



The Whistle

FHEA

VOLUME XXXV, NUMBER 2

SUMMER 2019



We are now approaching our mid-year point for 2019. For healthcare engineers, this means we are in hurricane season and hopefully have updated our emergency preparedness plans. In 2018, Florida was impacted by four major storms - two tropical strength storms and two hurricane strength storms, with Hurricane Michael being the most significant

of these storms making landfall in October and causing over \$4.5 billion in damages. Many of the impacted areas are still in recovery.

The President's Corner

THOMAS GIBSON, CHE, CHFM, CHSP, CHC

2019 started with a very successful FHEA 35th Annual Spring Meeting, which was hosted on May 15 - 17 at the beautiful Pier 66 Hotel and Marina in Fort Lauderdale. There were a record 300 attendees and 50 exhibitors. Our attendance this year is an increase of 35% over last year's event and a true testament to the growth of this organization. This year, the FHEA offered some amazing educational programs from emergency preparedness to evaluating hospital security risks. We also launched the special session of our newest program, the Hospital Sustainability Collaborative. Thank you to our Sustainability Chair, Ben Fitzgerald, and Alexis Stone, of EcoPreserve, for their hard work and efforts creating and building this program throughout the state.

Many members also enjoyed the Spring Golf Scramble and the Fishing Tournament. We received very positive feedback for this year's event. One attendee even stated, "best ever Spring event!" I want to send a special thank you to our Executive Director, Sarah Jeffcoat, and Marty Streeper, our meeting planner, for their hard work in making this event so successful.

Our next meeting will be October 6 – 9 at the Orlando World Center Marriott. Please mark your calendar for

the 35th Annual AHCA Seminar and the 57th FHEA Annual Meeting and Tradeshow™. Once again, this annual event will deliver the best in education and Florida's largest healthcare facilities trade show. So far, it looks as though this conference will be one of our largest ever, and we have already booked the Caribe Royale Orlando as our overflow hotel, which is an amazing resort and very close (1.1 miles) to the main venue. If you haven't registered or made your room reservations, make sure you do so soon.

I want to encourage our member hospitals to get involved in the Hospital Sustainability Collaborative, our

newest program, which is a joint effort of the Florida Hospital Association and the Florida Hospital Engineering Association. This program is the creation of Ben

Fitzgerald, our Sustainability Liaison, and is a multi-year program to support the growth of sustainability in healthcare in Florida. The focus in 2019 is on energy. Educational programs, webinars, and live support to hospitals wishing to improve sustainability and participate in protecting our environment are being offered.

Don't forget to visit the FHEA website, www.fhea.org. You will find up-to-date information about the organization and offerings, as well as member and district information, discounted educational resources, employment opportunities, ASHE advocacy, and current codes and standards updates. Visit often, as our website is updated continuously.

In closing, I want to thank our members and supporting members. Without you, the FHEA would not be the success it is today. A special thank you to our FHEA board of directors. These dedicated individuals are committed to improving hospital engineering throughout Florida.

For more information or to submit comments and suggestions, please contact president@fhea.org or info@fhea.org

57TH
FHEA ANNUAL
MEETING AND
TRADE SHOW
October 7-9, 2019
FHEA Golf Tournament
October 6, 2019



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REGISTER NOW!

**REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR
THE FHEA ANNUAL MEETING**

FHEA ANNUAL MEETING - OCTOBER 9, 2019

REGISTRATION FEES

Registration fees include the one day educational program, continental breakfast, luncheon, and networking break.

