reduce local populations when nests are easy to find. Another effective way to reduce gosling hatching success is by nest obstruction- putting obstacles in the nest that prevent further egg laying and incubation. Large sticks or rocks can be put in nests that have 2-3 eggs in them. We found 100% success nest abandonment and prevention of recruitment in our study (Whitford 2004).

Options for Habitat Alteration to Reduce Site Attractiveness for Geese

Among the easiest ways to reduce attractiveness of corporate lawns for geese is to reduce the frequency of mowing and fertilizing. Grass that is 5-6 inches in length is much lower in protein and harder to digest than 1-3 inch grass and geese avoid eating it, if possible. Short-term sprays exist which can make grasses unpalatable to geese. Flavor aversion based chemicals are available from Bird-X, Inc. in Chicago and several other suppliers listed in the back of Smith et al 1999. Drawbacks to any of these products include the relatively high cost per acre for treatment; the need for sprayers and personnel to apply them; and the fact that they need to be reapplied after rains and mowing. Geese can also be discouraged from use of ponds and lawns in other ways. The Hershey Corporation in Hershey, Pennsylvania planted extensive prairie grasses on its new campus.

The tall grasses and flowering forbes are taller than the geese. Geese have not colonized the area and the company has reported extensive savings on lawn care as a side benefit. The same can be done on a lesser scale by planting a 30 foot width of tall grasses or dense tall perennial flowers or shrubs around the margins of ponds. Dense tall grasses or « other vegetation prevents goose movement through it, for they become nervous when they can't see over the tops of the vegetation or have a clear view of at least 10 meters (33 ft).

Options of Techniques for Dispersal of Canada geese

Visual scaring devices:

These are things such as black or orange plastic flags attached to fence posts to blow in the wind, reflective mylar tape strung around ponds and on fences, eyespot balloons and/or kites mounted on long poles, scare crows and flashing strobe lights. The newest reported forms of visual scaring devices consist of the use of lasers (Blackwell, et al. 2002) or spotlights to disturb geese night roosting on ponds.

Trained Dogs, Falcons, Swans, and Radio-controlled planes and boats:

All these methods can be very successful at removing transient geese, and migrants as long as they are available on demand on short notice. They all require specially trained personnel and often a major investment or commitment to continued control efforts.

Noise making devices:

A wide range of devices have been tried as means to scare geese over the past 50 years, particularly in agricultural fields. Sirens, air horns and whistles, fireworks, or use of carbide cannons, bangers, whistle bombs, screamer and cracker shells fired from other firearms has generally had good results with transient but not resident geese. Such approaches are suited primarily for rural use.

Distress/Alarm/Alert Calls:

Alarm and Alert calls are among the most recent sound production devices to be widely applied to goose problems. Alarm and Alert Calls released by Bird-X on the Goosebuster Unit, were recorded in the field under natural conditions and are part of the normal call collection of the giant Canada goose. Both calls elicit fairly predictable instinctive alert and/or escape responses from geese hearing playback of the calls. To date, only use of the Alarm and Alert call playback system has shown evidence of consistently successful dispersal of geese, and additionally offers evidence of preventing re-colonization of areas following resident geese dispersal, removal by transplanting, or lethal methods. Field trials (Whitford 2004) have demonstrated these aspects of use of alarm and alert calls on a Dayton area study site of a 24.2 ha (60 acre) corporate park with .2 ha (1/2 acre) pond, soccer and baseball fields, 6 buildings, and paved parking facilities for 1400 cars. It was situated between a 12 ha (29.5 acre) corporate park with .5 ha (1.2 acre) pond and an apartment complex with >1 ha (2.5 acre) manmade lake. Resident geese used all three properties, with 85-100 present on the central property and another 80-140 on the adjacent properties. Records indicated 43-45 active nests annually for the previous 5 years on the primary campus. Goose numbers required daily walk sweeping, annual re-sodding of lawns near pond margins, and caused employee complaints about extensive dropping contamination of the baseball and soccer fields, parking lots, and entryways. Facilities records for 2001 indicated 32 reports of aggression to humans, including two cases of injury requiring hospital treatment.

