# CT ASPE NEWS

www.ctaspe.com

NEWSLETTER OF THE CONNECTICUT CHAPTER

Volume 15, Issue 5 January 2016


## Next Chapter Meeting

**January 27, 2016**

**Speakers**: Mr. Rob Grome

**Topic:** Backflow Prevention

**Location:** Baci Grill
**134 Berlin Road**
**Cromwell, CT**

**Time**: 6:00pm – Welcome
6:30pm – Dinner / Presentation

**Cost**: $30 per person

**RSVP**: Friday, January 22, 2016
Ph: 800-854-8924
Fax: 860-568-680
Email: rsvp@ctaspe.com
Online: www.ctaspe.com

## Inside This Issue



## President's Message

*Nicole Parker, CT ASPE President*


I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays, and were able to take some time away from work and be with family and friends. We were very lucky with the weather this year with a very warm Christmas & New Years.

I would like to thank all of those attended the Holiday party last month, there was a small group, but for those of you who did make I really appreciate it.

The attendance this season has been very disappointing and as a result we may need to find a different place to hold our monthly meetings. They hold the room at the Baci Grille each month and we are supposed to be able to provide a minimum of 20 people and we have not even come close to that in several months. If anyone has any ideas of how to get a larger group of attendees please share your thoughts with me, NicoleP@BVHis.com

## CTASPE Chapter News

### Technical Program

This month's technical presentation with be by Rob Grome of Urell on backflow preventers.
We will again be having the 50 / 50 raffle this month, it seems to be working out well and it adds a little fun to the meeting. We will also have a door prize drawing for all that attend.

### Tabletop Presenters!!!

We are in search of interested vendors that would be interested in tabletop presentations, will be charging a $100 fee for those who wish to present a tabletop of their products at the meeting.
The money for these tabletops will help keep the cost of the monthly meetings at the low $30 cost per person. I look forward to having many tabletops at our monthly meetings!

If you wish to be a tabletop presenter, please contact either myself at NicoleP@BVHis.comor Anthony Carosielli at acarosielli@silverpetrucelli.com.

### For The Future Meetings

### Sponsorship

If there is anyone interested in sponsoring any of the monthly meetings the cost would be $600. This would give the members an opportunity to come to the meeting free of charge. Again if you are interested please contact either myself at NicoleP@BVHis.comor Anthony Carosielli at acarosielli@silverpetrucelli.com.

### Special Announcement

The February 24th meeting will be sponsored by Tower Hill Sales &Trac Pipe, all Engineers, Inspectors and Contractors will be free of charge.

### Proof of Attendance

I would like to mention to all of the CPD's in the chapter to be sure to sign in at every meeting. They are auditing more people each year and it is a pain to scramble to collect all the proof of your credits. We will not be publishing in the newsletter the list of attendees, so please ask for a Certificate of Attendance if you need one. Also, if the course is a CEU accredited course you MUST sign in and out of the meeting. I will be keeping track of all of the attendance records so if anyone needs proof please contact me.Note: For our Inspector friends attending the monthly meetings, you need to be sure to sign in as well and I can email you a Certificate of Attendance.

## CTASPE Membership

As of January 2016, The Connecticut Chapter's membership is 52. Our membership breakdown is as follows:

| | Jan 16 | Dec 2015 |
|---|---|---|
| Full Members: | 33 | 33 |
| Associated Members: | 1 | 1 |
| Affiliate Members: | 16 | 16 |
| Government Members: | 0 | 0 |
| Special Members: | 1 | 1 |
| Student Members: | 0 | 0 |
| Retired Members: | 1 | 1 |
| **Total Chapter Members:** | **52** | **52** |

**Of the 52 members we have 13 PE's, 9 CPD's and 1 PE & CPD.**

### New Members

If you are a new member of ASPE, the Connecticut chapterwould like to welcome you and invite you to attend your first chapter meeting on us. All new society members will have their first chapter dinner paid for by the local chapter as a "Welcome to the Society". All you need to do is attend your first meeting and let one of the Chapter officers know, and we'll take care of the rest. Hope to see you at the next meeting.