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| FHEA Members (Active Healthcare Engineers) | \$95.00 |
| FHEA Certified Engineers (CHE) | \$85.00 |
| FHEA Supporting Members | \$125.00 |
| Non-members | \$300.00 |

[For More Information, visit the FHEA website](#)

57th FHEA ANNUAL MEETING SPONSORS



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 Western Specialty Contractors

57th FHEA Annual Meeting & Trade Show October 7 - 9, 2019

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2019

7:30am FHEA Golf Tournament Registration
8:30am Golf Tournament Shotgun Start

(See www.ahcaseminar.org for information regarding the AHCA Seminar schedule)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2019

8:00am FHEA Trade Show Exhibitor Check-in/Move-in
4:30-7:00pm FHEA Trade Show

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2019

7:00am-2:00pm FHEA Trade Show

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2019 – FHEA ANNUAL MEETING

“Sustain, Strategize, and Build – Setting the Stage for the Future”

7:00am Registration and Continental Breakfast

7:00am CHE Breakfast

8:00am FHEA Meeting Welcome and Announcements

Thomas Gibson, CHE, CHFM, CHSP, CHC; FHEA President

8:15am **“Business Planning for Energy Resiliency in a Time of Natural Disaster”**

Mark Mininberg, Steve Jalowiec, and Thomas Mort; Hospital Energy

9:15am **“Complying with New Florida Backup Power Rules”**

John Sharpe, Generac Industrial Power

10:15am Networking Break

10:30am **“Standardizing Materials for Cost Savings: The Benefits and Challenges”**

Adam Mayle, BSHA, CHC; Memorial Regional Hospital

11:30am **“Sustainability – Tying It All Together”**

Alexa Stone, ecoPreserve

12:30pm Luncheon: **“I Know What To Do, So Why Don’t I Do It?”**

Dr. Nick Hall

1:45pm **“XGen & Millenials: Succession Leadership Planning”**

Mike Canales, Program Director for Healthcare Facilities Leadership at Owensboro Community and Technical College

2:45pm ASHE Update and FHEA Annual Business Meeting

3:45pm Adjournment

FHEA Trade Show Exhibitors

The FHEA Trade Show sold out in April with 300+ booths, the largest show ever! Visit the electronic floor plan on the FHEA website at <https://www.fhea.org/2019-fhea-annual-meeting> for a preview of the exhibitors that will be showcasing their products and services at the FHEA Trade Show October 7-8, 2019. This year, there also will be over 50 new companies participating!

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| AAF Flanders | Bonded Lightning Protection Systems, Inc. | Filter Pure Systems, Inc. |
| Abatement Technologies | BRADY INFRARED INSPECTIONS, INC. | Fire & Life Safety America |
| ABB | Brasfield & Gorrie | Fire Door Solutions |
| Absolute Floor Covering, LLC | Building Engineering-Consultants, Inc. | Flad Architects |
| Accutrol, LLC | C I C, Inc. | FlexCart Company |
| ACF / GENERAC | C.A.R.E. Cleaning And Restoration Experts | Florida Detroit Diesel Allison |
| Acorn Vac/Whitehall MFG | C.T.Windows LLC | Florida Power & Light Company |
| Acousti Engineering Co. of Florida | Carastro & Associates, Inc. | Flow Control Technology LLC |
| Acoustiblok | Charles Perry Partners, Inc. (CPPI) | Fresh-Aire UV |
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| Advanced Polymerics, Inc. | Coastal Mechanical Services | Gerflor USA |
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| All Phase Electric and Maintenance, Inc. | Cummins, Inc. | GULF MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS |
| Allegion | CVG Construction Management - Tur Health Care | Gulfstream Petroleum Services Inc. |
| Altro | Facilities | H. Stephen Jones & Associates, Inc. |
| American Portable Air, Inc. | Davey | Harper Limbach, LLC |
| Amico Corporation | Davidson Sales Company, Inc. | Harry Warren, Inc. |
| Andrews Filter & Supply | DAVIS WATER SERVICE | Health Care Compliance, Inc. |
| APG | DeAngelis Diamond | Health Choice Enterprises LLC |
| ARC Technology Solutions | DEBONAIR MECHANICAL | Healthcare Facility Solutions, LLC |
| Archer Western | Delta Cooling Towers, Inc. | Heat Pipe Technology, Inc. |
| ASCO Power Services Inc | Derbigum Americas | Hensel Phelps |
| ASCO Power Technologies | DH Pace Door Services, Inc | HEPACART Infection Control Technologies |
| ASHBERRY WATER CONDITIONING | DIXIEPLY | HILTI NORTH AMERICA |
| ASSA ABLOY Door Security Solutions | Door Control Inc. (D.C.I.) | Hoar Construction LLC |
| Astro integrated systems | Doyle Electric Services Inc | Homeyer Consulting Services, Inc. |
| Austin Commercial | Dryfast Recovery Systems LLC dba Duct Dynasty | I.C. Thomasson Associates, Inc. |
| Automated Door Ways | DS Contracting, LLC | IDeACOM Healthcare Communications |
| Awnclean USA, Inc. | Dynamic Air Quality Solutions | of Florida, Inc. |
| AXI Clean Fuel & Tank | EcoWater Systems | Industrial Engineering Company |
| B&B Utility Services, LLC | Emerald Coast Roofing Resources, LLC | Industrial Heater |
| B.O.S Technology | EMPIRE ROOFING | Innerface Architectural Signage |
| Baker Barrios Architects, Inc. | Engineered Energy Equipment, Inc. | Inpro |
| Balco/Rectorseal subsidiaries of | Enviralum Industries, Inc. | Insight Partners |
| CSW Industrials | ENVIRCO | J Newton Enterprises, Inc. |
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 Leviton Manufacturing Co. Inc.
 Life Safety Enterprises Inc.
 Lochinvar, LLC
 LSS Life Safety Services
 Magnum Door Solutions
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 Mannington Commercial
 Mason Engineering
 MC2 Incorporated - A Stark Technologies Group
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 Mechanical Services of Central Florida, Inc. MSI - Emcor
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Premier Medical, Inc. Premier Water & Energy Technology, Inc.
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FHEA Annual Meeting & Trade Show Hotel Information

