

#### ALLANA BUICK & BERS, INC.

# **OPTIMIZE BUILDING VENTILATION** TO MITIGATE VIRUS SPREAD



As you know, COVID-19 is having a substantial impact on the industries - and building ventilation is one of the foremost concerns.

HVAC systems are designed to maintain indoor air quality (IAQ) and prevent the spread of disease. Not only does poor ventilation fail to prevent disease, it can actively spread infectious agents through airborne means. Though COVID-19 is not predominantly an airborne disease, a recent study conducted by Princeton University, the University of California-Los Angeles and the National Institutes of Health found that "viable virus could be detected in aerosols up to 3 hours post-aerosolization."

When an infected person coughs or sneezes, the droplets rapidly shrink in size which increases the number of particles that behave as aerosols. Aerosols remain airborne for hours, and can be inhaled by nearby people or transferred through a building's HVAC system. Studies in China and South Korea have shown that air currents from HVAC in restaurants can spread the virus well over 6' from the original source and an infected person seated at a table spread the disease to 7 other people sitting at 4 tables around them. Because of this, the CDC recommends increasing building ventilation to cut down on recycled contaminated air.

This webinar will review modes of COVID-19 transmission though ventilation systems and methods to reduce the spread. We will also review current CDC guidelines for disease prevention, specifically increased ventilation to reduce contaminated air. Additionally, this webinar will discuss the functionality of HVAC systems, current building ventilation codes, and pressurization zones. For example, in assisted care facilities, it is important to maintain negative pressurization in rooms and fresh air to minimize the spread.

The reality of post-COVID-19 life is that building owners and property managers will need to address their buildings' indoor air quality, especially if the system has not been recently inspected or if the staff have not been specifically trained in HVAC maintenance. In order to protect staff and clients, owners must ensure that HVAC systems filters are regularly inspected, exhaust systems are balanced and operational, and outside air sources are maximized.

## **CLICK HERE TO REGISTER**

WEBINAR: June 2nd, 11am-12pm PST





## **Learning Objectives**

- 1. Understand the spread of COVID-19 through commercial ventilation systems.
- 2. Understand the current CDC ventilation recommendations to reduce disease transmission.
- 3. Understand specific requirements for ventilation of public and commercial spaces.
- 4. Understand the functionality and best practices of HVAC systems, outside air ventilation requirements.
- 5. Understand the importance of inspecting HVAC filters, exhaust systems, and maximizing outside air sources.

### **Presenters**



KARIM ALLANA, PE, RRC, RWC

CEO | Senior Principal

Karim P. Allana is the CEO and Founding Principal of Allana Buick & Bers, Inc. (ABB), a leading Architectural-Engineering firm specializing in building envelope and sustainable construction for new and rehabilitation projects. Mr. Allana has been in the A/E and construction fields for 35+ years, with a concentration on forensic analysis, design, and sustainable construction of roofing, waterproofing and building envelope systems. He has also acted as a consultant and expert witness in 500+ construction defect cases.

Mr. Allana earned a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Santa Clara University and is a licensed professional engineer in California, Hawaii, North Carolina, Nevada and Washington. He is a Registered Roof Consultant (RRC) and Registered Waterproofing Consultant (RWC) through IIBEC, Inc. He is a frequent speaker and presenter at professional forums.



JOHN WILLIAMS

NC Division Manager Principal John Williams is a Division Manager and Principal at Allana Buick & Bers (ABB), responsible for the operations and oversight of all the North Carolina Division's projects. He oversees project planning, production, team and client management. ABB's projects focus on property condition assessments, due diligence investigations, peer review, construction administration, mechanical capital planning and replacement programs, assessments of building mechanical system operations, and energy projects.

Mr. Williams earned a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from United States Military Academy, West Point, New York and also received a MBA from Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. He is a member of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineering (ASHRAE).

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