### Chapter Treasury

The Chapter is in fair shape for our size. We need to make an effort to become in the plus each month instead of in the negative. Although we are struggling somewhat, I am proud to report that the Chapter is still able to remain self-sufficient.

I would like to say "Thank You" to all of the Chapter's membersand our Affiliates for their continued support.

## National News

### Certified in Plumbing Design exam registration is open

If you would like to join the esteemed list of plumbing engineers who hold the CPD registration, register now for the 2016 CPD exam, which is being held at testing sites around the country on March 31 and April 1. You can find information on eligibility requirements and testing centers ataspe.org/CPD. Once again this year, candidates may bring up to six reference manuals into the testing center, so go toASPE's online storeto find study guides, including the new *CPD Review Manual*, which includes a practice exam and test-taking tips. To help you prepare for the exam, ASPE is offering a revised four-part CPD Review Webinar Series, which you can view at your leisure. If you purchase the entire series by March 11, you will receive the 2015 *CPD Review Manual* for free.Registration for the series is openhttps://aspe.org/CPDReviewWebinarRegister

### Increase your green plumbing design skills at the GPD workshop

ASPE and IAPMO are holding two Green Plumbing Design (GPD) workshops this winter in Baltimore on January 18-19 and Chicago on February 22-23. At the end of the workshop participants will be afforded the chance to earn their GPD designation, which signifies professionals with advanced skills in sustainable plumbing system design. If you can't travel to either Baltimore or Chicago, ASPE is offering an online option to take the workshop on February 22-23. Registration is open at aspe.org/gpdso don't hesitate to sign up to earn your GPD designation.

### Revised sustainability standard receives ANSI approval

ASPE is pleased to announce that WQA/ASPE/ANSI S-803-2015: *Sustainable Drinking Water Treatment Systems* has been approved as an American National Standard. The revised standard includes new modules on sustainability requirements for ultraviolet treatment systems and dispensers/fountains. The revised version will be available soon at ASPE's online store.

### Want to run for the 2016-2018 Board of Directors?

The Nominating Committee is now accepting applications from members who are interested in running for one of the 12 national officer positions on the 2016-2018 Board of Directors. You can visit the following link to download the application
https://aspe.org/sites/default/files/webfm/pdfs/2015_bod_application.pdf

## Meeting Minutes

Place of meeting: Baci Grill Cromwell, CT
Date and time: December 16, 2015 @ 6:30 PM
Attendees: 12

Proceedings:

1. President Nicole Parker welcomed everyone to the Connecticut ASPE chapter December 2015 meeting and annual Christmas Party.

2. President Nicole Parker reminded members that the CT Chapter had been chosen for the host site of the 2016 Region 1 Presidents Meeting on June 3 & 4 2016. Sponsorships are being requested to help assist with the costs of the Meet & Greet and the Business Dinner meeting. She has composed a letter explaining features and benefits of this very high profile event. Copy of the letter available to any member upon request.

3. President Nicole Parker noted attendance at the recent meetings and requested any input from all chapter members as to how to increase attendance. Chapter members support and attendance is vital to continuing the monthly meetings at Baci Grill.

4. President Nicole Parker announced due to the Christmas Party there would be no technical presentation but that they would resume in January.

5. President Nicole Parker thanked all members for coming, their continued support of the chapter and wished a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all.

6. Meeting adjourned 8:35 pm.

We believe the above to be an accurate representation of the events of the evening. Should any corrections be warranted, please notify within 48 hours of receipt.

