



April 2026 Volume 45 Issue 8

Chapters are not authorized to speak for the Society

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AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
PLUMBING ENGINEERS
SOUTHWESTERN OHIO CHAPTER**
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April CHAPTER MEETING

Date: **TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026**

Location: Countryside YMCA
1699 Deerfield Rd
Lebanon, OH 45036
Tel 513.932.1424

Cost: \$20 online

Schedule: 11:30PM-1:30PM

Valves & Accessories 101

Presented by: Nibco

Reservations: Make a reservation and pay for the meeting through the [Chapter Website](#) or email Bill Berger at bill.berger@kohler.com or John Fox at jfox@mwspec.com before **noon** on **MONDAY, April 13th**, so that a head count can be established. As always, guests are welcome.

All content displayed at ASPE meetings is copyrighted. No one may copy any part of it without permission of the copyright owner. Violation of this rule can lead to monetary damages.

LOOKING AHEAD

Chapter Meetings to be held at Countryside YMCA,
Lebanon, OH unless noted otherwise.

Valves 101 – April 14, 2025
Ohio Ethics CEU with Tri-State Society of Fire
Protection – April 15, 2026
Region 2 TopGolf Competition – June 4, 2026
ASPE Convention & Expo – Oklahoma City
October 8-14, 2026

The ASPE Newsletter is published by the Southwestern Ohio Chapter of the American Society of Plumbing Engineers. Opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Society, the Chapter or the Editor.

Presidential prose...



Upcoming Events:

Chapter Meeting - April 14, 2026 – Valves 101 w/ NIBCO

Ohio Ethics CEU with Tri-State Society of Fire Protection – April 15, 2026

Region 2 TopGolf Competition – June 4, 2026

October 8-14, 2026 – ASPE Convention & Expo – Oklahoma City

Thanks for being here, we like having you.

– **Andrew Hemmelgarn**
President

Calling all golfers!! The Southwest Ohio Chapter has entered the ASPE Region 2 TopGolf competition, where our Chapter will virtually go head-to-head with other Chapters in our Region (this includes archrivals Columbus and Cleveland). Come out to TopGolf West Chester on June 4 and help us be the best in the Region.

In April the Society of Fire Protection Engineers they are bringing in the same ethics speaker we had a few years ago: Susan Willeke from the Ohio Ethics Commission. This presentation will provide your required ethics CEU as part of Ohio PE licensure.

Our Annual Night out at the Dayton Dragons will be held June 12, 2026. This is open to the entire family Please see the website to secure your tickets and join the Chapter for a night of brats, beer, and baseball.

Registration for the 2026 ASPE Convention & Expo, held in Oklahoma City, will open soon. This is a huge event and the largest gathering of plumbing design professionals and manufacturers of the entire year. See any of your Board members if you're unfamiliar with the Convention & Expo and want to learn more and understand the benefit.

As always we are open to programming requests, please reach out to a Board member or submit on the website YOUR ideas for a technical presentation.

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MANUFACTURERS' REPRESENTATIVES OF THE HIGHEST QUALITY PLUMBING AND SPECIALTY BUILDING PRODUCTS

Technically Speaking...



April

Spring has officially sprung, and I'm so glad it has. While it's all fun and games with the Reds season kicking off, I will sorely miss the Cincinnati Cyclones games. That being said, I saw my first Opening Day Parade this year as a life-long Cincinnati, and that put me in the warm-weather spirit. Todd Schneider taught us about mixing valves in March, and that was a great presentation for those looking at evaluating thermostatic vs digital, methods for installation, and when to use certain types of mixing valves. April welcomes Nibco as they present Valves and Accessories 101, which is a further expansion on this topic. I'm looking forward to evaluating my current use of certain valve types and adding others into my repertoire for future projects. Looking forward to seeing y'all there!

Cheers,

— **James Fiorini**
VP, Technical

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Legislative lingo...



- Proper **integration with fire, sprinkler, and accessibility systems** where applicable.

Impact:

- If modular units include plumbing, they now fall under full OPC compliance.

