



International Code Council
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Pandemic Task Force – Mechanical/Plumbing/Electrical (MPE) Working Group April 15, 2021 Webex Meeting Minutes

Working Group Members

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|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eli P. Howard - Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tim Washington | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Jensen (Maggie Carroll) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bryan Holland - Vice Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jonathan Wilson | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Maglievaz |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Esber Andiroglu | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Peterson | <input type="checkbox"/> Matthew Peacock |
| <input type="checkbox"/> John Catlett | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Niki Lemin | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Austin Perry |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Ericson | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rich Anderson | <input type="checkbox"/> Jason Root |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jonathan Flannery | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dan Buuck | <input type="checkbox"/> Shawn Smitter |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geoff Hanmer | <input type="checkbox"/> Alastair Chapman | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paul Taft |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jatinder Khokhar | <input type="checkbox"/> Jon Crittenden | <input type="checkbox"/> Nadja Tremblay |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matt Sigler | <input type="checkbox"/> Rebecca Fugitt | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ted Williams |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Steele | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tara Henderson | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hassan Younes |

- ICC Staff**
- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Roberts, ICC Staff Liaison | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shawn Strausbaugh, ICC Staff Liaison |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Cika, ICC Staff Liaison | |

Minutes for the PTF – Mechanical/Plumbing/Electrical (MPE) Working Group Webex Meeting held April 15, 9:00 a.m. EDT.

Agenda

1. Welcome/Introduction (Eli Howard)

Opening remarks from Eli welcoming the group.

- Goal today is to discuss project scope and each members interests.
- We are looking at developing a best practices piece. Focus on getting information together in this regard.

2. Roll Call (Jim Cika)

Jim conducted the roll call. Nineteen working group members were in attendance.

3. Scope discussion/interests

Eli provided his thoughts on what he would like to accomplish with the working group.

- He would like to get idea of what the Task Force would like us to layout for our scope of work, what our table of contents might look like for the development of the section related to MPE and exactly all the pieces we'd like to cover there; whether existing structures, new structures or combination of both.
- He would like the group to look at this from the perspective of best practices, and not with the aspect as this is the only way you can design something. We should give options for what they can do for their particular building, or situation.



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Jim provided additional feedback based on previous communications with Neil Burning as to further goals we should accomplish during this meeting. We need to understand each WG members interests as they relate to Mechanical, Plumbing and Electrical, and break down member assignments into each of these areas.

Eli suggested that each WG member discuss their expertise and interests, and that we could then break the WG into subgroups moving forward. Each WG member provided an overview of their background and interests on the WG, summarized as follows:

Eli Howard - Chair	Mechanical	Niki Lemin	PTF Chair, monitoring only
Esber Andiroglu	Mechanical, Plumbing	Rich Anderson	Plumbing, Mechanical
Steve Ericson	Mechanical, Plumbing	Dan Buuck	Mech., Plumbing, Electrical
Geoff Hanmer	Mechanical (Ventilation)	Tara Henderson	Mechanical, Plumbing
Jatinder Khokhar	Electrical	Chris Jensen	Electrical, Mechanical
Matt Sigler	Plumbing	Robert Maglievaz	Mechanical (IAQ)
John Steele	Mechanical	Austin Perry	Environmental Health
Tim Washington	Plumbing	Paul Taft	Mech., Plumbing, Electrical
Jonathan Wilson	Mechanical (IAQ)	Ted Williams	Mechanical (IAQ)
Tom Peterson	PTF Chair, monitoring only	Hassan Younes	Mech., Electrical, Plumbing

- Steve Ericson added that John Crittenden, Jason Root, and Shawn Smitter, who were not on the call today, will provide operational and maintenance expertise to the group.
- Based on the information provided, Eli has an idea of how to break the groups up and will work with Jim offline to develop the subgroups.

Jatinder referenced an earlier comment by Rich Anderson regarding the IPMC code and wanted to make sure that the working group give attention to the IPMC. Eli agreed and will make this a bullet point for the subgroups to cover. In addition, Jim added the IPMC to the list of codes for the groups to review.

