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The Healthy Buildings 2000 Conference will be held at the Helsinki University of Technology in Espoo, Finland.



Healthy Buildings 2000 Conference

The quality of indoor air has a major impact on our health and well-being. About 90 per cent of our lifetime is spent indoors. These are the inescapable facts that are behind the Healthy Buildings Conference to be held on 6–10 August, in the year 2000 in Espoo, Finland. The Healthy Buildings conference series was launched in 1988 to transfer research results into practice.

The first Healthy Buildings Conference was held in Stockholm in 1988, a year after the Indoor Air Conference of 1987. Since then the Conference has been held in Washington DC, Budapest, Milan and Oslo.

The program of each conference has focused on practical solutions backed by scientific data. Each conference has also produced state-of-the-art reports on current topics. The Healthy Buildings 2000 Conference will be organized according to the same principles. Work will begin to identify the key topics during the Indoor Air Conference to be held in Edinburgh in 1999.

Scientific program in plenary sessions

The Healthy Buildings 2000 Conference aims at processing the latest knowledge from in-

door air quality research, construction techniques and product development into economical and safe solutions for healthier living and working environments.

The scope of the Conference covers all building types in all climatic conditions.

Healthy Buildings 2000 will be a working conference. In the plenary sessions, leading experts from science and industry will review the current status of indoor air quality (IAQ) issues. The workshops of the Conference will be initiated at Indoor Air '99. An internet discussion forum will be arranged for pre-conference work. During the Conference several workshops and meetings will take place. Papers will be presented in the poster sessions, in which the authors will give short introductions to the posters.

Conference venue and sessions

The conference will be held at the Helsinki University of Technology (HUT) in Espoo, Finland. The venue is only 10 minutes from the center of Helsinki, one of the European Cities of Culture in the year 2000. The HUT campus is world-famous for the architecture of Alvar Aalto, and offers an inspiring, efficient and relaxing setting for international congresses.

The Conference venue provides excellent possibilities to organize satellite events.

Over the past decades, the Helsinki area has gained a reputation as an attractive, safe, clean and well-organized host city for international meetings.

The organizers of the Conference are the Finnish Society of Indoor Air Quality and Climate and Helsinki University of Technology, which in 1993 arranged the Indoor Air '93 Conference in Helsinki, Finland.

Topics

The program will include the following topics, just to mention a few:

- Target levels for indoor climate
- Cost effects and benefits of good IAQ
- Design methods for better indoor air quality
- Specifications for healthy building design
- Prediction and calculation of indoor climate
- Control of moisture and mold in structures and buildings
- Moistureproof materials and structures
- Ventilation and air quality
- Clean ventilation systems
- Business opportunities for IAQ products and services

Vaisala is one of the Conference supporters. Vaisala's newest instruments to measure indoor air quality will be showcased in conjunction with the Conference.

For more information about the Healthy Buildings 2000 Conference, please visit <http://www.hb2000.org> ■



The effects of indoor air

We all consume at least 15,000 liters of air per day, and most of our time is spent indoors. The quality of the air we breathe is therefore vitally important to our health and well-being. Achieving high-quality indoor air requires good ventilation systems and, above all, the correct use and maintenance of these systems.

The health problems caused by poor indoor air include irritation of the skin, mucous membranes and respiratory organs, as well as headaches, mental fatigue and various illnesses, most commonly infections of the air channels.

There is a lot of room for improvement in the quality of indoor air. To avoid problems in indoor air quality three basic rules apply: (1) the building should be in good condition, (2) the air conditioning and heating equipment should function as planned, and (3) the equipment should be used correctly and maintained regularly.



The scope of the Healthy Buildings 2000 Conference covers all building types in all climatic conditions.