– *Jeremy M. Williams PE, LEED AP BD+C
VP, Technical*

Looking to stay in touch with the Chapter



www.southwestern-ohio.aspe.org

Plumbing-Related Amendments (Effective October 15, 2025)

Plastic Pans for Water Heaters Now Explicitly Allowed
Ohio adopted 2024 IPC language permitting **plastic drain pans** under water heaters—an important update for both residential and commercial plumbing installations.

- This is part of the statewide amendment package applied to the 2024 OPC. [\[com.ohio.gov\]](http://com.ohio.gov)

Impact:

- Expands acceptable materials in water heater safety design.
- May change specifications where metal pans were previously required.

B. Higher Education Buildings Lose Certain Plumbing Fixture Exceptions

Ohio modified plumbing fixture requirements so that **institutions of higher education can no longer use an older exception for separate facilities.**

- The modifications appear in amendments to Section 2902. [\[dam.assets.ohio.gov\]](http://dam.assets.ohio.gov)

Impact:

- Higher-ed buildings must now provide **separate facilities for each sex** where required.
- Impacts restrooms in new construction, renovations, and change-of-occupancy projects.

C. Modular Rooms Now Treated as Building Components (Including Plumbing Integration)

Ohio formally defined “modular rooms” and requires permitting and life-safety integration. While often not plumbed, some modular work pods include:

- Sinks
- Drinking water fixtures
- Drainage provisions

The updated rules require:

- **Building permits** for modular rooms.

The Southwestern Ohio Chapter would like to wish a

Happy Birthday

To the following members celebrating their birthday this month:

Timothy Goodale, Suellen Hugan, John Keppel and Bob McGinnis

And the Chapter would like to wish a

Happy Anniversary

to the following members commemorating their ASPE anniversary this month:

Brad Bruening, Nick Hanes, Deana Crawford, Doug Dockus, Dan Heiskell, Bob McCain, Clayton Milner and Jeremy Williams

Membership musings...



Membership!

We had great attendance at our last meeting on Digital vs Thermostatic Mixing Valves, where we had a lively presentation from Todd Schneider. Our next meeting is on Valves and Accessories 101 with Nibco Inc at Countryside YMCA in Lebanon from 11:30am to 1:00pm on Tuesday, April 14th.

Are you going to need your ethics CEU for your PE renewal in the next year or two? If so, you're in luck, on Wednesday, April 15th 12:00pm to 1:00pm at Sharonville Fire Department 86 we will have a joint session with Society of Fire protection Engineers to accomplish this.

We are steady at 109 members this month again, we have 60 Full members, 18 Associate members, 27 Affiliate members, 3 Life members, and 1 Retired member.

We would also like to thank those who renewed last month including Travis Burke, Terry Cannon, Doug Dockus, Nicklas Hanes, Mike Heaton, Andrew Hemmelgarn, David Mohler, Andy Monnig, Kevin Neal, Dan Ross, Christopher Swank, William Westrick. We appreciate your continued support.



ASPE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

Learn more about our group!

AYP is dedicated to the needs of plumbing designers 35 years old and younger. Your local ASPE Chapters have been busy organizing exciting opportunities to help you excel in your career:

- » Partnerships with other industry groups
- » Social and networking events
- » Professional development opportunities
- » Mentoring programs
- » And more!

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For more info visit: aspe.org/ayp

Total Membership		
	March 25'	March 26'
Buffalo-Niagara	44	44
Central Indiana	133	131
Central Ohio	129	136
Cleveland	96	102
Eastern Michigan	116	115
Johnstown	32	37
Kentucky Bluegrass	38	43
Pittsburgh	105	105
Rochester	83	84
Southern Indiana	40	36
Southwestern Ohio	107	109
Toronto	108	115
Western Michigan	93	96
Region 2 Total:	1124	1153

Thanks!

– **Brian Selander VP, Membership**

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FOR WHERE IT REALLY MATTERS

SyncroFlo is based in Norcross, GA with over 50 years of experience manufacturing packaged pumping systems and the first to prepackage pumping systems for boosting pressure in domestic water distribution systems. The "IronHeart," which has been the core of our business since 1985, has been the industry standard for pressure boosting domestic water in commercial buildings. We offer 32 standard models featuring close coupled end suction pumps configured in duplex and triplex models with flow rated to 750 GPM and boost pressures to 190 PSI.