By: James B. McCauley
Administrative Secretary

**Ways to Earn CEU's**

- If you are an ASPE member **you can earn 1 free hour of continuing education every month** by visiting https://aspe.org/content/read-learn-earn (aspe.org under the education tab).
    - Every month a new article and quiz are added and one quiz expires, so if you're diligent you can earn these 24 hours without incurring any other fees and from the convenience of your home or office. I strongly recommend this option.
- **Keep detailed records of what continuing education you've completed.** I can't stress this enough. Many times people earn credits while they're employed at one firm, then change firms and can't access what they earned. Or they have trouble locating them within their email. **Make a PDF of all certificates you earn, forward a copy of them to your personal email address, etc.**
    - If you're an **ASPE member** login to aspe.org then visit https://aspe.org/CEUCenterInfo to see a log of CEUs earned through ASPE. If this method doesn't work for you create your own method but be diligent and accurate, and keep backups!
    - Proof of attendance must be kept. I'm sure you're aware of what is acceptable, but if you're not please let me know and I'll show you a sample. Many ASPE chapters award CEU certificates after monthly meetings. If they don't, have your chapter officer speak to me and we can show them how to award certificates to attendees.
    - Here are examples of what is *not acceptable* in the event you are audited: calendar invites, announcements of an event, etc. These don't show proof of attendance.
- Here's resources of all nationally recognized **continuing education opportunities**:
    - **Webinars**: https://aspe.org/WebinarArchives Most webinars are 1 hour and offer 0.1 CEUs, we offer live webinars every month and the archives are available too.
    - **Online Education**: https://aspe.org/content/online-education
    - **CEU Provider Program**: https://aspe.org/content/aspe-ceu-provider-program Many companies have signed up to become an ASPE CEU Provider and their name and courses are listed there.
    - **Read, Learn, Earn**: https://aspe.org/content/read-learn-earn Again, earn 0.1 CEUs every month for FREE (applies to ASPE members)
    - **ASPE hosted workshops**: varies throughout the year and award high amounts of CEUs.
    - **ASPE Conferences**: Odd years is the Technical Symposium and even years is the biennial Convention and Expo. Most conferences award more than half of your required CEUs and are an excellent opportunity to meet other CPDs.

**If you are interested in presenting at a CT ASPE Chapter Meeting please contact:**

**Vice President Technical:**
**Anthony Carosielli III**
Silver/Petrucelli + Associates
3190 Whitney Avenue
Hamden, CT 06518
(203)230-9007 x248
acarosielli@silverpetrucelli.com

# Technical Program

## JanuaryTechnical Program:

Backflow Prevention

The January meeting will be held on January 27, 2016 at the **Baci Grill, 134 Berlin Road in Cromwell, CT**. RSVP's can be made on the website: www.ctaspe.com.

***RSVP's need to be in no later than January 22, 2016.***
*Please note that you are still welcome to attend even if you did not RSVP.*

The technical program offered for this meeting will be***"Backflow Prevention"***, presented by Mr. Rob Grome will cover the following:

The Backflow presentation will include a review of:
-Understanding backflow conditions
-The types of cross connection
-Back-Siphonage and Backpressure
-Degrees of hazard and selection of appropriate backflow prevention
-Backflow operation and new technology

**Biographical Data:**

Rob Grome LEED AP UrellInc, Manufacturers Representative
Represents plumbing products including backflow with Urell Inc. working with the engineering community for the past 17 years.

Previously worked in the Building Materials Industry for 6 years.
Earned a Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Massachusetts.
Was a member of the U.S. Airforce as an Aircraft Hydraulics Specialist
Was also a member or the Air National Guard as a Radio Communications Technician.

Call for Presenters – www.aspe.org

## Share Your Knowledge at the 2016 Convention & Expo

If you are looking to share your knowledge and design experience with others in the plumbing industry who are eager to learn, then you need to contact ASPE to be considered for the 2016 Convention & Expo taking place in Phoenix, AZ from October 28 - November 2, 2016. ASPE is currently taking submissions from individuals who are interested in presenting technical sessions.

