

Welcome back! Most of you have received airfAQS for years and enjoyed insightful features and late-breaking information about indoor air quality. As we move forward in an era of new technology and new environmental strides, we want to be sure that our communications with our customers and prospects continue to offer insightful, cutting-edge information in a manner that is both interesting and convenient for subscribers.

The “new and improved” airfAQS reflects changes in the issues you care about and in the way we communicate. airfAQS will now be available via email. We think you will enjoy receiving airfAQS in this convenient, easy-to-read manner, which will offer summaries of stories and links to full articles, allowing you to quickly find the content that interests you most. We’ve included a perforated card in this issue which you can simply complete with your preferences and return.

The new airfAQS will feature the same great technical features exploring important issues about indoor air quality. In addition, we’ll keep you up to date on exciting happenings at AQS, upcoming events in IAQ, and the latest real-life examples of how IAQ is impacting businesses of all kinds.

You won’t want to miss out on this important information! As always, thank you for your interest in Air Quality Sciences and your commitment to supporting good indoor air quality!

Sincerely,



Marilyn Black, Ph.D.
CEO, Air Quality Sciences

Legislative Update

Mold Still Reigns in 2004 as Top IAQ Issue for State Legislators. With the 2004 state legislative season fully underway, “toxic” mold still reigns as the top indoor air quality (IAQ) issue for state legislators. More than 50 percent of all the proposed IAQ legislation being considered in 27 states addresses concerns about mold in [page 2](#)



FROM THE FIELD

Water event puts AQS to the test in its own building

Water problems can happen in any building, at any time. We often talk about cases in other buildings where AQS consultants are called in to provide expertise. But in this case, our attentions were required in-house when a water intrusion event occurred in our very own corporate office. A fitting connecting the water filtration system came loose one evening after hours, dumping water into the building overnight.

Quality Manager, James Halsey, arrived at work on December 22nd to find that water had collected an inch deep, all the way from the environmental [page 2](#)

INSIDE AIR

Studies say improved indoor air quality yields gains in productivity and health

Historically, private industry and many public agencies do not recognize the full economic value of providing good indoor air quality (IAQ). Results of hundreds of studies and reports have demonstrated a significant and causal correlation between improving the indoor environment and gains in productivity and health.

Perhaps one of the strongest arguments for improving IAQ is building tenants and office workers [page 3](#)



AQS happenings

AQS welcomes Dr. Stephany Mason to the Product Evaluations team. AQS is pleased to welcome Dr. Stephany Mason to the product evaluations team. A Ph.D. in earth and environmental sciences with experience in both research and commercial laboratories, Stephany will serve as Technical Manager at AQS. In this capacity, she will oversee all environmental chamber testing and reporting for customers that are testing their products to the GREENGUARD Indoor Air Quality Certification standard. If you’d like to learn more about Stephany, please visit www.aqs.com. [page 4](#)

For the full story go to www.aqs.com

Water event puts AQS to the test in its own building

continued from page 1

chambers laboratory to the main hall of the building. Armed with a general awareness of initial steps for dealing with a water problem, he got right to work. After safety precautions were in place, Halsey proceeded with efforts to get the water out of the building. He also sorted items, removing salvageable goods that could be wiped off, and throwing away porous materials like upholstered furniture, carpet, and other saturated items.

Management assigned one of AQS' own building consultants, David Ingram,

to survey the damage and check for mold growth. Ingram began by taking Tramex moisture meter readings around the building to determine which areas of wallboard were still wet. Forty-eight hours after the event, the team began selective destructive testing. Holes were cut into the wallboard, revealing visible mold growth. A combination of tape lifts and fungal detectors were used to determine the extent and nature of mold growth.

Belfor, an experienced remediation firm, came in to perform remediation. AQS had already written protocol for the remediation. The contamination called for level three containment, so Belfor immediately set up a fully contained,

negatively pressurized area. All contaminated materials were removed following the specified protocol. Janet Wang, the AQS consultant in charge of remediation oversight, and her team continued sampling using spore traps, and Belfor continued to conduct fine dust cleaning until the containment passed clearance on January 26th.

If you are interested in the details of this case study, go to www.aqs.com. To learn more about AQS' building consulting services and how we can help with your mold, chemical, or other indoor air quality problem, please contact the Customer Care Group at (770) 933-0638 x252.

Did you Know ?

With a proven 15-year track record of solving complex indoor air quality issues, AQS is the industry leader in providing due diligence for real estate transactions; resolution of sick building syndrome, occupant complaints, mold and chemical contamination; corrective strategies; and development of IAQ management plans that create healthy buildings. We also provide product evaluations and emissions testing to help manufacturers produce low emitting products. Contact us at 1-800-789-0419 to learn more about how we can help you create better indoor environments!

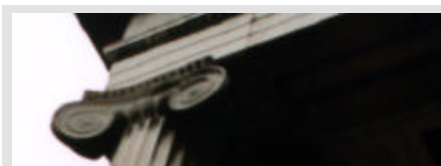
Legislative Update

continued from page 1 **Mold Still Reigns in 2004 as Top IAQ Issue for State Legislators**

indoor environments. Legislatures also are focusing on IAQ in schools and in public buildings.

Some had predicted a much busier year with respect to IAQ legislation, but these predictions have not materialized. In fact, 2004 is keeping pace almost step for step with 2003, with some 60 proposed bills being considered in 25 states as compared with 27 states in 2003.

