

Event:
Date:
Place:

e - Technical Seminar
Wednesday March 30, 2021



#	<p>Sonya M. Pouncy CEM, CMVP, LEED AP</p>	
Title:	Principal, Building Vitals, LLC in Detroit, Michigan, USA	
email:	sonya.pouncy@gmail.com	•
Presentation title:	HVAC System Modifications to Reduce Risks of the Transmission of Infectious Aerosols	
<p>In 2019, the world was struck by SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. At the time of this writing, the World Health Organization reports over 120 Million cases and over 2.6 Million deaths around the globe attributed to COVID-19. Like many other viruses that can be transmitted from person to person, the SARS-CoV-2 virus can be spread by several routes, including by infectious aerosols. Since most people spend more than 80% of their time indoors, HVAC system modifications that can reduce the quantity and virility of infectious aerosols in the indoor environment can lower the risk of transmission. This presentation will review four primary HVAC strategies—ventilation, air-cleaning/filtration, humidification, and system maintenance—that can be used to help the HVAC system provide better indoor air quality and reduce transmission risks for infectious aerosols.</p>		
Short CV:	<p>A degreed engineer with 20+ years of experience, Sonya began her career selling commercial HVAC equipment for Carrier. Since then, she has worked with manufacturer’s representatives, utilities and consultants. In 2020, she re-opened her consultancy, Building Vitals, which helps facility managers identify, understand and bridge the gap between where their building performance is and where they want it to be.</p>	

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CV:

Sonya M. Pouncy is a degreed mechanical engineer with 20+ years of experience in the HVAC industry. She began her career with Carrier, for which she initially developed residential furnaces and later sold chillers, air-handlers and other commercial equipment. During that time, Sonya learned strategic problem-solving, process improvement and statistical process control. Thereafter, she has consistently brought these bodies of knowledge to bear on her work. Since leaving Carrier, Sonya has worked with manufacturers' representatives, utilities and consultants. She has commissioned new construction projects, developed and managed utility rebate programs, led building energy audit teams, and developed and delivered technical training programs. In 2014, she was selected to serve as a subject matter expert to the National Institute of Building Sciences on its Commercial Workforce Credentialing Council to help improve the quality and consistency of training and certification programs for building energy auditors.

Sonya has presented at local conferences and written several blog articles on aspects of building systems' energy performance. She is a recognized developer and instructor of high-quality educational seminars on topics ranging from HVAC technologies and applications to business development through energy efficiency, the MI Energy Code (ASHRAE Standard 90.1), and—most recently—building reopening readiness.

Sonya is an active member of ASHRAE at both the local and national levels. Currently, she is the Chair of TC 7.3—the Technical Committee on Operations, Maintenance, and Cost Management and is a member of the Conferences and Exhibition Committee. Previously, she was the Region V Vice Chair for Government Affairs. Locally, Sonya is a Past President of the Detroit Chapter. In 2011 she was a member of the City of Detroit Green Task Force where she persuaded the Detroit-Wayne Joint Building Authority to participate in ASHRAE's Building Energy Quotient pilot launch. In 2020, with the approval of the Detroit Chapter Board of Governors, she established the *ad hoc* Joint MI Chapters of ASHRAE COVID-19 Task Force. As Chair of the JMAC-CTF, Sonya leads a committee of more than 25 members from Michigan's two ASHRAE Chapters. Their goal is to raise awareness of the role HVAC equipment can play in reducing risks of infectious transmissions within buildings.

Sonya earned her baccalaureate from Purdue University. In 2020, she reinstated her consulting firm Building Vitals, LLC, which helps facility managers identify, understand and implement projects to bridge the gap between where their building performance is and where they want it to be.