WHY A SYNCROFLO PRE PACKAGED SYSTEM?

All SyncroFlo IronHeart systems are manufactured to the highest standards within the 155,000 square foot facility. SyncroFlo has a superior Quality Management System that is ISO 9001:2015 certified. All systems bear the UL & ETL labels and are certified to UL 778 and UL 508A standards. All our domestic water systems including the IronHeart line are NSF/ANSI 61, 372 & Annex G certified for drinking water applications. Control panels are assembled in a UL 508A panel shop with a QR (Quick Reference) code identification for web based access to the project documents. All systems are factory tested in a NIST traceable test stand and the results are recorded for generation of an XY plot.

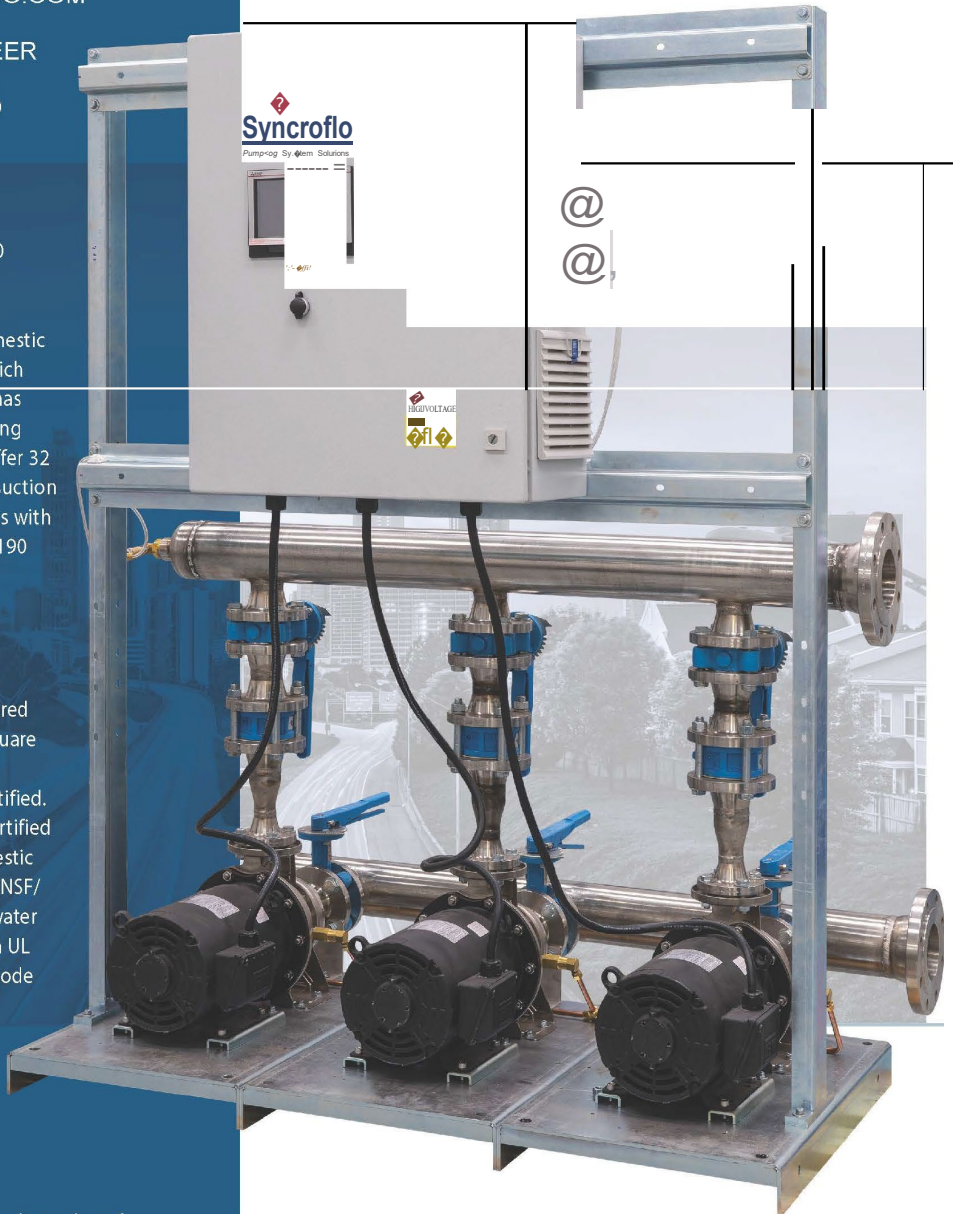
QUALITY CONTROL AND TESTING!