A combination of human harassment and Alarm and Alert call playback using digitized forms of calls originally recorded from wild and captive giant Canada in 1981 (Whitford 1987) was used to remove geese from the central corporate park property. These calls were recorded onto microchips of three "Goosebuster" units from Bird-X, Inc., Chicago IL 60607, and those units were used for this study. Digital adjustment of calls altered goose perception of the sound to foster the impression that several individuals were giving alarm or alert calls. Call units played 4 different randomized call series via four dispersed speakers at randomized times within base intervals of 1-3, 5-10, or 10-20 min, respectively. The volume controls for all units were set to normal goose call levels to avoid disturbing employees in the adjacent buildings or attracting attention to the call units. Call playback and harassment started 26 February, 2002 and continued until 14 May 2002. Thereafter only call playback was used until the study ended 15 August. The study began roughly three weeks after breeding territories were established. Since many geese present were nesting in territories they had used in previous years, I expected this to make these geese very difficult to permanently disperse with non-lethal methods.

Harassment consisted of one person chasing geese on foot until they left the property entirely. A combination of persistent pursuit and zero tolerance of geese on the grounds was considered essential in getting geese to abandon the site for the long term. To discourage nesting we placed sticks or rocks in nests to prevent laying or incubation. Evaluation of success of the alarm/alert calls and harassment technique was to be based on estimates of geese/hours/day on the property, dropping counts/100 m (109 yd) on a fixed set of 10 100 m (109 yd) segments of sidewalk, and reports of goose aggression, and injury to employees between the year before and during the study. Goose hours/day dropped from over 1800 to zero from February to May. Goose droppings per 100 m of walks, fell from a mean of 195.7 to 3.28 per 100 m between 26 February and the next counts on 24 March, a 97.88 % reduction. Pairs nesting successfully on the property declined to 0 in 2002.

There were no reports of goose aggression or injury to humans from geese in the 2002 nesting season, versus 32 and 2 reports of these problems, respectively, in 2001. The combination of call playback and harassment proved successful at eliminating all geese from the property. Reduction of goose damage to lawns was evident in that new sod required to be planted annually in 2000 and 2001 around the pond and building entrances remained dense and healthy in 2002.

As a final comment, it should be noted that no single non-lethal dispersal method can be expected to be successful at goose removal 100 % of the time. Combining and applying several dispersal methods simultaneously virtually always improves the probability of getting all geese to leave the desired property and stay gone. As yet, only use of Alarm/Alert calls has shown real potential in preventing recolonization of attractive sites by new geese once the original geese have been dispersed, translocated, or lethally removed. Therefore these devices appear to offer the best option for keeping the property clear of geese with minimal human effort once the original problem geese are gone.

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ANSI Rejects Final Appeal to Revised Ventilation Rate Procedure

ATLANTA – The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Appeals Board has rejected a final appeal of an addendum to the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers' (ASHRAE) ventilation standard.

ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 62-2001, *Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air Quality*, sets minimum ventilation rates and other requirements for commercial and institutional buildings.

Addendum 62n was approved for publication at the Society's 2003 Annual Meeting. Six appeals were filed and later denied by ASHRAE.

The ANSI Appeals Board's decision upholds a decision made earlier this year by its Board of Standards Review, which voted to deny all appeals made to ANSI, thereby upholding its earlier approval of the addendum.

The addendum specifies the determination of design ventilation rate used for application of the ventilation rate procedure. The procedure specifies ventilation rates that can be easily measured for compliance verification and allows designers to determine appropriate rates and reduce the potential for over ventilation in some densely occupied spaces, according to David Butler, P.E., committee chair. Furthermore, the standard is now focused on minimum requirements and is written in mandatory, enforceable language.

In recognition of the fact that air pollutants are generated by building occupant activities and by the building contents, the addendum bases ventilation requirements on the number of people a space is expected to hold, as well as the space's floor area, Butler said. The "additivity" procedure is used to calculate minimum outdoor ventilation requirements for a building ventilation system.

