



TALKING POINTS ON THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HEATING, REFRIGERATING AND AIR-CONDITIONING ENGINEERS, INC. (ASHRAE) POSITION DOCUMENT ON SECOND-HAND SMOKE

- The new policy of ASHRAE supporting smoking bans to eliminate second-hand smoke is much stronger than previous positions on second-hand smoke. ACS applauds ASHRAE's efforts to put the health of the public first and not to mislead the public into thinking that ventilation can eliminate second-hand smoke.
- ASHRAE is a professional membership organization that provides leadership, information, standards, guidelines, and professional resources to its members and the community in the areas of heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration.
- ASHRAE's June 2005 position statement concluded the following:
 - Smoking bans are the only way to eliminate health risks from second-hand smoke exposure.
 - No engineering approaches, including dilution ventilation, "air curtains" or air cleaning, control or significantly reduce the health risks of second-hand smoke.
 - Isolation of second-hand smoke in one room can only be accomplished by: airflow and pressure control, separate ventilation systems, exhaust air control and airtightness of physical barriers and connecting doorways between rooms.
- ASHRAE has requested that its members educate and inform their clients of the limited use of engineering for second-hand smoke control.
- ASHRAE has recently adopted two policy statements:
 - ASHRAE's documents and activities "shall consider health and safety impacts."
 - ASHRAE will not set ventilation requirements or claim to provide acceptable indoor air quality in smoking spaces.
- ASHRAE recognizes that:
 - Cognizant authorities, including the U.S. Surgeon General, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the National Research Council, the California Environmental Protection Agency, and the National Toxicology Program, have determined that second-hand smoke causes significant disease.
 - No acceptable exposure level of second-hand smoke has been identified.

The above information was summarized from: Environmental Tobacco Smoke, Position Document, June 30, 2005. American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc. Accessed on October 13, 2005 at http://www.ashrae.org/content/ASHRAE/ASHRAE/ArticleAltFormat/20058211239_347.pdf.

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