SyncroFlo's quality control program is on the leading edge of technology for our industry. Each system is tracked at all stages of manufacturing, assembly, and testing with web based reporting via hand held devices. All welding is performed by AWS or ASME qualified welders. Once manufacturing and assembly are complete, the system is connected to our NIST calibrated test rig. We then hydrostatically test and flow test from zero to 100% of design and under specified suction and net delivery pressures. Once on site, your only surprise is how easy the system is to startup and commission.

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Volume 19, Number 7, April 2, 2026 | [View all ASPE Pipeline articles online](#)

ASPE Pipeline

News for the Plumbing System Design Industry

Registration Is Open for June Workshop

The next in-person ASPE MedGas Workshop will be held at ASPE's headquarters in Rosemont, Illinois, on June 11–14, taught by medical gas expert Mathis Carlson. Rosemont is a short ride from Chicago's O'Hare Airport and several hotels are within walking distance of our headquarters, making this a convenient option regarding travel. Also, June is a fabulous time to visit Chicago! [Learn more>>](#)



Curious About Medical Gas System Design but Don't Know Where to Start?

If you want a quick introduction to this specialty, join us on April 29 at 9:00 a.m. CDT for "Virtual MedGas 101." This four-hour CEU webinar will explore the essentials to lay the groundwork for you to take a more comprehensive medical gas design class and potentially earn the ASSE 6060 credential. [Learn more>>](#)

ASPE Seeks Plumbing Design Experts to Help Develop PE Exam

As part of our initiative to include a Plumbing/Piping exam module within the NCEES Mechanical Engineering suite of Professional Engineer exams, we seek subject area experts to join in the development of the plumbing/piping exam. Please contact David Dexter, PE, FASPE, at plbgegr@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer.



WOA Scholarship Deadline Is April 30

The scholarship will cover expenses to attend the 2026 ASPE Convention & Expo up to \$3,000 as well as a one-year membership renewal. [Learn more>>](#)



Earn the GPD Designation This May

Taught by Doug Nelson, PE, GPD, this workshop at our headquarters is a convenient opportunity to earn the GPD designation in just two days. [Learn more>>](#)



MEMBER NEWS

Two ASPE Members Are Featured as Influential PHCP-PVF Women

In the March 2026 edition of *Supply House Times*, Natalie Forster profiles "10 Influential PHCP Women," and we are pleased to announce that ASPE members Yvette Duran and Elvira Pita were featured. [Learn more>>](#)

Long-Time Boston Chapter Member Passes Away

Former Boston Chapter Board member Jim Harrison passed away on March 16, 2026, after a hard-fought battle against Parkinson's disease. Jim joined ASPE in 1996 and most recently was a Territory Sales Manager for K Ross Company. [Learn more>>](#)

PIPELINE EXCLUSIVES



How to Stay on Top of NFPA 99 Changes

Learn how to understand the direction of the



Breaking Down IPC Chapters 10 and 11

Sahil Mahajan's latest article explores the

code and work with partners who can interpret the details before they become obstacles in the [latest Pipeline Exclusive](#).

International Plumbing Code requirements for the design, installation, and protection of traps. [Read it now>>](#)

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INDUSTRY NEWS

- [AWWA report finds rising drinking water infrastructure costs put affordability at risk](#)
- [PPI announces support of bipartisan plastic health research act](#)
- [NGWA highlights role of groundwater professionals in addressing data center cooling](#)
- [Hydraulic Institute completes pump system certification learning path](#)
- [NFPA to host annual Conference & Expo in Las Vegas in June](#)
- [Mueller Associates debuts 60th anniversary documentary series](#)
- [WQA welcomes new vice president of product certification and lab services](#)
- [Armstrong Fluid Technology appoints Danilo Elez as CEO](#)
- [T&S Brass promotes two members of global team](#)
- [Rinnai names Perry McGuire as senior VP of legal, government affairs, and people](#)