For example, in an office building, the procedure is used to determine the outdoor air requirement for each space type (offices, conference rooms, corridors, etc.), which are in turn used to determine the amount of outdoor air intake required at the air handler.

To make multiple space ventilation calculations easier for users, a spreadsheet, 62n.VRP.xls, was developed. That and addendum 62n can be downloaded for free via the "standards addenda index" shortcut on ASHRAE.org. Scroll down to the listing for Standard 62-2001.

ASHRAE, founded in 1894, is an international organization of 55,000 persons. Its sole objective is to advance through research, standards writing, publishing and continuing education the arts and sciences of heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration to serve the evolving needs of the public.

Source: ASHRAE, October 2004

Report: Poor oversight led to waste in Sept. 11 air conditioner program

By DEVLIN BARRETT
Associated Press Writer

November 1, 2004, 4:08 PM EST

WASHINGTON – Federal emergency officials didn't do enough to prevent waste and abuse of a program that provided free air conditioners to thousands of New Yorkers after Sept. 11, 2001, according to a report released Monday.

The investigation by the Department of Homeland Security's Office of the Inspector General was requested by Democratic Reps. Carolyn Maloney and Jose Serrano, of New York, after The Associated Press reported in 2003 that there were widespread problems with the \$100 million fund to help residents breathe clean air after the attack on downtown Manhattan.

The collapse of the World Trade Center produced a giant cloud of asbestos-contaminated dust, forcing the replacement of contaminated air conditioners for thousands of city residents.

Federal Emergency Management Agency officials, who ran the program with state authorities, claimed last year that about 90 percent of applications for air conditioners or air purifying units came from people who were not suffering ill effects from the collapse.

But the inspector general found that those claims were "probably overstated" and that the real number was closer to 62 percent. That high figure is partly due to the lack of safeguards in the program and unscrupulous businesses that quickly seized on the opportunity to make a buck off the government's generosity, inspectors concluded.

"FEMA and state officials took several actions ... that, while consistent with FEMA regulations, reduced managerial controls and increased the risk of abuse," the report found.

To expedite the program, which was open to anyone in the five boroughs, FEMA officials initially eliminated home inspections to verify the applicants had genuine needs. They also allowed advance payment to applicants who said they couldn't afford to buy the appliances and wait for reimbursement by the government.

FEMA and the inspector general agreed that deceptive ads by companies offering "free air conditioners" exacerbated the problems.

When the program's costs ballooned from \$15 million to \$100 million, FEMA official Brad Gair complained publicly of the supposed 90 percent abuse rate.

That announcement had the intended effect of causing many New Yorkers to drop their claims, as more than 100,000 of the original 229,000 applicants chose to withdraw from the program or did not accept the grant.

The inspector general said the agency should have instituted controls earlier.

FEMA agreed to the recommendation that, in future disaster responses, it conduct ongoing sampling of applicants to better track abuse or waste.

The agency disputed a number of the inspector general's other findings and asked inspectors to remove criticism of the agency's 90 percent abuse figure. The request was denied.

Michael Brown, who oversees FEMA, wrote that the report should "give considerably more weight to the impacts of deceptive advertising by unscrupulous vendors who intentionally misled New Yorkers into applying."

IFMA Insider

New accounting standard spurs questions

A new accounting standard proposed by the Financial Accounting Standards Board in August may have an impact on the way closed facilities are booked as Asset Retirement Obligations (AROs). Scheduled to be finalized by the end of the year, FAS No. 143 would require companies to book AROs more quickly than in the past.

Some interpreters say a loophole in the standard makes it unclear whether AROs for temporarily shuttered buildings must be booked immediately upon retirement, and along with that delay comes questions about delaying environmental responsibilities, too. A delayed ARO may mean delaying environmental clean-up and deferring the associated costs, keeping liabilities off the balance sheets.

CFO Magazine's Oct. 25 issue points out that the loophole means mothballed facilities that are not reported make it difficult for the Environmental Protection Agency, the Securities and Exchange Commission and other agencies to track violations.

