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MAY/JUN 2019

THE NEWSLETTER OF UTAH'S HVACR INDUSTRY

153 SOUTH 900 EAST, #3 • SLC, UT 84102 • WWW.UTRMGA.ORG

Another Successful RMGA Education Summit



WEDNESDAY APRIL 10

**RMGA
EDUCATION
SUMMIT
2019**

SALT LAKE CITY - UTAH

APRIL'S RMGA EDUCATION SUMMIT was attended by 68 HVACR Contractors and Associate members! The meeting was highly informative and afforded a good opportunity for members to network, learn more energy code, and to forge new industry connections. Raffle prizes went to a third of all attendees, who each earned 6 hours of continuing education.

We were encouraged by how well the RMGA Sponsored Apprenticeship program was received, with all the information packets picked up by interested members. And Jeff Bybee with Dominion Energy was our keynote speaker, who shared Dominion's gratefulness for RMGA's willingness to bring certification testing and training to HVACR Contractors in Southwestern Wyoming.

Thanks go out to our speakers and sponsors for making the Summit a big success.

GOLD: UT Energy Code Training and Federated Insurance

SILVER: Larry H Miller Ram Riverdale Commercial Sales

BRONZE: Brigham Heating & Cooling



Ryan Rentmeister
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801-807-9901

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

RYAN RENTMEISTER

Dear RMGA Members & Friends,

What a great experience to be part of the Education Summit. I am grateful to be able to rub shoulders with such a great group of people. We were well educated in many areas of our business. It is always a treat to hear from Mark Knold from DWFS on the economic outlook. Codes are always changing. I am thankful for Brent Ursenbach for keeping us up to date. Dean Dyatt did a great job in technical training. And to all the others it was great. My only regret is that we are missing a lot of the industry. We need all our members in attendance. We missed you.

I am also excited about our kick off meeting in Wyoming. We will soon expand to provide dealers in Wyoming some great training and needed certification. I will have a better report next month after our kick off meeting.

We need additional members to help with committees. Come join us and change the industry for the better.



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KEATON WEST
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keaton@yphwy.com



**WELCOME
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MEMBERS!**

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1432 South 580 West
Woods Cross, UT 84087
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801-589-5443

TIM RIDENHOUR (First WY member!)

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233 Mail Street
Evanston, WY 82930
tim@tomshvacllc.com
307-789-8894

RMGA GAS CERTIFICATION CLASSES

Thank you
St. George for hosting an
RMGA Training in April with
21 people in attendance!

CALL 801-521-8340 TO REGISTER

Salt Lake City

Friday, May 10
Saturday, May 11 &
Saturday, May 18
8 am - 5 pm

All classes will be held at:
Dominion Energy
CTC Training Room
1000 West 100 South, SLC, UT

Salt Lake City

Thursday, July 11,
Friday, July 12 &
Saturday, July 13
8 am - 5 pm

All classes will be held at:
Johnstone Supply
2940 South 300 West
SLC, UT 84115

Salt Lake City

Thursday, September 12,
Friday, September 13 &
Saturday, September 14
8 am - 5 pm

All classes will be held at:
Johnstone Supply
2940 South 300 West
SLC, UT 84115

Gas Certification Classes price: \$400

Price includes the RMGA Study Guide, IFGC Book, online videos, instruction and lunch all 3 days, one testing fee and two attempts at exam* (if necessary). *New Pre-test evaluates technician readiness.

Important RMGA Certification Class Info

Effective with the July 2019 RMGA Certification Class, the 3-day class will be taught consecutive days: Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

- HVAC technicians will have a 4 hour time limit to complete the RMGA Certification Exam.
- A basic understanding of geometry is very beneficial to succeeding on the exam, as is, our pre-test which is available on our website.
- Free exam retakes are limited to six months from the last date of your class. For example, if the last day of your class is June 16th, you have until December 16th, 2019 to use your retake voucher.
- A technician can Audit the class (bring their RMGA training materials) for \$150. If the RMGA Study Guide is prior to September 2018, the updated tabs and pages are an additional \$25, plus any required testing fees.
- Cancellations within a week of class incur a \$125 fee. Before that date, you can cancel and receive a credit, not a refund, towards a future class. Reminders about the class are sent out 10 days before.