[Get more industry news on ASPE Pipeline>>](#)



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AFFILIATE CORNER

Industry Leaders to Unite at GF Flow Symposium



On May 3–6, 2026, in Nashville, the inaugural GF Flow Symposium will join builders, developers, contractors, engineers, and executive leaders to explore the future of system solutions. [Learn more>>](#)

Kohler Launches the Aquifer 4-in-1 Beverage System



The Aquifer 4-in-1 system combines still, chilled, near boiling, and sparkling water in one faucet paired with an undercounter unit that manages filtration, carbonation, and temperature control. [Learn more>>](#)

Watts Introduces Under Sink Guardian® Mixing Valve



Watts' new LFUSG-CS Under Sink Guardian® is the industry's first point-of-use mixing valve engineered to simplify diagnosis and repair through visual indication and a replaceable strainer cartridge. [Learn more>>](#)

STX Sales and Marketing: New Name, Same Project Support



Stephen & Stephenson is now STX Sales and Marketing. While our sales representative's name has changed, customers can continue to expect the same responsiveness, attention to detail, and day-to-day support they have come to rely on across Central and Southern Texas. The transition reflects a new name, not a new standard, and the team remains committed to helping projects move forward with consistency and care. [Learn more about STX>>](#)

NIBCO® Announces Webstone® PP-RCT Line Enhancements



New products include new G-Thread x PP-RCT unions to make any G-Series body ready for heat-fusion installation, regular and FIP transition ball valves, the Isolator® with rotating flange, and stem extensions. [Learn more>>](#)

Bradford White Water Heaters Sponsors Boys & Girls Club Awards



As Title Sponsor of the 38th Annual Boys & Girls Club of the Virginia Peninsula Youth of the Year Awards, Bradford White helps honor young people who exemplify leadership, academic achievement, and community service. [Learn more>>](#)

CSA Group Breaking Ground on New U.S. Headquarters



CSA Group's new U.S. Head Office in Brecksville, Ohio, will span more than 290,000 square feet and include both testing laboratories and offices, designed to address the evolving needs of its global manufacturing customers. [Learn more>>](#)

A. O. Smith Named One of the World's Most Ethical Companies



A. O. Smith has been honored with this award by Ethisphere for three consecutive years and is one of only 13 honorees in the industrial manufacturing category. [Learn more>>](#)



ASPE Announces the 2026 Green Plumbing Design Workshop

Due to popular demand, ASPE will be holding a new in-person Green Plumbing Design (GPD) Workshop on May 28–29, 2026, at our headquarters in Rosemont, IL, an easily accessible suburb northwest of Chicago. This is an excellent opportunity to earn the GPD designation in just two days.

About the GPD Workshop

The GPD Workshop was created for professionals who want to increase their skills in designing plumbing systems that conserve and protect water supplies and reduce energy consumption in the delivery and use of water. The two-day workshop in Chicago will cover:

- Residential plumbing conservation measures
- Efficient solar-heated water design and installation
- Water-efficient technology measures
- Commercial and domestic plumbing inspection reports
- Calculations
- Sustainable product selection

The workshop will run from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 28, and 9:00 am to 4:00 pm on Friday, May 29. Lunch will be provided both days. The workshop will be held at 6400 Shafer Court, Rosemont, IL, which is a short Uber ride from Chicago's O'Hare Airport.

Certificate of Completion & GPD Designation Use

Each participant at this workshop will be awarded a Certificate of Completion. In addition, participants who successfully pass the assessment at the end of the workshop and currently hold either the Certified in Plumbing Design (CPD) credential and/or a Professional Engineer (PE) license will be granted use of the GPD designation.

Cost

The GPD Workshop in Chicago is \$500 for ASPE members and \$600 for nonmembers. Not an ASPE member? [Join today](#) to save \$100 on this workshop and enjoy all of ASPE's other member benefits.

You can register for the Chicago GPD Workshop on ASPE Education. It is limited to 20 participants, so don't delay!



Hello!

ASPE's April 2026 Book of the Month is [ARCSA/ASPE/ANSI 63-2020: Rainwater Catchment Systems](#) (eBook version).