The block of rooms at the Orlando Marriott World Center, for the Joint AHCA Seminar and FHEA Annual Meeting and Trade Show, October 6 – 9, 2019, is now sold out.

The FHEA, however, has been able to secure suites at the Caribe Royale, located just 1.1 miles away from the Marriott. Suite rates, with no resort fees, on a space-available basis, are: Queen Double or Standard King: \$159 + tax.

To make reservations at the Caribe Royale:

1) Online: [Click Here](#)

2) By phone: 888.258.7501 (Please identify yourself as a member of the Florida Healthcare Engineering Association in order to receive our discounted group rate.)

HOSPITAL SUSTAINABILITY COLLABORATIVE

promoting health, lowering costs, and reducing environmental impact



Hospital Sustainability Collaborative Award

The Hospital Sustainability Collaborative Award will honor FHEA and FHA member hospitals that are helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protecting the environment by reducing their consumption of (fossil fuel derived) energy. The Award will be given out annually to honor a single hospital facility or healthcare campus that has demonstrated outstanding leadership, innovation and commitment to environmental protection.

Two hospitals or campuses that demonstrate year-over-year excellence in sustainability will receive awards. To compete for these awards, applicants must:

- Share ENERGY STAR data with the Hospital Sustainability Collaborative (FHEA) or ASHE Energy to Care
- Update ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager monthly
- Have established annual energy reduction goals and track progress toward the goals
- Describe a sustainability program in the last 24 months that you’ve implemented and how it impacted finances, the environment, and/or the community.

COMING ATTRACTION: HSC TRAINING SESSIONS

July 9 - Class #3: *Developing your Action Plan and Energy Goals*

August 4- Class #4: *Implementing Your Energy Action Plan*

October 9 - Class #5: *Tracking Performance and National Recognition*



In 2019, the Science Screen Report Project reported that schools in the counties listed have sent letters of appreciation from educators and administrators.