Partial funding of RMGA training programs have been provided by the Division of Occupational & Professional Licensing from the 1% surcharge funds on all building permits.

MECHANICAL CODE DISCUSSION

Existing Common Vents in Multi-Family Buildings



BRENT URSEBACH

BRENT URSEBACH

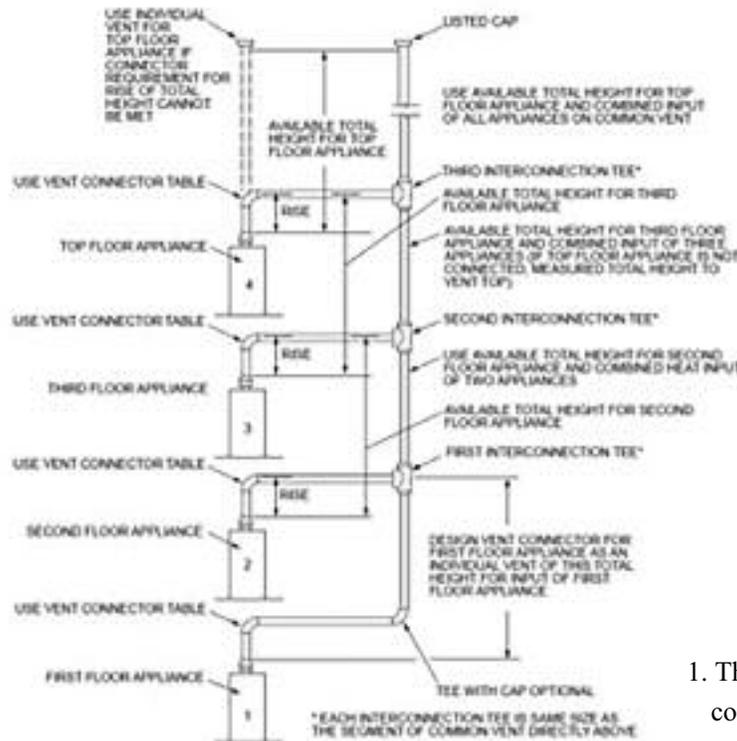
HVAC EDUCATOR/
EXPERT WITNESS

bursenbach@gmail.com
385-468-6694

MANY OF YOU HAVE contacted me with questions on how to legally perform a furnace replacement, with an old standing pilot, natural draft furnace, in an existing apartment project, with common vents, and furnace room access from within the apartment/ dwelling unit. The issue of course is the required vent system upgrades where an 80% AFUE furnace replaces a natural draft 65% or lower efficiency furnace.

While working at Salt Lake County, I was pulled into a situation where the gas company had shut off a 76-year-old widow's furnace, simply because it was tied into a common vent. The story ended up on Gephardt, an experience my employer required me to go through, which I did *not* enjoy. <https://kutv.com/news/get-gephardt/shut-off-how-new-safety-standards-could-leave-you-without-heat-in-your-home>

The International Fuel Gas Code, states: “**503.6.11.1 Appliance separation.** *Appliances connected to the common vent shall be located in*



rooms separated from occupiable space. Each of these rooms shall have provisions for an adequate supply of combustion, ventilation and dilution air that is not supplied from an occupiable space.”

If the furnace and water heater are located in a room off an exterior deck, there is no issue. The new furnace maybe be connected to the existing B-vent, when proper vent connector and vent sizing is compliant with current requirements. If the furnace/water heater room is not separated from the occupiable space, we have a problem.