Through April 30, 2026, you can purchase this eBook for 25% off the regular member price. Just enter coupon code **Aprilshowers** when you check out.

The discount is valid on the digital edition of this publication, and the coupon code can only be used once. If you are purchasing multiple items, the discount will be applied only to the assigned publication.

Don't forget to enter the coupon code when you check out to receive the discount!

2026 CPD Exam to Be Held This April

If you seek to earn the Certified in Plumbing Design (CPD) credential this year, be sure to fill out the eligibility form by the April 1 deadline. The exam is held via remote proctor, so if you are eligible you will be able to choose your exam date and time from April 13 to 24. [Fill out the eligibility form now>>](#)

2026 CPD Exam

April 13-24, via remote proctor

Learn How to Take the CPD Exam

If you are considering taking the CPD exam, our virtual review classes in March will teach you insightful studying skills so you can prepare to ace it. [Learn more and sign up>>](#)



AFFILIATE CORNER

[Watts Kicks Off "Training Cup Challenge" Sweepstakes](#)



Running from February 2 through May 1, 2026, the sweepstakes will reward those completing Watts Works training courses with the chance to win exclusive prizes, including gameday gear and tailgating prizes. [Learn more>>](#)

[Kohler Introduces Dual-Wand Bidet Toilet Seat](#)



The KOHLER PureWash E860 Dual-Wand Elongated Bidet Toilet Seat, a first-to-market solution with both front and rear bidet wands, is designed to support women's health and wellness. [Learn more>>](#)

[GF Announces the Inaugural GF Flow Symposium](#)



The inaugural symposium, themed "One vision. One future. One flow.," will take place at the historic Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center in Nashville from May 3–6, 2026. [Learn more>>](#)

[Smart Design Often Looks Simple](#)

Every Willoughby washfountain is built with color-coded tubing for internal water lines and actuators. This deliberate design choice simplifies initial installation, makes it easy to identify which water connection serves each station, and reduces complexity during maintenance or future renovations. The result is a cleaner install, faster service, and a more predictable lifecycle for engineers and facility teams alike.



[View washfountains>>](#)

[Wilco USA Elevates Partnership with Memphis Grizzlies](#)



As part of the NBA Global Games, the Wilco logo appeared on the Memphis Grizzlies' warm-up jerseys during games against the Orlando Magic in Berlin and London. [Learn more>>](#)

[Culligan Named Water Solutions Supplier of Paris Marathon](#)



The partnership with the Schneider Electric Marathon de Paris supports Culligan's goal to deliver filtered, great-tasting water while accelerating the transition to more sustainable hydration. [Learn more>>](#)

[ICC-ES Announces New Electrical Division](#)



The ICC-ES Electrical Division will deliver globally recognized testing, inspection, and certification services to help electrical and automation manufacturers bring products to market quickly. [Learn more>>](#)

Join ASPE!



SOUTHWESTERN OHIO

ASPE Southwestern Ohio Inter-Region TopGolf Golfing Competition

Represent Southwestern Ohio and compete against other ASPE regions in an evening of Topgolf competition, networking, and regional pride!

Event Details

Date: Thursday, June 4, 2026

Time: 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Venue: Topgolf – West Chester

Address: 9568 Water Front Dr, West Chester Township, OH 45069

Competition Format

- **Inter-region Topgolf competition** (Southwestern Ohio vs. other ASPE regions)
- Reserved **3 Topgolf bays**
- **15 total participants** (5 players per bay)
- Structured gameplay with scoring tracked throughout the event

This event combines friendly rivalry with a fun, social atmosphere and is welcoming to **all skill levels**.

What to Expect

- Competitive play against fellow ASPE regions
 - Team camaraderie and Southwestern Ohio regional pride
 - Networking between rounds with engineers, designers, and industry partners
 - Food, drinks, and the full Topgolf experience
-

Prizes & Bragging Rights

- 🏆 **Top Region / Top Bay Score**
- 🏆 **Top Individual Score**
- 🎯 **Accuracy or Closest-to-the-Pin Challenges** *(if available)*

Prize and recognition details to be announced

Who Should Attend

- ASPE members and guests representing **Southwestern Ohio**
 - Plumbing engineers, designers, and industry partners and affiliates
 - Anyone ready to compete, network, and support their region
-

☒ Registration / RSVP

Spots are limited to 15 players.