The Education Committee is seeking presenters who have spoken on areas such as:

- Beginner topics
  - Project composition and set up
  - Construction administration
  - Introduction to plumbing theory
  - Introduction to medical gas
  - Backflow devices - what's the difference?
  - The engineer and code official relationship
- Intermediate/advanced topics
  - Fire pump testing procedures
  - Hot water recirculation v. heat trace systems
  - Master thermostatic mixing valves v. point of use valves
  - Liabilities in construction administration and site observances
  - Diesel/gas distribution systems
  - FOG
  - Medical gas
  - High-rise design (fire, etc)
  - Project management for mid- and senior-level
- Speciality topics
  - Bulk oxygen storage and distribution
  - Industrial Vacuum
  - Legionella awareness
  - Case studies on international rainwater harvesting practices
  - High-purity water design
  - Research finding or case studies

Call for Presenters – www.aspe.org

**Share Your Knowledge at the 2016 Convention & Expo**

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Please send in your contact information (including your mailing address, email address and phone number), if you're an ASPE member, a brief professional biography about yourself or the person who would present and a description of the presentation topic which would be covered and what would be contained in the presentation. Keep in mind the following:

- Each session will be a minimum of **75 minutes** in length and you must ensure the presentations are such that they cover a topic in detail.
- These presentations need to remain **non-proprietary** in nature as the Education Sessions are about learning—not selling.

The Education Committee will review all submissions and select the topics they feel are appropriate for the conference.

Should you have any questions, please contact ASPE Education at 224-217-9016 or speakers@aspe.org. If you wish to include additional attachments for consideration please do so by email.

Please complete the form located at www.aspe.org before the February 1, 2016 deadline. **Please note: submission of your information does not guarantee acceptance to present. You will be notified by May 1, 2016 about the Committee's decision.**

## IAPMO, UA PUBLISH THIRD EDITION OF BACKFLOW PREVENTION REFERENCE MANUAL

*New edition includes expanded chapters on non-testable devices and methods, and improved, updated, and expanded testing/repair/troubleshooting information reflecting the latest products and procedures.*

In collaboration with the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry of the United States and Canada, the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials is pleased to announce the release of the third edition of IAPMO's Backflow Prevention Reference Manual.

Where the second edition, published in 2011, merged two of the industry's most relied upon training manuals — the first edition of IAPMO's Backflow Prevention Reference Manual and the UA's Cross-Connection Control Manual — this new release is updated to the latest editions of the plumbing, mechanical, and fire protection codes and standards. It also features expanded chapters with regard to non-testable devices and methods, and improved, updated, and expanded testing/repair/troubleshooting information reflecting the latest products and procedures.

"The third edition of the Backflow Prevention Reference Manual continues to build on the important collaboration between the UA and IAPMO's Backflow Prevention Institute," said Sean Cleary, vice president of BPI. "This text has become the most used reference manual in the training and certification of backflow assembly testers, repairers, surveyors, and others working in all parts of the cross-connection control industry."

This full color, illustrated reference manual is designed to teach every aspect of backflow prevention and cross-connection control, from identifying and testing the wide variety of backflow prevention assemblies to proper selection and installation of both testable assemblies and non-testable backflow prevention devices.

The tester will be able to recognize (and properly document) the symptoms of backflow prevention assembly and device failure, and provide the knowledge needed to repair and ensure that the backflow preventer is performing within industry standards. This manual provides instruction on how to recognize degrees of hazard or potential risks to potable water systems, and whether the proper backflow prevention method, device or assembly has been correctly installed.

The manual covers the history of backflow prevention; definitions and devices; backflow prevention hydraulics; testing methods with full, detailed illustrations; an overview of gauges and test kits; trouble shooting guide; cross-connection control surveys; program development; code requirements and installation standards. The manual also contains sample test questions to help prepare an individual to become a certified backflow prevention tester, surveyor or repairer.