This year, the 2019 Legislature

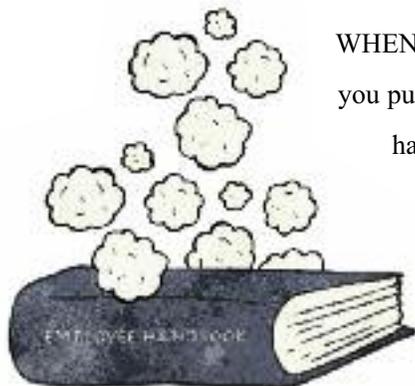
approved an amendment to this section of the code, put forth by the UBCC Mechanical Advisory Committee which I chair, allowing furnace and water heater replacements in these situations, but only if all the following requirements are met. The amendment reads:

Exception: Existing and replacement Category I appliances may be located in rooms within the occupiable space provided all the following are met:

1. The original installation was compliant with existing codes at the time of installation.
2. The dwelling is equipped with a current, operable carbon monoxide detector, installed in accordance with Section 915 of the International Building Code.
3. The AHJ has approved a replacement based on the extreme difficulty of an installing individual Category I vent system or a direct vent Category IV appliance.
4. The room or space is used for no other purpose.
5. Combustion air is provided in accordance with Section 304.



DO Judge Your Book by the Dust on the Cover



WHEN IS THE LAST TIME you pulled out your employee

handbook? If it has been a

while, it is likely time to review it.

Does it surround topics like

marijuana, the e-cigarette, and social

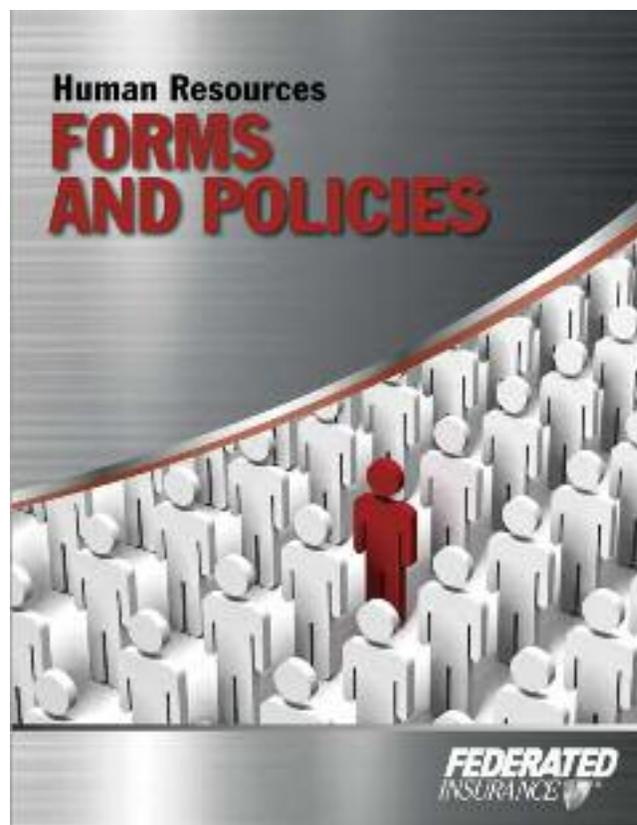
media policies? Do you have a digital copy that is easy (?) for employees to access?

Your company handbook essentially serves as a rulebook for your employees. Not only should it define general policies like vacation, holidays, and retirement, but it can also be your first line of defense in an employment-related claim or lawsuit. Policies that are clear and distributed uniformly to employees may not prevent a claim or lawsuit, but can help establish a record of sound employment practices in your business. Handbooks that are outdated or incorrectly worded, however, can hurt an otherwise defensible situation.

Additional Resource: Whether you need to build an entire handbook from scratch, build a single policy, or update relevant sections of your current handbook, we can help you

get connected to the tools you need.

