
MIACCA September 2019 Newsletter

1 message

MIACCA <mjdsmith@miacca.org>
Reply-To: "M.J. D'Smith" <mjdsmith@miacca.org>
To: MIACCA <michiganacca@gmail.com>

Mon, Sep 9, 2019 at 7:00 AM

*Working hard to Protect, Promote & Educate our
Profession*

NEWSLETTER, SEPTEMBER 2019



MIACCA 2019 Annual Conference
"Competing Against the Utilities"
Free for members - [Click here to register](#)

SEPTEMBER 19, 2019
HILTON GARDEN INN
LANSING, MI

Edition Highlights

- [MIACCA Calendar of Events](#)
- [Congratulations Brad Bartholomew](#)

*Message from
President*

Bill Krestakos

- **MPSC Orders \$333 million to DTE Gas Customers**
- **ENERGY STAR Program Updates**
- **ACCA Seeks Board of Directors Nominations**
- **Earn your CSD-1 Certification**
- **Federated Insurance: Annuities to fund the gap before Social Security**
- **HVAC Product Spotlight**
- **Service Roundtable World Expo**

Michigan Legislative & Regulatory Update



What are VAPS and How Will They Affect Me?



I know that we are all very busy getting ready for our clients Fall furnace tuneups, as the cool weather will be settling in the next couple of months.

A reminder we are hosting our 2019 Annual Conference this September 19th at the Hilton Garden Inn in Lansing, MI from 1 p.m.-6 p.m.. Remember this event is FREE to our members. We encourage everyone to attend this event as you listen to our guest speakers and network with others in our field during our cocktail and appetizer mixer.

Public Act 341 expanded what a utility could offer from just an appliance service program (ASP) to "Value-added programs and services" or VAPS, see MCL 460.10ee(16) (b). Value-added programs and services are programs and services that are utility or energy related, including, but not limited to, home comfort and protection, appliance service, building energy performance, alternative energy options, or engineering and construction services. However VAPS do not include energy optimization or energy waste reduction programs paid for by utility customers as part of their regulated rates.

When the utility offers and provides its VAPS to the customer it may use utility personnel and assets as long as all utility costs directly attributable to a value-added program or service are allocated to the program or service based on the proportional use by the program or service as compared to the total use of those assets by the utility. The cost of the program or service includes administrative and general expense loading to be determined in the same manner as the utility determines administrative and general expense loading for all of the utility's regulated and unregulated activities. So now you will have a competitor that can use utility paid for trucks and personnel to take care of VAPS customers in the morning and then switch back to the utility work whenever it is convenient and most profitable for the VAPS.

Earlier this year MIACCA was first to public report that in 2018 DTE had \$75 million in ASP revenue and that Consumers Energy had \$72 million. How much more of your business are you going to lose when the utility offers other VAPS in addition to the ASP? It's now a different business environment and are you prepared to take on these new challenges? If not, then you should attend the MIACCA 2019 Annual Meeting on September 15, 2019 in Lansing to hear firsthand from the Michigan Public Service Commission on how they are going to try deal with this and from industry experts on how you can better compete.

This event is always a great time and this year will be no exception so be sure to mark your calendar. I look forward to seeing all of you there next month.

As an added convenience, you can also register online [HERE](#)

As always stay safe and keep up the great work!



Using Annuities to Fund the Gap Before Claiming Social Security

Planning for retirement can be a complex web, with a dauntingly large number of variables that affect your income. What's the best age to retire? How much should I save? When should I file for Social Security?

No one has all the answers, but a little understanding about Social

Register online for the Annual Meeting [HERE](#)

Congratulations to Member Brad Bartholomew

For being appointed to the Construction Code Commission. As a past president of MIACCA, Brad will do an excellent job.

MPSC orders \$333 million returned to DTE Gas customers from lower federal corporate tax

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Public Service Commission today approved monthly decreases for DTE Gas Co. customers to reflect the impact lower federal corporate tax rates have on the company's long-term investments.

A total of \$333 million will be returned to customers, or \$12.7 million annually. A residential customer who uses 10,000 cubic feet of natural gas a month will receive a 58-cent monthly credit on their bill beginning in September ([Case No. U-20298](#)).

"The Commission has been a strong advocate for utility ratepayer savings ever since the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act went into effect," MPSC Chairman Sally Talberg said. "Our Staff continues its important lead role in making sure every dollar of savings from the tax law changes is passed on to ratepayers in a timely manner."

This is the third round of bill adjustments as a result of the TCJA, which lowered corporate tax rates from 35 percent to 21 percent. After the law was enacted in December 2017, the [MPSC swiftly ordered investor-owned utilities](#) (DTE, Consumers Energy Co., Indiana Michigan Power Co., Alpena Power Co., Upper Peninsula Power Co., Upper Michigan Energy Resources Corp., Northern

Security can go a long way toward helping you answer some of those questions.

For people born in 1960 or later, the full retirement age for Social Security benefits is age 67. If you elect to file for Social Security at that age, you will receive your full benefit, which is based on your highest 35 years of earnings. If you file early (as early as age 62), your monthly benefit will be reduced, but if you delay filing, your benefit will be increased by 8 percent per year up to age 70. So, if your full benefit at age 67 will be \$2,000 per month, at age 62, it would be reduced to \$1,400 (a 30 percent reduction). And if you wait until age 70, would be increased to \$2,480 (a 24 percent increase).

[Read Full Article](#)

Product Spotlight

JB Industries -

VL-100

States Power Co., SEMCO Energy Gas Co., and Michigan Gas Utility Corp.) to calculate their tax savings and it set forth a multi-step process to pass on to ratepayers the immediate and long-term savings under the new law.