To order a copy, visit the IAPMO online bookstore at www.iapmostore.org or call 800-85-IAPMO (854-2766).

- See more at: plumbingengineer.com

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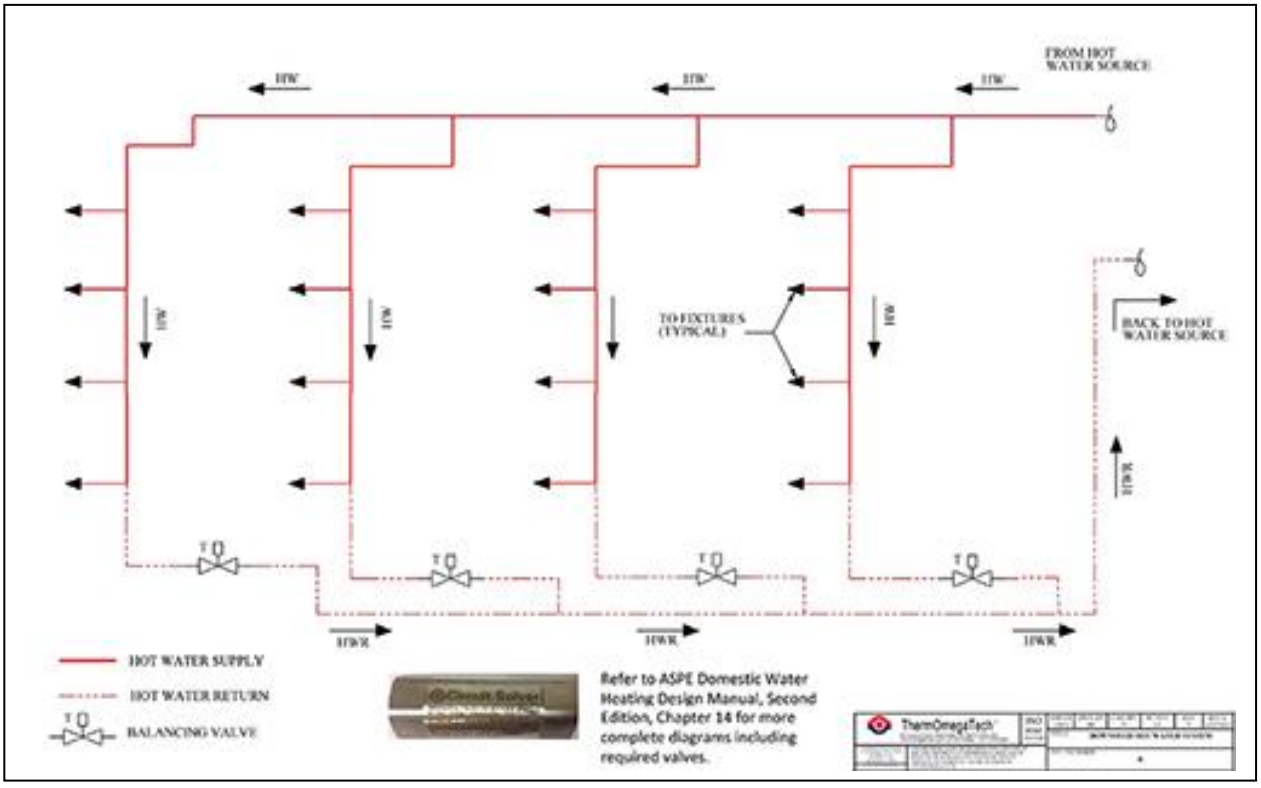
# A SIMPLE DYNAMIC SOLUTION FOR BALANCING MULTI-LOOP DOMESTIC HOT WATER SYSTEMS – PLUMBING ENGINEER.COM, DECEMBER 2015

***By Edward Saltzberg, P.E., CPD, FPE, FASPE & FNAFE***

One of the major headaches for engineers and contractors in today's complicated construction projects is properly balancing a multi-loop domestic hot water system (DHWS). Getting these systems properly balanced initially and having them stay balanced over the life of the building has, until now, been nearly an impossible job.

