



VDI-Gesellschaft
Bauen und Gebäudetechnik

Memorandum of Understanding ASHRAE and VDI-GBG

Founded in 1894, ASHRAE, Atlanta, Georgia advances the arts and sciences of heating ventilating, air-conditioning and refrigeration to serve humanity and promote a sustainable world.

Founded in 1856, VDI is the society of German engineers. After the latest restructuring in 2009 VDI-GBG was founded within VDI, bringing together the engineers for all disciplines of the built environment, i.e. architecture, building services, civil engineering and facility management with the aim to create healthy and sustainable buildings and communities.

ASHRAE and VDI agree to support the Memorandum of Understanding to advance and promote the mutual interests of their respective members in building services. We are committed to working together toward on the following activities and goals:

CONSISTENT LEADERSHIP COMMUNICATION

Recognizing the importance of communication in organizational collaboration, both organizations commit to hold a liaison meeting annually (either in person or via conference call) of designated ASHRAE/VDI-GBG senior representatives to:

- Ensure ongoing advancement of collaborative projects.
- Keep each respective organization informed of major initiatives.
- Discuss new opportunities for collaboration.

VDI-GBG shall take responsibility for initiating the first annual liaison meeting. Action items with assigned responsibilities shall be recorded at each meeting. The parties responsible for ensuring this MOU is actively pursued through the term of the agreement are:

For ASHRAE:

Jeff Littleton
Executive Vice President
ASHRAE
1791 Tullie Circle, NE
Atlanta, GA 30329
Phone: 404-636-8400
Email: jlittleton@ashrae.org

For VDI-GBG:

Dipl.-Ing. (FH) Thomas Terhorst
Secretary
VDI-GBG
Verein Deutscher Ingenieure e.V.
VDI-Platz 1
40468 Dusseldorf
Phone: +49 211 6214-466
Email: terhorst@vdi.de

CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

Each organization agrees to provide the other with a meeting invitation and two complimentary VIP registrations to the primary annual meeting.

ASHRAE and VDI-GBG agree to explore opportunities to provide speakers at the other organization's meetings to help provide updates and perspectives on technologies and trends of mutual interest.

Where mutually beneficial, each organization shall help publicize the other organization's meetings and promote attendance.

ADVOCACY

Where mutually beneficial and to the extent allowed by laws and corporate policies, ASHRAE and VDI-GBG agree to work together on common public affairs goals and ideologies. During annual liaison meetings, public affairs strategies will be discussed and common goals identified. Collaborative opportunities to be considered include:

- Joint promotion of codes and standards.
- Promoting mutually beneficial positions. Education of lawmakers on issues important to the members of each organization.

PUBLICATIONS

Recognizing that electronic and print publications are a primary means of disseminating new technologies, trends and practices, ASHRAE and VDI-GBG agree to:

- Provide at least one complimentary subscription the primary membership periodical to be received at the headquarters location of the other organization.
- Explore opportunities to jointly produce publications of mutual benefit.
- Cross-market each organization's publications where appropriate and with industry standard distributor discounts.
- Use periodicals to promote the other organization's events, publications and other activities.
- Explore mutually beneficial ways to translate publications for member benefit.

EDUCATION

As leading providers of conventional and online educational services and in recognition of the vital role professional development has for our respective members, ASHRAE and VDI-GBG agree to:

- Cross-market educational offerings and the regional, national and international levels.
- Explore opportunities to co-develop new courses or other training programs that take advantage of overlapping and complimentary expertise between ASHRAE and VDI-GBG.
- Discuss ways that certifications programs can be jointly developed or promoted.

TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES COORDINATION

ASHRAE and VDI-GBG agree to foster technical cooperation in areas of common interest by:

- Encourage members in each organization to participate on technical committees and task forces.
- Provide opportunities to participate in and comment on proposed standards, guidelines, policies, and position statements developed on technical subjects as they relate to buildings and community developments.
- Establish liaison representatives to key technical committees where mutually beneficial to do so.

RESEARCH

Recognizing the importance research plays in accelerating the transformation to a more sustainable built environment, ASHRAE and VDI-GBG agree to:

- Promote joint research in areas where research results will add to the body of knowledge beneficial to members;
- Disseminate research results quickly, focusing on high-impact findings.
- Identify opportunities for research funding from other sources.

TERMINATION

Either party may terminate this MOU, with or without stated cause, upon providing the other party with thirty (30) days written notice of intent to terminate.

TERM

The term of this Memorandum of Understanding shall begin when signed by both parties and shall terminate at the end of three (3) years unless extended at that time by written agreement.

LEGAL STANDING

This MOU reflects a commitment by ASHRAE and VDI-GBG to continue and enhance their working relationship and individual efforts toward achieving mutual objectives described above. It does not create a binding obligation or agreement between the two organizations, and neither organization has an obligation to negotiate toward or enter into a binding written agreement. In addition, this MOU does not create a partnership, joint venture, fiduciary relationship or similar relationship between ASHRAE and VDI-GBG. Furthermore, it is understood that this Memorandum of Understanding is conceived as a dynamic document, meant to change as circumstances and priorities warrant. It may be modified or amended by written agreement between both organizations.

FOR ASHRAE

Bjarne Wilkes Olesen, Ph.D.
ASHRAE President

BWO

Signature

Oct. 6-2017

Date

FOR VDI-GBG

Dipl.-Ing. Andreas Wokittel
VDI-GBG President

A. Wokittel

Signature

06.10.2017

Date

Jeff Littleton
ASHRAE Executive Vice President

Jeff Littleton

Signature

Oct 2nd, 2017

Date



Dipl.-Wirt.-Ing. Ralph Appel
VDI-GBG Director

R. Appel

Signature

Date
