



HEALTH in BUILDINGS HYGEIA 2026

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May 27-29, 2026 - Island of KOS, Greece

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William P. Bahnfleth, PhD, PE
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	Presentation title:	Engineering Controls to Mitigate Airborne Infection Risk: ASHRAE Standard 241 Control of Infectious Aerosols		

Through its Epidemic Task Force, ASHRAE provided timely leadership in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic from March 2020 through June 2022. At the request of the White House, ASHRAE built on that work for the future. In December 2022, the ASHRAE Board committed to rapidly writing a standard to make buildings more resilient against infectious aerosols to improve readiness for future infectious disease outbreaks. In only four months the project committee, chaired by the speaker, created and won approval for ASHRAE Standard 241-2023, the first standard to add address ventilation to reduce airborne infection risk based on quantitative risk assessment and the first to state requirements in terms of Equivalent Clean Air rather than outdoor air. This lecture will provide a summary of the standard including its purpose, scope, and key requirements together with supporting background. Plans for future development of the standard and prospects for its adoption will also be presented.

Short CV:

William Bahnfleth is a professor of architectural engineering at the Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, USA. He holds a PhD in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and is a Registered Professional Engineer. He is a Fellow of ASHRAE, ASME, and ISIAQ. He served as President of ASHRAE in 2013-2014 and currently chairs SSPC 241 *Control of Infectious Aerosols.*

Event:





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CV:

William Bahnfleth is a professor of architectural engineering at the Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, USA. He holds BS, MS, and PhD degrees in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he also earned a baccalaureate degree in music, and is a Registered Professional Engineer. He is a Fellow of ASHRAE, ASME, and ISIAQ. Prior to joining the Penn State faculty, he held positions as a consulting engineer and as a US government facilities engineering researcher. Dr. Bahnfleth's research covers a wide range of building science topics, but primarily focuses on indoor air quality and, specifically, control of infectious aerosols. He is the author or coauthor of more than 200 publications. He served as President of ASHRAE in 2013-2014 and currently chairs the Policy and Advocacy Subcommittee of the ASHRAE Environmental Health Committee and SSPC 241 *Control of Infectious Aerosols*. From 2020-2022, he chaired the ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force responsible for developing Covid-19 guidance. Dr. Bahnfleth is the recipient of the Penn State World Class Engineering Faculty Award and is a Distinguished Alumnus of the University of Illinois Department of Mechanical Science and Engineering. He is the recipient of numerous ASHRAE awards, the E.K. Campbell Award of Merit for teaching, Andrew T. Boggs Service Award, Louise and Bill Holladay Distinguished Fellow Award, Standards Achievement Award, Donald Bahnfleth Environmental Health Award and ASHRAE's highest honor, the F. Paul Anderson Award.