Furthermore, with today's emphasis on more efficient building design and better operation and management, many practices of the past are no longer adequate or acceptable. No process or system can be ignored when looking for improvements. Even the seemingly simple task of supplying domestic hot water to all areas of a building requires another look to ensure that the most current and efficient methods are being employed. In this article, we are going to take a look at DHWS, how balancing a system works, and what some of the newest trends and technologies have to offer.




Continue pg 13

DHWSs are designed to keep the hot water supply at the desired target temperature and to minimize wait times and the wasting of water at the fixtures waiting for the hot water to arrive.
Note: The correct hot water design temperatures is a separate subject as to scalding verses Legionella control and is not a part of this article.

In order to have hot water at all locations, the circulator pump must send water through the system fast enough to overcome any heat loss of the circulating piping system. To ensure this target is maintained, the engineer selects the pump and piping so that the flow rate through the system is high enough to maintain the necessary temperature, but not so high as to cause excessive noise and potential pipe erosion due to excessive velocity in the piping.

Furthermore, the engineer must remember that the temperature drop across the system is dependent on the quantity of water circulated. See the ASPE Domestic Water Heating Design Manual for further data.
Anyone who has experienced the arduous task of balancing a DHWS in a multi-branch building knows how challenging it is to do right the first time let alone maintaining balance under constantly changing conditions due to modifications in the building. It's common to hear stories of many call-backs to a building to re-adjust balancing valves since one or more branches are still not getting hot water soon enough, or not at all. Traditionally, the flow through each branch of a DHWS is controlled using manual balancing valves (See diagram). These valves are manually adjusted to set the flow in each branch to achieve the desired hot water temperature in that branch. Since the branches of a DHWS are interdependent this is a formidable and time consuming process. In some cases these balancing valves are only basic ball valves which lack the refinement to be accurately adjusted to the low flows required for this demanding task and to remain set at the proper setting over time.

In addition, many of these balancing devices are not pressure independent and, therefore, change flow with the constant changing pressure within the system. As many balancing technicians did not know the exact flow through the balancing valve, they sometimes set the valves at higher flow rates than required, resulting in larger pump circulation and higher fluid velocities. This compromises the efficiency of the system and can even lead to premature failures caused by velocity induced erosion in the piping.

Since the line pressure in various branches changes as hot water is used and manual balancing valves are not able to compensate for these changes, therefore, the "automatic" balancing valve was introduced. Automatic valves provide a fixed flow across a range of pressure drops using interchangeable cartridges that are installed into the valve body. While this is an improvement and allows the installer to set the branch flows closer to the flow specified by plumbing engineers, these are still fixed flow devices and are not able to respond to changing conditions. They require the plumbing designer to calculate necessary flows on a branch-by-branch basis. However, rather than performing all of the calculations, often a rule of thumb is used with a high safety factor, which can lead to excessive and constant overpumping. Since these valves have a small orifice they are also prone to clogging and scaling, as well.

The problems presented with these flow based solutions made it obvious that a better option was needed. A valve that responds to changing conditions to dynamically and reliably control the flow through each branch would improve both performance and efficiency of a DHWS. This need brought about development of thermostatic balancing valves, such as the ThermOmegaTech Circuit Solver Thermostatic Recirculation Valve. These valves use a paraffin wax actuator powered by changing temperatures in the water.

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By responding to water temperature it is able to adapt to changing conditions in a building. This results in a system that will self-balance and completely removes the cumbersome balancing process that has always been required. Shifting the burden of balancing a system from the installer and engineer and places it on the valves themselves. The function of these valves is simple; when the water temperature in the branch is below the specified return temperature the valve opens allowing water to flow through the line.