For more information about the Science Screen Report, visit <https://ssrvideo.com/>

| | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|--------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| Alachua | Columbia | Hendry | Liberty | Orange | St. Johns |
| Baker | DeSoto | Hernando | Madison | Osceola | St. Lucie |
| Bay | Escambia | Highlands | Manatee | Palm Beach | Sumter |
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| Calhoun | Gilchrist | Jefferson | Monroe | Putnam | Volusia |
| Charlotte | Glades | Lafayette | Nassau | Santa Rosa | Wakulla |
| Citrus | Gulf | Lake | Okaloosa | Sarasota | Walton |
| Clay | Hamilton | Lee | Okeechobee | Seminole | |
| Collier | Hardee | Leon | | | |

WIRELESS ANTENNAS – ARE YOU COMPLIANT AND WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With the widespread deployment of wireless technologies since the mid-1990s, the number of rooftop antenna and in-building Distributed Antenna System (DAS) installations in medical facilities nationwide is growing exponentially as a result of patient, staff, and business demand for faster, more robust mobile data. Because local jurisdictions have encouraged the use of existing infrastructure for the placement of antennas, the installation of antennas has proven to be a significant source of lease revenue for building owners, including hospitals and other healthcare facilities. However, the success of this relationship depends on building engineers, operations, and property management professionals maintaining a safe environment for patients, staff, and contractors that may have access to the areas where antennas are located.

The prevalence of antennas on rooftops introduces a potential safety issue for every electrician, roofer, painter, HVAC technician, hospital maintenance person, and wireless carrier representative who accesses these rooftops. It is estimated that over 250,000 workers per year encounter radio frequency (RF) antennas at job sites, according to A.M. Best in its February 11, 2013 briefing (Diadato, Best's Briefing). While the FCC sets guidelines for human exposure limits and safety requirements, and wireless service providers routinely evaluate their operations, many building owners believe compliance is the responsibility of someone else; the wireless service provider, the equipment manufacturer, the company installing the antennas, or the site management company handling the leasing and installation coordination. In reality, all parties have exposure in a lawsuit, but the hospital may end up most accountable since building workplace safety is their responsibility, similar to historical asbestos claims.

The FCC requires licensees to ensure new and existing wireless antenna sites do not expose people to hazardous levels of RF electromagnetic emissions (EME). Wireless service providers (AT&T, Sprint, Verizon, T-Mobile, etc.) consider compliance with these rules when designing new transmitting sites or modifying existing operations that could change the RF environment where antennas are installed. The FCC rules set forth exposure limits, not emission limits. Industry practice is to mitigate accessible impacted areas with RF alerting signage and other conspicuous measures such as post and chain barriers or rooftop paint to provide notification of potential exposure hazards near antennas. This approach is intended to educate and deter access. Building owners have a responsibility to ensure that workers permitted in these areas understand and follow this information.

In general, wireless service providers proactively audit their own antenna and equipment installations, as well as evaluate, implement, and maintain mitigation procedures. However, compliance requires consideration of all sources of RF emissions, including the hospital's own transmitting antennas and the resulting potential cumulative exposure to workers.

Jeffrey Ebihara, President, EbiCo Group LLC, dba Rize Solutions
Steve Baier-Anderson, P.E., Vice President of Engineering, Waterford

With its knowledge of rooftop leasing activity, it is important for hospital building management to be involved with the mitigation measures devised by wireless tenants, as well as develop and maintain a formal RF safety plan of its own. Hospital staff, maintenance workers, and contractors should be made aware of the presence of transmitting antennas and the meaning of RF signage, barriers, and markings. Training should be documented and maintained in personnel files. Work activities within these impacted regions require workers to have RF safety training and personal protection equipment to be able to monitor their exposure. Further, antenna locations and mitigation requirements should be maintained as reference when evaluating work plans and approving qualified contractors to work near antennas. Ensuring that people with access to areas near antennas understand the information and act in accordance with warning information will prevent exposure to hazardous levels of RF energy.



The commercial insurance industry has chosen to exclude RF emissions from most of its general liability policies. Whether this action is based on insurance underwriters perceiving that RF safety awareness is lacking in the industry among workers or linking emissions from mobile handheld devices with base station antennas, this poses a significant financial risk for hospitals and healthcare facilities with transmitting antennas.

Referencing a 2013 report on emerging risks by the AM Best insurance rating agency, Gloria Vogel wrote for TalkMarkets in July 2017 ("A Coming Storm For Wireless?") that in the interim, "global insurers have chosen to exclude RF coverage from their policies. The last global insurer to exit the RF exposure market was Lloyd's of London in 2015."