From IFMA Insider, October 29, 2004

Tax bill affords commercial property owners big savings

A new corporate tax bill passed by the U.S. Senate Oct. 11 could rack up big tax savings for commercial property holders. Citing analysis and an example by the Real Estate Roundtable, *The Wall Street Journal's* Oct. 20 edition reports that changing the depreciation of improvements for tenants from a 39-year schedule to a 15-year plan makes all the difference.

For instance, an office space of 10,000 square feet with a rent of \$35 per square foot could claim a depreciation deduction of \$12,281 per year under the old plan—a tax savings of \$4,487. Under the new, 15-year schedule, the same property could claim \$33,333 in deductions each year, resulting in \$11,667 in tax savings.

The article says the benefit goes into effect once the president signs the bill, so only improvements made after that date will qualify, and the tax break is only temporary, expiring Jan. 1, 2006.

From IFMA Insider, October 29, 2004

Smart buildings getting smarter

From windows that trap solar energy for heating water to sensors that measure the level of carbon dioxide to trigger air conditioning use, new technologies and building materials are helping smart buildings get even smarter. Some of the new building materials are being developed in Europe, where the cost of energy is driving innovation and new conservation methods.

Interest in energy-efficient buildings is growing among the managers of large facilities like airports and those that use more than the norm, like laboratories. And smart building technology, formerly limited to large projects and college campuses, is now trickling down to the residential market, too, an Oct. 25 Associated Press article on CNN.com said.

The Natural Energy Laboratory in Hawaii boasts a new building that will be "a net zero energy building," using no energy from the electric grid, the article said. Piped-in sea water will cool the facility and condensation on the pipes will be used for irrigation.

From IFMA Insider, October 29, 2004

Humor Corner...A lesson in school



A 6th grade teacher wanted to teach her class a lesson about the evils of drinking, so she demonstrated an experiment that involved a glass of water, a glass of whisky and two worms. "Now, class, observe the worms closely," said the teacher putting the first worm in the water. It wiggled around in the water happily. The teacher put the second worm in the glass of whisky, and it writhed in pain and sunk to the bottom dead. "Now, what lesson have you learned from this experiment?" the teacher asked. A student in the back of the room raised his hand and said, "Drink whisky and you won't get worms."

E-mail Abuse Continues to Grow

Spam, phishing and other e-mail and internet abuses are threatening to undermine the use of the Internet. A new statistic from the International Telecommunications Union estimates that spam alone now makes up about 80 percent of all e-mail sent across the Internet. Will we be able to save the Internet?

In a recent Network World article, writer Cara Garretson examines the "epidemic" plaguing e-mail and the Internet in general. "Few users have escaped the insidious nature of spam, and more are falling victim to phishing, a growing form of online identity theft," she says. "Viruses often carry malicious code able to turn an unsuspecting user's PC into a 'zombie' that, when summoned, becomes a spam-blasting mail server."

Garretson says the Internet's problems can't be fixed easily, and while the Internet community and government regulators are working hard to find a solution, containment is the only viable solution. The use of e-mail and the Internet in business is far too pervasive, she says, to return to older forms of communication such as letter writing.

The experts Garretson interviews tell her the best way to cut down on abuse is a combination of new technology, strong legislation with serious consequences, vigorous law enforcement, end-user education and international coordination to fight the problem.

"The bottom line is that this is a global problem that affects consumers and business users worldwide, and it is going to take collaboration by everyone - leaders in the technology and other vital industries, governments and even users - to solve this issue," George Webb, business manager for the anti-spam technology and strategy group at Microsoft told Garretson. "The solution won't appear overnight, but collectively we are making great strides."



2004-2005

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DID YOU KNOW?



That a computer keyboard does, in fact, harbor more germs than a toilet seat. According to a University of Arizona study, office workstations are much dirtier than bathrooms. A computer keyboard can harbor up to 3,295 microbes per square inch, a computer mouse 1,676. Telephones were the worst culprit, with 25,127 microbes. By contrast, the average toilet seat contains only 49 microbes per square inch.