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Contact: Ken Tomihiro
Program Manager
k.tomihiro@ciph.com

CIPH Continues to Lead Canadian Code Harmonization Initiatives

CIPH members and allied stakeholders are becoming increasingly affected by the introduction of individual water-use and energy-efficiency requirements in different provinces and municipalities. This lack of uniformity is creating confusion in the marketplace with results of reduced competitiveness of manufacturers and suppliers, gaps in product safety and reduced consumer choice.

CIPH is currently conducting an intensive campaign to express industry concerns over this fragmented regulatory environment and its negative effect on competitiveness and the ability to develop new products and embrace new technologies. In a recent letter written to provincial deputy ministers responsible for codes and standards, CIPH President & GM Ralph Suppa informed them that “Through our Plumbing Industry Advisory Council, our Canadian Hydronics Council and the Canadian Advisory Council on Plumbing, our members have volunteered to create recommendations on the appropriate use of water-use efficiency and energy efficiency technology as it relates to our industry.” He also listed how the recommendations of CIPH can:

- Use the existing code development system which is based on orderly consultation and transition to promote uniformity across all jurisdictions;
- Be a tool for the jurisdictions that would reduce the need for them to create regulations from scratch;
- Deal with emerging issues and technologies including both benefits and limitations; and
- Reduce the potential for regulations to require costly amendments after they have been adopted.

The objective of the campaign is to encourage federal, provincial and local officials to develop and promote regulations that are supported by industry consensus. For example CIPH, approached the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs to explore harmonizing the Ontario and National Plumbing Codes and as stated by Suppa in his correspondence, “the Institute is confident we can work together to bridge the gap that exists until the Codes system in Canada catches up to the existing needs of water-use and energy efficiency.”

CIPH members encourage improved environmental stewardship and support leadership that responds to the needs of all Canadians. CIPH continues to work diligently on their behalf with the understanding that progressive and harmonized codes increase competitiveness on local and global scales and it is now preparing a submission for the federal government to address the effects of international regulatory trade barriers.

For more information on this CIPH initiative contact Ken Tomihiro at 416-695-0447 or k.tomihiro@ciph.com.

The Canadian Institute of Plumbing & Heating is a not-for-profit trade association. Founded in 1933, the Institute is a vibrant organization committed to providing members with the tools for success in today's competitive environment. More than 250 companies are members of this influential Canadian industry association. They are the manufacturers, wholesaler distributors, master distributors, manufacturers' agents and allied companies who manufacture and distribute plumbing, hydronic heating, industrial, waterworks and other mechanical products. CIPH wholesalers operate more than 700 warehouses and showrooms across Canada. Total industry sales exceed \$5 billion annually.



295 The West Mall, Suite 330, Toronto, Ontario M9C 4Z4.

info@ciph.com, Fax. 416-695-0450, www.ciph.com, Tel. 1-888-ASK-CIPH (275-2474), 416-695-0447.

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