The most successful lawsuit to date involved AT&T in a July 2007 decision by the Alaska Supreme Court (Orchitt vs. AT&T Alascom, FindLaw's Supreme Court of Alaska Case and Opinions). In this case, the Alaska Supreme Court upheld the decision of the Alaska Workers' Compensation Board awarding an AT&T employee 100% temporary disability as a result of his exposure to radiofrequency emissions that were slightly above the FCC limits.

It is likely hospitals will not be proactive addressing their EME risk until other, more costly claims are successful. However, awareness is growing among workers as antenna installations become more prolific with accompanying FCC signage and barriers.

Workers may be confused and require training regarding the hazards of working near antennas with RF alerting signs, including areas near antennas where no signs are posted.

WIRELESS ANTENNAS CONTINUED...

An educated hospital operations manager with a RF Safety Plan is able to speak to these issues. When these matters are not proactively addressed, there may be significant liability concerns.

In the end, employers, wireless service providers, property management companies, rooftop leasing/management companies, and equipment installation companies will all become part of the litigation. However, the defendant with the most financial exposure may very well be the asset owner who is collecting revenue from the antennas and responsible for rooftop access and safety.

About the Authors

Jeffrey Ebihara is President of EbiCo Group LLC, dba Rize Solutions, a certified Minority Business Enterprise project management and technical solutions consulting firm. Mr. Ebihara has the unique background of having worked as a commercial property manager for Trammell Crow Company in Dallas, TX, was a licensed insurance agent in Michigan and has served in an executive leadership capacity over 20 years in the wireless telecommunications industry with such companies as BellSouth, AT&T, American Tower and Network Building + Consulting. Rize Solutions currently provides consulting services to Waterford Consultants.

Steve Baier-Anderson, P.E. has worked in the wireless industry since 1990 as an engineering consultant and cellular network engineer. Prior to his leadership role as Vice President of Engineering for Waterford, Mr. Baier-Anderson held key roles in the design, deployment and optimization of 2G, 3G, and 4G technologies in the Mid-Atlantic region for Verizon Wireless. He holds a BS in Electrical Engineering from the University of Maine and an MS in Systems Engineering from Johns Hopkins University.

Summary Recommendations are:

1. Review your general liability insurance policy with respect to RF exposure in the workplace
2. Perform an annual RF emissions audit to ensure FCC compliance
3. Re-analyze and re-certify the rooftop every time a new tenant is added or when a tenant changes antennas
4. Develop and maintain a formal RF safety plan
5. Provide RF safety training for employees, contractors, and others who have access to the rooftop
6. Require the use of personal protective equipment, as required

THE WAY FORWARD FOR FHEA

Sarah Jeffcoat
FHEA Executive Director



The FHEA Executive Committee and staff met recently to discuss the way forward for the organization. We began by looking at our Mission Statement and Core Objectives to determine strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities. Participants discussed specific goals, programs and services, and objectives to make sure the FHEA is delivering on its promises.

Specific considerations were on governance; membership, both on the State and District levels; education; communication, including the FHEA website, social media, and publications; and our new joint program with the Florida Hospital

Association, the Hospital Sustainability Collaborative.

As the group discussed these various considerations, we wanted to make sure that each was specific, that there were indicators of progress, that they were assignable (in other words, who would carry out the various objectives); and that they were realistic for the FHEA. We determined that FHEA needs more member involvement and support, working alongside officers, board members, committee chairs, and staff, to see plans and objectives become successful and meaningful to our association. If you have suggestions for programs, resources, or membership services that would be helpful to you, the healthcare engineering professional, please don't hesitate to reach out to us to discuss. The FHEA is committed to providing value as we continue becoming a recognizable "brand" in the healthcare engineering industry.



FHEA 35th Spring Meeting Highlights

Thank you Spring Meeting Exhibitors and Sponsors

(* indicates companies who gave prizes for the Vendor Bingo!)