The group next reviewed the initial scope and discussed some additions, as highlighted below:

- Research the effects of pandemics on MPE system designs in the built environment
- Research & review current codes and standards (IMC, IPC, IFGC, IRC, IECC, IPMC, NEC)
 - Ventilation/outside air
 - Indoor Air Quality
 - Air/water purification systems
 - Sanitation
 - No-touch/automatic mechanisms
 - Climate change/energy conservation impacts
 - Other?



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- Research & review code change proposals under consideration for future codes & standards
 - ICC Group A code proposals; pandemic related
Jim discussed activity that ICC has completed to identify all pandemic related Group A code proposals. Documents have been uploaded to the PTF website identifying the Mechanical and Plumbing code changes that have been identified.
 - Other codes/standards change proposals under consideration
The WG discussed the breadth of codes and standards that should be considered for our research. Eli suggested that there are codes outside of the U.S. (i.e. from Australia and Germany) that we should look at. In addition, if there are any standards that have an impact on what we are doing that WG members are aware of, we should review those as well.
- Research & review current published information related to the effects of pandemics on the built environment
 - Discussion of ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force statement; “SARS-CoV-2 is airborne”
The WG discussed the recent ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force statement that was recently released. It was suggested that there should be an objective review of the ASHRAE guidance that they have provided.

Esber discussed incentive programs that local jurisdictions and governing bodies have put in place through codes and ordinances (i.e. green zoning codes). Since we will be looking at recommendations for best practices, and not forcing certain actions, do we want to consider some sort of incentive element written into codes? There are also a lot of innovations arising out of research work, can these be considered for incentive elements. Eli suggested that this may be a topic best suited for the PTF to consider. Niki and Tom agreed that this is a good approach for this idea.

4. Deliverables

The WG reviewed the current deliverables list (below) and discussed possible additions to the list.

- A comprehensive review of current code requirements as they relate to prevention of the transmission of diseases and other serious health concerns.
 - Prepare code change proposals
- A comprehensive review of existing guides, executive orders, white papers, reports and standards, as they relate to MPE design standards, preparedness, health considerations and tools for operations during a pandemic.
 - Prepare various publications and white papers on significant topics
- Develop guidelines and best practices to address the design and layout of new and existing buildings and temporary structures.
- Develop a comprehensive package of public information materials

Esber discussed training as a deliverable we should be looking at. Eli agreed that once the PTF gets all of the information/documentation compiled, it would be beneficial to have training/educational webinars or courses to educate the various players in the industry on the materials once they are out there. Esber added that we could help to develop the webinars or short courses that could be delivered to building officials, architects, etc. It was agreed that this should be presented to the PTF to determine if it is within the overall project scope.



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Rich Anderson suggested that we should also consider the development of “Amendment Packages” for local jurisdictions to use. Since any recommendations the PTF comes up with for future code changes wouldn’t make it into the code until 2027, it would be beneficial to have amendment language for them to use so that they could amend earlier editions of the codes they have currently adopted.

5. Sharing of documents/resources

Jim discussed the PTF website and how it has been setup for the sharing of documents among PTF and WG members. The link to the site is as follows: <https://www.iccsafe.org/advocacy/pandemic-taskforce/>. Jim demonstrated use of the document sharing folders for the PTF and the WGs. Any WG members that wish to share documents through the website should send them to Jim at jcika@iccsafe.org, and/or any of the other ICC Staff.

6. Frequency of work group meetings

Eli and Jim discussed the setup and frequency of the WG meetings. Once the subgroups are created, the frequency of meetings can be taken up by each, they can meet weekly or bi-weekly. The main WG could then meet monthly to discuss progress of all groups. Jatinder added that this follows what is being done in some of the other WGs.

Jim added that he can be utilized by all of the subgroups with setting up Doodle Polls and meetings, as needed.

7. Other business

Jim discussed the PTF request for WG reports for tracking progress and keeping the PTF informed of activities.

8. Adjourn – We plan to adjourn no later than 11:00 a.m. EDT.

Eli adjourned the meeting at 10:46 a.m. EDT