As the temperature rises and approaches the required return water temperature the valves begin to close until the full return temperature is met. At this point the valve will be in its "closed" position. However, the "closed" position has a designed bypass opening to ensure that there is always sufficient flow through the return system so as to never starve the pump and always keep a minimum flow in that branch.

As each branch is satisfied more water is diverted to the rest of the branches until the system is fully balanced. Once the system is balanced the thermostatic valves maintain temperature by dynamically positioning themselves and only returning water to the pump that is below the desired temperature thus creating a highly efficient, demand based system. It is a temperature controlled device solving a temperature problem.

Furthermore, the thermostatic balancing valve is able to prevent hot water from "short circuiting" through close loops if someone inadvertently or improperly readjusts a Manual Balancing Valve or if the pump quantity of water is reduced. Thermostatic valves have been gaining popularity in recent years because of their versatility and convenience, qualities which really show on complicated retrofit projects.

The constantly decreasing costs of the technologies encompassing "smart" circulator pumps and control systems have made these items increasingly common. These systems have built-in sensors and controls that enable them to monitor temperature, pressure, usage, and/or flow rate and adjust the pump to better match the changing system demands. As these types of pumps come into wider usage the differences in water flow between the various balancing valves become even more critical. Since traditional balancing valves do not adapt to changing required DHWS return water requirements, the pump alone cannot determine the fairly uniform circulation rate. However, the thermostatic balancing valves, by constantly adjusting branch flow based on actual water temperatures, works together with the smart pump to provide a dynamically responsive recirculation system.

The growing use of building automation systems to further improve the efficiency of DHWS is another significant factor that can affect the choice in balancing valves. For example, in cases where the recirculation pump and hot water heater are turned down during periods of low or no occupancy, the DHWS must be able to respond to these new conditions. Experiences have shown that fixed flow balancing valves in such systems require significantly longer start up time to bring the DHWS back to full operational temperatures, which negates some of the potential benefits of these automation systems.

In other words, "when occupancy increases in the morning, a system using fixed flow balancing valves has to be restarted significantly earlier than a system using thermostatic balancing to come back into proper balance." This is because the thermostatic balancing valve limits flow in a branch when that branch comes up to temperature and then forces the water to other branches.

As you can see, technological developments in areas as routine as DHWS balancing that normally does not get much of a second thought have come a long way over the years and can make a big difference in building efficiency and customer satisfaction. Choosing the right balancing valve and circulator pump for an application ensures a smooth installation and many years of efficient, trouble free operation. Also, always be sure to see the manufacturer's installation instructions for required valving and strainer requirements