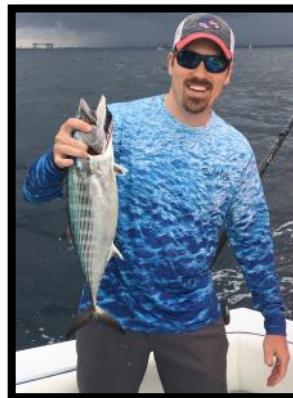
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- Tremco
- Tri-Dim Filter
- Victaulic
- Voight Professional Services
- *Waco Filtration Group / Sterilaire
- Yorkshire Sales & Marketing /
- Anchor Floor & Supply



FISHING WINNERS

- Biggest Fish & Most Caught - Chris Barnhart
- First Fish - Tony Echazabal
- Smallest Fish - Don Russell





WELCOME NEW SUPPORTING MEMBERS (March - May 2019)

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**FHEA Recognized by ASHE**

The Florida Healthcare Engineering Association recently received the 2018 ASHE Platinum Chapter Award. Because of our recognition, ASHE gave several generous offers to our members, both to current ASHE members as well as non ASHE members.

FHEA members, who have belonged to ASHE for over one year and have not previously received a certification exam waiver for either the CHFM or CHC, qualified to apply for a voucher to take the CHFM exam on a complimentary basis. The four vouchers have been awarded to:

John Hatfield, BA, CHE, CHEP; Encompass Health, Miami
Larry Little; Tradition Medical Center, Port St. Lucie
George A. Mayle, BSHSA, CHC; Memorial Healthcare System, Hallandale Beach
Dewayne Roark; UF Health Shands, Gainesville

FHEA members, who are not members of ASHE, also qualified for one year of complimentary ASHE membership. Membership application vouchers have been awarded to:

Randal Dane; Shands Starke Regional Medical Center, Starke
Duane Green; Kindred North Florida & Kindred Ocala, Green Cove Springs
Laura Heins; Orlando Health, Orlando
Walter Vandermark, CHSP, CHE; AdventHealth Fish Hospital, Orange City

The FHEA appreciates the support of ASHE and the participation of our members. To learn more about the FHEA and ASHE, visit fhea.org and ashe.org

ASHE – Why Be a Member?Larry Peterson, *CHC, CHFM, CHSP, ASHE Advocacy Liaison*

Following up on Jeff Walters' article in the last edition of The Whistle, educational opportunities for our members is one of the primary objectives of the Florida Healthcare Engineering Association.

As your ASHE Liaison, I can assure you there are many educational opportunities available for you and your team through ASHE. For over 50 years, ASHE has been a leading source of information on the healthcare physical environment. Be sure to visit the ASHE website at ASHE.org and on the top banner bar, go to the Education and Events link to check out the many opportunities that are available. Education is available through E-Learning, Face to Face (conferences), Webinars, and On-Demand, a program that allows you to learn 24/7 at your own pace and on your own schedule. ASHE offers certifications for Certified Healthcare Facility Manager (CHFM), Certified Healthcare Constructor (CHC), and the new Certified Healthcare Physical Environment Worker that has two levels for Contractor/ Sub-Contractor workers and leaders.

If you are not yet a member of ASHE, I encourage you to join. The membership fee is \$150 and will pay for itself many times over. Sell the benefits of membership to your C-Suite and they should be happy to pay for your membership. Show them what ASHE can do for you, your team, and your organization through educational opportunities, the resource library, information on compliance, and the My ASHE all member community digest. ASHE is also your voice to challenge regulatory agencies on unnecessary code and burdensome regulations saving your organization time and money. Let them know that ASHE is a professional membership group of the American Hospital Association (AHA), most C-Suites are members of the AHA. While you are explaining the advantage of being an ASHE member, use the opportunity to let them know the advantages of your FHEA membership and participation and how it benefits your organization.

Remember, no one has all the answers, that is why we have each other.

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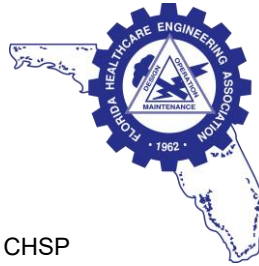
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