Overall New York leads with 10 bills, followed by Illinois with 6 bills and Massachusetts with 5. Last year, Connecticut and Texas led the pack. Presently, Connecticut has only one IAQ-related bill pending, and Texas is out of session this year. Thus far, only one piece of IAQ legislation has passed. Virginia House Bill 824 requires a landlord to sign a contract stating there are no visible signs of mold in the dwelling. If during the move-in or prior to the move-in date, the tenant sees mold, the contract may be terminated.



More than 50 percent of all the proposed IAQ legislation being considered in 27 states addresses concerns about mold in indoor environments

Twenty states are working on mold-related legislation, covering a wide range of issues. As in 2003, legislators are placing a strong emphasis on training and licensing of mold investigators and remediators. Also being considered are bills that would authorize studies of exposure to mold and associated health impacts, establishing of permissible exposure

limits (PELs) and exposure standards, and remediation guidelines and standards. Other bills address public education and insurance and real estate concerns, with an eye towards protecting consumers.

Ten states are addressing a variety of school IAQ issues, including standards and guidelines; IAQ inspections and handling of complaints; IAQ management plans; and funding school IAQ initiatives.

Five states have pending legislation targeted at improving IAQ in public buildings. Massachusetts has the most bills in the works, although only one has moved since their introduction in 2003. The issues these bills tackle include tax incentives, building ventilation rates, guidelines and standards, and disclosure of IAQ hazards.

To view an in-depth overview of this proposed legislation, visit Aerias, a comprehensive online resource for IAQ information and education ([ww.aerias.org](http://www.aerias.org)). Aerias operates in technical partnership with Air Quality Sciences.

— We'd like your feedback —

Our objective with airAQS is to provide you with the most insightful, up-to-date information about indoor air quality in a format that works for you! To help us serve you better, please complete this postcard and send it back to us. It is an easy way for you to provide us with your correct contact information, to request airAQS via email, or to unsubscribe to airAQS. Simply fill in your contact information and check the appropriate boxes or write your comments and drop this pre-stamped card in the mail to us. We'll respond as appropriate. Thanks again for your interest in AQS. We look forward to hearing from you!

ART FROM USPS

GET THE INFORMATION YOU WANT,
the way you want it!

INSIDE AIR

Studies say improved
indoor air quality yields
gains in productivity
and health



Continued from page 1

believe indoor environmental quality (IAQ, lighting, comfort) are among the most important components of job satisfaction. Further, some tenants are willing to pay more in rent to obtain benefits from intelligent buildings, including enhance building controls, ventilation and IAQ.

The study, What Office Tenants Want: 1999 BOMA/ULI Office Tenant Survey Report, analyzed 1800 office tenant surveys in 126 metropolitan areas. The study, conducted by the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) and the Urban Land Institute (ULI), found that 94 percent of those responding to the survey ranked indoor air quality as among the "most important" tenant comfort features.

Insurance companies also are embracing the concept that helping employees stay healthy and productive is good for business. The insurance industry, for example, estimates that corporate wellness programs can give employers a 50 percent to 400

percent return on investment on health care costs. Most employers with more than 50 workers have some kind of program, saving \$1.49 to \$4.91 on each dollar spent. These figures clearly illustrate the financial value of encouraging employees to live healthier life styles while helping to manage chronic disease. As indoor air pollutants can significantly impact chronic diseases, such as allergies and asthma, it makes sense for employers to invest in good IAQ as a part of providing a healthier place to work.

An in-depth review of some of these studies and more about the economics of IAQ may be found on Aerias (www.aerias.org), AQS' indoor air quality resource center. For more information on AQS and our planning and prevention services and how we can help designers, architects and construction professionals create healthier indoor environments, please contact the Customer Care Group at (770) 9330-0638 x252.

Did you know airAQS is now available via email: it's easy, convenient and paperless! Just complete this form, check your preferences, and drop it in the mail to us or visit www.aqs.com and register online.

Name _____
Title _____
Company _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email _____
Comments _____

- please send me airAQS and AQS information via email
- please have someone from AQS contact me, I'd like to learn more!
- please correct my contact information in your database
- please remove me from your distribution list

Questions? Contact us at: (770) 933-0638 or Info@aq.com



AQS happenings

AQS shows its commitment to science and the community through SciTrek sponsorship. Air Quality Sciences is proud to be a sponsor of SciTrek, a hands-on science and technology museum located in the heart of Atlanta. AQS joined SciTrek staff and fellow supporters for the annual fundraising gala, "The Magic of Science," on November 1st in celebration of SciTrek and its upcoming programming for 2004. As a pioneer in innovation and technology, Air Quality Sciences appreciates the need for strong leaders in science and supports the community in fostering interest in science and technology among young people.

AQS alters presentation of spore trap data. AQS has modified the presentation of data on all spore trap reports. Previously, AQS presented spore trap data in the form of raw counts and concentrations (in particles/m³) for each taxon. New reports present the percentage of total spores for each individual taxon in a spore trap sample in addition to the information provided in the old reports. New reports also contain taxonomic information in groupings such as "leaf surface/outdoor taxa" and "soil mold taxa." If you have any questions about the new reports, please contact the Customer Care Group at (770) 933-0638 x252.

