Dear NEBB Members:

On June 10th, 2011, a joint letter was sent to NEBB and ASHRAE members highlighting our common goal of improving building performance. That letter indicated we were considering consolidating our two organizations as a means to reach this goal. The main purpose of the letter was to include everyone in the discussion and we asked that you send questions and comments to info@nebb.org or call the National Office at 301-977-3698. Your comments and questions can still be sent to that email address or through that phone number, and we will hold two Town Hall meetings at the Annual Convention on Friday and Saturday morning in Savanna, GA to provide you with updates, solicit your input, listen to your concerns and answer your questions.

First, I thank all those who have participated in the discussion so far! We have not been able to respond to each comment but rest assured all comments are being shared with each Board member. Your input is exactly what we need as we move forward.

I would also like to confirm that no action has been taken by the Board other than to explore various possibilities of working with ASHRAE. We are very early in these discussions. In fact, we are so early in the discussions that many of you asked questions for which we do not have answers. We apologize for the lack of information in our first letter but felt it was critical to have an open, transparent discussion with all members of both organizations even if we did not have all the answers yet.

The most common question asked is: “why?” Both organizations share a belief that most buildings do not meet their potential. Our discussions have always been focused on how we make all buildings deliver high performance. The thought was that joining our two, strong organizations would create a nucleus that would drive true high performance. We also agreed that to reach our goal, more organizations than just NEBB and ASHRAE would need to be involved.

Based on the input we received from NEBB and ASHRAE members, the negotiating team has recommended to the NEBB and ASHRAE boards that we reach out into our industry to gather input and support from other organizations. Instead of focusing on a NEBB/ASHRAE consolidation, we are now working to build a coalition of organizations that together can influence and shape building practices to deliver buildings that consistently perform as designed. Over the next few months we will be discussing our goals and the best path to reach those goals with other likeminded organizations.

Your continued input is critical so please share your thoughts on how we can act boldly on reaching the goal of making every building perform at its highest potential. You can email your comments to info@nebb.org or call 301-977-3698.

Respectfully yours,

Bill Neudorfer

NEBB President