# JOB POSTINGS

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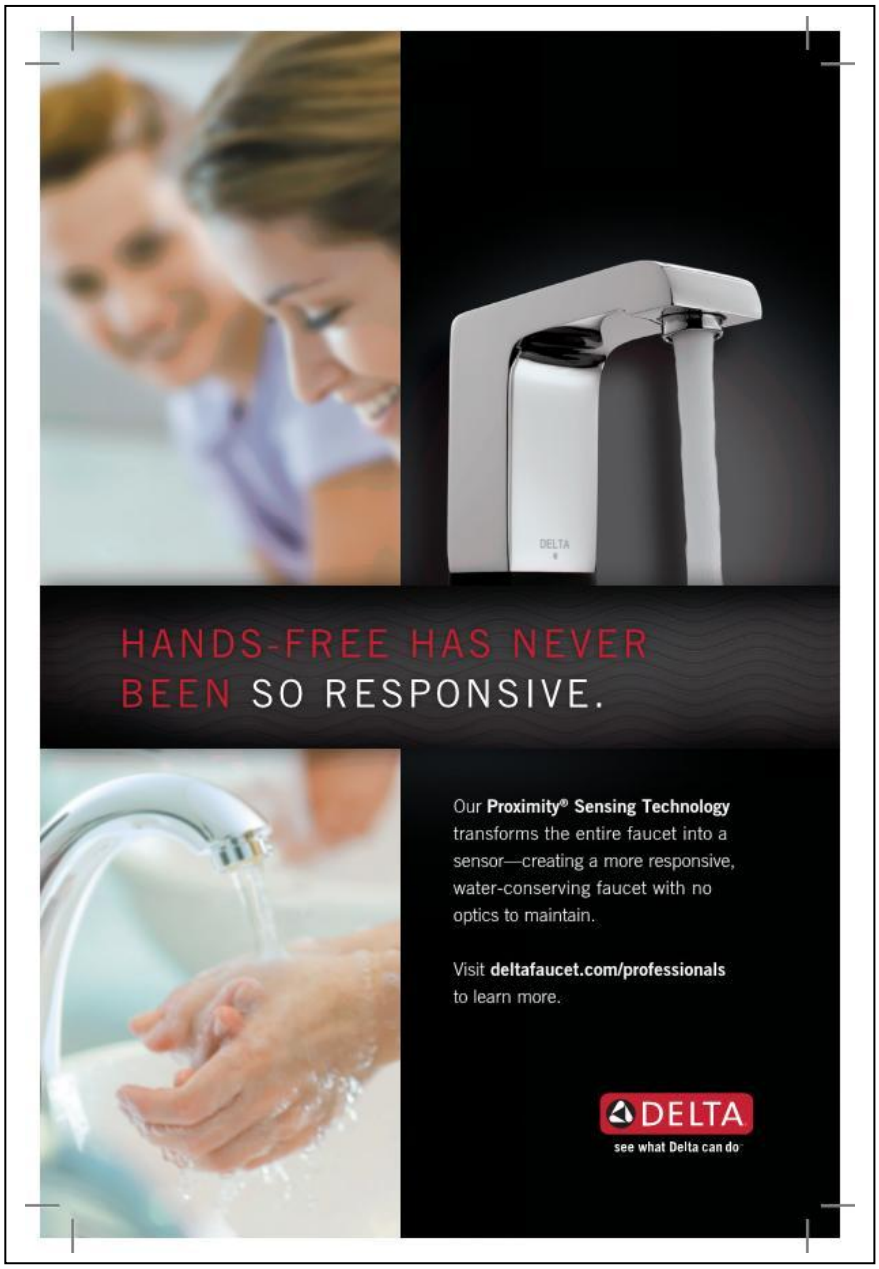
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**203-308-3294**
**jjm9544@gmail.com**

## *ASPE Connecticut Chapter Technical Program 2015-2016*

| | |
|---|---|
| October 28, 2015 | Topic: ***The Role of Insulation in Energy Efficient Design***<br>Speaker: Tom MacKinnon<br>Tabletop: Knauf Insulation |
| November 18, 2015 | Topic: ***Water Conservation in Plumbing Fixtures***<br>Speaker: John Peterson<br>Tabletop: |
| December 16, 2015 | Topic: ***CHRISTMAS PARTY***<br>Speaker:<br>Tabletop |
| January 27, 2016 | Topic: Backflow Prevention<br>Speaker: Mr. Rob Gromeand<br>Tabletop: |
| February 24, 2016 | Topic: CSST<br>Speaker: Thad Rice, Tower Hill Sales<br>Tabletop: |
| March 2016 | Topic: ***ASPE/ASHRAE***<br>Speaker:<br>Tabletop: |
| April 27, 2016 | Topic: ***NFPA 99 Medical Gas Alarm Wiring Requirements for the Plumbing Engineer NFPA 99; "What edition should you be following?"***<br>Speaker: Jay D'Agostino<br>Tabletop: |
| May 25, 2016 | Topic: ***Roof Drains – The Whole Story***<br>Speaker: Jeremy Ross<br>Tabletop: |

**All Meeting to be held at Baci Grill unless noted**

***Proposed Program topics subject to change!!!***

***Chapters are not authorized to speak for the Society***