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Industry News

DOE Seeks Public Comment on Commercial Building Workforce Guidance

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has published six commercial building job and task analyses (JTAs) for public comment. DOE's objectives for the JTAs are to "help individuals identify opportunities to enhance their professional skills, enable industry to identify an appropriately skilled workforce, and allow training providers to ensure that they are providing the highest quality product possible. Additionally, the JTAs created through this project will be used by the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) to help meet the requirements of the [Federal Buildings Personnel Training Act of 2010](#)." Visit the [Workforce Guidance](#) page for more background. JTAs were developed for the following six job categories:

- Commercial Building Energy Auditors
- Commercial Building Energy Modelers
- Commissioning/Retro-Commissioning Authorities
- Energy/Sustainability Managers
- Facility Managers
- Operating Engineers/Building Technicians

[View the JTAs online and provide your comments.](#)

DOE Releases Building Energy Codes Resource Guides for Code Officials, Policy Makers, Architects, and Others

The Building Energy Codes Resource Guide series is designed to help code officials, policy makers, designers, builders, and other key stakeholders who have the greatest impact on energy code adoption and compliance, understand the diverse tools and resources released by DOE's Building Energy Codes Program. There are six guides in total, available for free download, and each is specifically geared towards a section of the industry: [codes](#), [policy](#), [commercial building architecture](#), [energy efficient and sustainable communities](#), [air leakage](#), and [HVAC](#). You may access all the guides on the Building Energy Codes Program [publications page](#).

DOE Highlights Report on Hybrid Ground-Source Heat Pump Technology

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) today highlighted a recent report [Hybrid Ground-Source Heat Pump Installations: Experiences, Improvements and Tools](#) demonstrating hybrid ground-source heat pumps (GSHP) as a viable solution to reduce energy use in commercial buildings. The report finds that new hybrid systems dramatically decrease up-front costs while delivering financial and environmental benefits nearly equivalent to standard ground-source heat pumps.

In standard GSHP systems, also known as [geothermal heat pumps](#), the upfront installation cost for their underground loop is very high, almost half the cost of the entire system. A fluid circulates through the pipes, to move heat between the in-ground heat exchanger and a heat pump, which regulates building temperature. This high upfront cost is reduced in a hybrid system, which features a much smaller underground loop, making drilling less expensive and less disruptive. The load of the GSHP can be balanced with traditional HVAC equipment which also lowers up-front costs, while still providing the energy efficiency of a GSHP.

With its lower cost, hybrid GSHP technology could be deployed widely, saving energy and money in new and existing commercial, industrial, and institutional buildings, according to the report. Read the [full story](#).

Nominations Open for "BOMA Fellows" Recognition Awards

The [BOMA Fellows Program](#) recognizes and honors BOMA International members for exemplary and sustained contributions to the industry, their profession, the community and BOMA at all levels. Fellows candidates must be BOMA International members for a minimum of ten (10) years, and must be able to demonstrate achievements in education, industry and business experience, BOMA leadership activities, honors and awards, and community service worthy of BOMA recognition.

All candidates must be nominated by either a BOMA member or a BOMA local association (self-nominations are not permitted). Nominations must be received no later than January 15, 2012. Visit the [BOMA Fellows page](#) to download a nomination form, and to learn more.

Call for Entries for 2011 Beyond Green™ High-Performance Building Awards

The Sustainable Buildings Industry Council (SBIC) has opened the call for entries for the 2011 Beyond Green™ High-Performance Building Awards. The awards recognize buildings, initiatives and products that shape, inform and catalyze the high-performance building market. The award winners will be invited to present their projects on Capitol Hill as part of an educational briefing for lawmakers and the public. This presentation and poster session gives winners an opportunity to discuss the challenges and opportunities for delivering better buildings with policymakers. Winning projects will also be published on the [Whole Building Design Guide website](#).

To learn more visit the [2011 Beyond Green™](#) page and download the Call for Entries. This year's deadline for entries is November 15, 2011. If you have any questions about the program, please contact Kimberly Lowry by phone at (202) 628-7400, extension 200 or by email at: sbic@sbicouncil.org.

DOE Committee Focuses on Training Energy Assessments Specialists in Data Centers

DOE is partnering with industry to develop a Data Center Energy Practitioner (DCEP) program to educate and train professionals to identify and evaluate efficiency opportunities in data centers, be proficient in DOE's [DC Pro software tool suite](#), conduct data center assessments, among many activities to help accelerate energy savings in data centers.

The steering committee for the program comprised of 12 members including DOE, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) and ANCIS Incorporated, JouleX (a enterprise energy management systems), etc. DOE has set a goal to have at least 200 practitioners by 2011. The DCEP IT-Specialist Program is especially designed to help property management companies, engineering consulting firms, service companies, data center operators, state energy agencies, and utilities. Find out more on the [Data Center Energy Practitioner Program page](#).

CBC Members Receive Free Admission to EcoBuild 2011

All CBC Members will receive a complimentary VIP ticket which gives access to the expo, keynote, and many open sessions. Visit the [CBC blog page](#) to download a form to register for your VIP ticket. In this year's [Keynote](#), Robert Clarke and Danilo Stapula from the Department of State, will discuss *COBie and BIM: an Integrated Standards Based Environment for Building Management*.

Ecobuild America focuses on timely topics and real world solutions throughout all project lifecycle phases. Targeted training is available for commercial, industrial, government, institutional and residential AEC (architecture, engineering, and construction) professionals as well as educators. Attendees will be able to access expert insight on a broad range of topics including:

- Building Information Modeling
- Geographic Information Systems
- Green Technology
- High Performance Building
- Sustainable Design
- Energy -Efficiency
- Security Smart Buildings

Visit the [CBC blog](#) to download your CBC Member VIP ticket and visit [Ecobuild online](#) to find out more on Ecobuild.

Industry Events

[Behavior, Energy and Climate Change Conference](#)

November 29 - December 2, 2011 - Washington, DC

[Ecobuild America 2011](#)

December 5-9, 2011 - Washington DC

[EEGLoba!](#)

March 27-29, 2012 - Florida

[Energy Efficiency Watch: Nearly Zero Energy Buildings](#)

March 1-2, 2012 - Austria

[More upcoming events](#)

Commercial Buildings Consortium

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