Federated insureds have access to a handbook builder on the Federated Employment Practices Network. To access the network, contact Federated's agent Jim Brown at jcbrown@fedins.com.



It's
Your
Business

Where outdoor combustion air is provided, the room has a solid weather-stripped door equipped with an approved self-closure device.

6. Common vents terminate with a listed cap.

Please note, you cannot simply

replace the furnace. You and the AHJ (authority having jurisdiction) or building inspector must agree it will be extremely difficult to install a new **individual** Category I (B-vent) or to install a direct vent Category IV appliance. Additionally, there must be a CO detector on every level the dwelling unit, proper combustion air, and a list

vent top. The mechanical contractor installing the new furnace or water heater must insure compliance with every requirement defined in this amendment.

Contact me if you have any questions.

Best regards —Brent ■

Meet and Get to Know: JIM BROWN



JIM BROWN

Q. Tell us about your company?

A. When a group of farm implement manufacturers had

difficulty obtaining insurance in 1904, they formed a mutual company and began sharing each other's risks. This is still our structure today, which allows us the philosophy that we believe our value is measured by the success of Federated Insurance clients.

Q. What is your position within the company?

A. I am an Account Executive in our Association Risk Management Services (ARMS), working directly with our partner associations, such as the RMGA, to provide services and resources for their members.

Q. If you weren't with Federated Insurance, what would you like to be?

A. I'm not sure, but it would include elements of what I do now: helping people be successful and educating them on best practices.

Q. What was your most unusual work experience?

A. Oh my... pretty sure some should not be shared! When you're someone that goes out and walks through doors of companies you've never been to or met before, you have some crazy happenings!

Q. What are your favorite aspects of your job?

A. Seeing people make decisions and commitments to bettering their company. Being able to help someone implement solid business practices that maybe they've just never known before is always a rewarding experience. Running a business is tough work, and it's crucial in this day and age to do the right things to protect it.

At the end of the day, we're all in the people business, so helping people, meeting people, solving problems with people... those are my favorite things.

Q. What is a motto that you live by?

A. Nearly everyone is trying to do the best with what they've got, so find a way to add value or improve their situation

and they may, in turn, help someone else improve theirs. In short, always leave a person/situation/scenario in a better place than when you arrived to the best of your ability.

Q. If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go?

A. Europe. Specifically Ireland, England, Scotland, and Italy.

Q. What is your favorite hobby and when did you last do it?

A. Snowboarding. It has been a couple years, sadly, but my wife and I have already committed to getting the whole family up to the hill this coming season!

Q. What is your hidden talent?

A. Information analysis. Always been really good at organizing data and thinking of new ways to sift through it and see it.

Q. If you won a \$50,000,000 dollar lottery, what would you do?

A. Funny... I've actually thought about this to help align what my true desires are

in life, and I think I'd continue doing what I do with Federated in helping people. There would also be a LOT more travel with my family, giving my kids the opportunity to see many different cultures across the world.

Q. Do you have a favorite movie?

A. I do. It's *Braveheart*. Hands down. If you're asking favorite comedy, though, it's *Robin Hood: Men in Tights*. Haha!



JIM BROWN & FAMILY

Q. If you could invite any three people to dinner (dead or alive), whom would you invite and why?

A. King Solomon (Israel) due to his incredible discernment and wisdom; Abraham Lincoln because he knew how

to befriend just about anyone; and Alexander the Great because of his incredible strategic mind

Q. People would be surprised to know...

A. I'm very musical and have been a church music leader for 15+ years, singing and playing guitar & drums.

Jim Brown can be reached at jcbrown@fedins.com or 509-539-4197. ■

DAVISTECH

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MAY 16, 2019
 10-11 AM - Student Tours
 HVAC Classroom/Room 1009/1013A
 11 AM-1 PM - Employer Tours and Lunch
 Davis Tech Rotunda/Student Commons

RSVP to Alex Johnson at 801-503-2399 or alex.johnson@davistech.edu



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