



The most recent educational event held by SELACACI was on October 29, 2014 at the Local 60 Plumbers Hall in Metairie, La. The program was “Code Changes for 2015: Moving from the 2006 to the 2012 Residential Code & Adopting the 2009 Energy Code” which was presented by Tim Pierre, HVAC Inspector for Jefferson Parish, and SELACACI Co-Founder. The meeting attracted about 140 attendees that included HVAC contractors, building officials, HVAC supply house representatives, and home performance specialists. St. Pierre’s presentation focused on upcoming changes to the building codes, for new and existing construction, as Louisiana implements the 2012 Mechanical section of the International Residential Code (IRC) as well as the 2009 IECC (Energy Code) on January 1, 2015.

The most significant changes involve the building thermal envelope, controlling infiltration of the envelope, and testing its integrity. For the HVAC industry, this most notably affects the testing of all new HVAC systems for tightness with duct blaster equipment. These tests can be conducted by a certified third party (such as a RESNET or BPI professional) or must be performed by the HVAC contractor with a building inspector present. Additional requirements relate to calculating duct sizing (in addition to heatloads), mechanical ventilation for tight building envelopes (per ASHRAE 62.2), insulation over attic access doors, and whole house air leakage inspection or testing.

Michael Wich of the South Central Planning Commission (based in Houma) elaborated on how his organization is taking a lead on enforcement of the new duct testing rule. Most code agencies are currently undergoing the necessary procedural planning related to implementation of the new codes. Officials from Orleans, Jefferson, St. Tammany parishes attended.

Prior to the presentation, the SELACACI membership voted to install new leadership for the next year, with Dusty Goforth (Dusty’s Service, Mandeville) as President and Barry Hays (Joval Manufacturing, Jefferson) as Vice President. Audrey Evans will continue on the Executive Committee as Secretary. A survey polled the membership on educational topics most needed. The HVAC Insider & SELACACI.org will announce future events, & anyone interested can be added to SELACACI’s email listserv upon request. PowerPoint slides from the Code presentation, including Louisiana amendments to the code, will be posted at SELACACI.org in the Resources section.

Submitted by Barry Hays, SELACACI Vice President

11/5/14