Advance registration is strongly encouraged to secure your bay.

💎 Ready to Defend Southwestern Ohio?

Grab your clubs, rally your teammates, and help Southwestern Ohio stand out in this inter-region ASPE Topgolf showdown.

We look forward to seeing you on the leaderboard!

Ready to Sponsor?

Help Southwestern Ohio bring home the win—while showcasing your brand to the ASPE community.

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Email/Phone: dross@hixson-inc.com

Let's Compete!

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Thank you for supporting ASPE Southwestern Ohio!

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Email / Phone: ____

Thank You!

This inter-region ASPE Topgolf competition is powered by our affiliate sponsors. **We appreciate your support of ASPE Southwestern Ohio.**

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Hot Water Recirculation



In 2012, CircuitSolver® was developed to conquer the challenges inherent to conventional manual balancing valves. As the market's first **thermostatic balancing valves** used for domestic hot water recirculation, CircuitSolver® balances a system based solely on temperature as opposed to pressure or flow to guarantee hot water at **every fixture**. Dynamically balancing a system, CircuitSolver® ultimately **ended complaints** about the lack of hot water, and eliminated balancing processes and callbacks.

Cold Water Recirculation



Last year, we implemented our thermal actuator technology into the CircuitSolver® Union Cold Water balancing valves. These valves are installed in domestic Cold Water recirculation systems to mitigate the risk of Legionella and other bacterial growth. Cold water recirculation is becoming more prominent in hospitals to reduce water stagnation and ensure residual chlorine is distributed but can be beneficial to any commercial building that could experience periods of low flow or non-use.

Parting thought...

"The pain of parting is nothing to the joy of meeting again." —Charles Dickens

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Advanced software provides regular updates, documentation, custom-filtered reports, and real-time alerts for compliance with industry guidelines and Standards of Care.

PROGRAMMABLE OPERATION AND FLOW CONTROL



SAGE® MONITORING



ABH

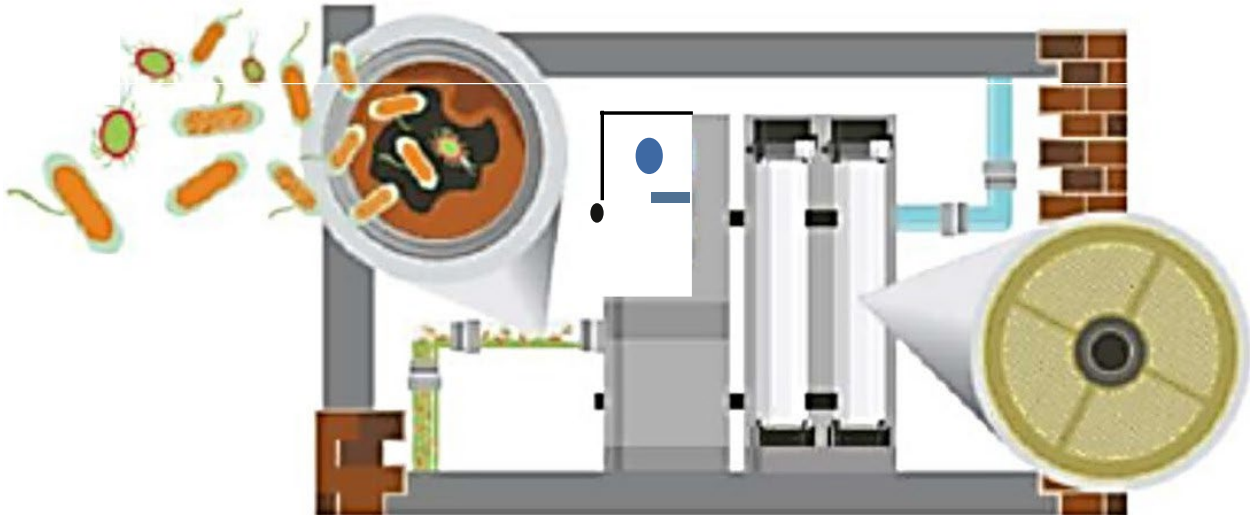


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