This final step known as Calculation C, captures long-term impacts of the change. The monthly rate adjustments will be in effect until the next time a utility implements new rates, which will be calculated using the 21 percent tax. In the first round of refunds, known as Credit A, the Commission approved approximately \$380 million in credits for Michigan utility customers. In the second round, known as Credit B, the MPSC approved roughly \$232 million in refunds.

The Commission approved **Credit A refunds** of \$2.12 a month for DTE Gas residential customers in May 2018 and **Credit B refunds** of \$2.21 a month in October 2018.

Energy Waste Reduction Collaborative (EWR)

ENERGY STAR Overview & Program Updates Presentation

On August 19th the EWR had a presentation from ENERGY STAR regarding their new program updates.

[View complete presentation here](#)



ACCA SEEKING BOARD OF DIRECTORS
NOMINATIONS



Key Features & Benefits: The Velocity Rapid Evacuation Kit paired with a vacuum pump allows technicians to remove restrictive valve cores and perform AC/R system evacuations up to ten times faster through a large, 1/2" diameter hose.

- 60-inch, 1/2" diameter evacuation hose
- 3/8" x 1/4" SAE flare
- Vacuum-rated to 20 microns
- Valve core tool removes restrictive cores
- Vacuum-rated valve core tool removes restrictive cores
- Opens up over 90% of internal diameter of access port
- Vacuum-certified hose will not collapse or permeate

HVAC
NEWS

ACCA Is looking for nominations for the ACCA Board of Directors!

If you are anyone in your organization has an interest in being a member of the ACCA Board of Directors, please sent the contact information my way.

A bit about the ACCA Board:

- Board Members have two-year terms, and can serve up to three consecutive terms; typically, the first term starts with the spring meeting of the Board (elections and at-large appointments occur in the fall/winter prior to the first meeting with incoming members and outgoing members recognized in the spring)
- Board members must be members in good standing at ACCA
- Board Members have two face to face meetings a year, one in the fall and the other in late winter or early spring in conjunction with ACCA's Annual Conference
- Board Members typically serve on several committees, and the amount of committee work varies widely based on the specific committee's function. Depending on your strengths, you would choose between technical, advocacy or member services and other association functions. Committees meet conference call during the course of the year, and these calls are often on a monthly or bi-monthly basis depending on the needs set forth by the committee
- Board Members are not paid, but per the attached Board travel policy, are reimbursed and/or have their hotel rooms paid for at specific events
- New Board members are provided with a variety of materials to familiarize them with ACCA, and will be assigned a mentor going forward to assist them with understanding ACCA and their responsibilities as a Board member

Attached is the nomination form that candidates fill out to start the process. Please feel free to share.

PROJECT: 4 Ways To Spot a Bad Traversal

UNIT: 1 (RTHU) REFERENCE: Make Up Air Measurement (Shortage ACM)

LOCATION: 1 (RTHU) REFERENCE: Make Up Air Measurement (Shortage ACM)

Point	Log-T	Equal Area
1	278	102
2	578	102
3	549	122
4		

Notes: Negative SP on supply fan. Indication that the fan is rotating backward or poor SP read.

Inconsistent pattern of the data indicates either extreme turbulence or poor flow of the representant. This pattern is not evident on our current run.

Total number of readings indicate that neither Log-T nor Equal Area method was used.

In the world of Testing, Adjusting, and Balancing (TAB) airflow in commercial rooftop units (RTU), fans, and so on, there is a wide debate on which testing method to use. There are, in fact, two methods — Log Tchebycheff (Log-T) and Equal Area Method traverse — and the debate centers around which is the most accurate. Most TAB professionals will say that either method is acceptable, but only one of them should be used on any particular job.

My purpose here isn't to continue this debate. Instead, I want to highlight the impact of improper methods and/or inadequate documentation that can complicate results, no matter which method is used. There

We know there are a lot of great contractors out there and hope you will be willing to send them our way!!! All nominations should be sent to me by October 15, 2019, we will then have fall elections and the newly elected members will be installed in office at the March 2020 meeting of the ACCA Board in St. Louis, MO.

If you have any questions, please send them to hilary.atkins@acca.org, or direct dial at (703) 824-8855,

[ACCA Board Nomination Questionnaire](#)

[ACCA Board Travel Policy](#)



Paris Hotel, Las Vegas

October 16-18

Save \$30 if you register by September 13th!

[Info and Registration here](#)

are a few clear indicators of this that I've encountered hundreds of times over the years.

First, some definitions.

The Log-Tchebycheff, or Log-T was developed by a Russian mathematician. It is based upon a logarithm (ncilink.com/LogDefinition) that calculates where to drill holes or "install test ports," and where to mark the test probe to obtain accurate readings in the duct. For rectangular ductwork, this method requires a minimum of 25 readings and a maximum of 47 readings. Log-T also requires you to take all measurements to three decimal places.

[Read Full Article](#)

**Earn your
CSD-1
Certification**

Join us at Young Supply



for two opportunities to earn your CSD-1 certification.

The class will cover code requirements for CSD-1 testing and certification, forms needed, how to test and record, and code updates.

There will be a review of current CSD-1 codes, test procedures and recording of information, how to fill out forms for state mandated CSD-1 testing, and best practices and troubleshooting.

Meal provided. \$225

Instructor - Phil Forner

For info and registration for the Troy

class: <https://miacca.org/event-3500588>

For info and registration for the Kalamazoo

class: <https://miacca.org/event-3500594>

Not a member yet?

Contact us today and find out how you can join and get involved!

Join today at miacca.org

Supported by our Associate Members



CLEAResult



Office: (866) 269-8486, Email: info@miacca.org, Address: 602 W. Ionia, Ste 209 Lansing, MI 48933

[Unsubscribe](#)