

MEDIA ADVISORY
For Immediate Release



NEWMAN REAL ESTATE INSTITUTE PARTNERS WITH ASHRAE TO EXAMINE THE LESSONS LEARNED DURING SUPERSTORM SANDY REMEDIATION EFFORTS

**On April 11th, Commissioner Robert D. LiMandri, NYC Buildings Department,
as well as numerous experts from ASHRAE, will speak.**

New York, NY, April 5, 2013 – The Steven L. Newman Real Estate Institute, Baruch College, CUNY, in collaboration with ASHRAE will present an important event that will provide critical insight on the urban future of New York City. Six of the most respected national experts on disaster recovery and remediation will collaborate, through an interactive forum, to develop a strategic action plan that will enable more effective property restoration and potentially save lives within our disaster stricken northeast region, as well as similar global areas.

As warmer spring weather approaches our region, many of the buildings that were impacted by Superstorm Sandy may begin to experience problems that will endanger their habitability. The conference will explore the serious situations that may develop due to stacks of debris left over much of the area that have microbial growth. Also of great concern, flooding damaged both commercial and residential buildings that are older and built with massive timber structures, and flooded transformer, boilers, power cables and switching gears may soon fail and potentially cause fires.

The renowned panel of experts will consider several conditions that hold a high potential for future occupant risk and emerging building problems. The panelists will present their evaluation of a) the probability of adverse outcome; b) quantify the seriousness of an adverse impact; c) outline mitigation strategies; d) estimate the implementation costs; and e) propose a private and public sector implementation plan. Attendees will have the opportunity to provide valuable input to the panelists.

The conference will use the experience of its speakers and panelists to create solutions and develop a comprehensive plan and report. The proceedings will be publically circulated to minimize, or avoid, life disrupting and community destroying outcomes that often follow natural disasters.

“This conference is not just about the obvious aspects of remediation. It is also about the future, in terms of whom we should depend on for proper information and guidance for disaster occurrences. It’s about developing relationships and highlighting key people in the industry who can provide the proper information to handle remediation accurately and responsibly,” remarked Jack S. Nyman, Executive Director of The Steven L. Newman Real Estate Institute.

“Recovering from a disaster is complex and we have to focus on the fact that buildings must be rebuilt in a manner that assures the health, comfort and safety of the occupants that live and work in them. This conference will create the opportunity for building owners in the greater New York area to literally change the future and prevent many of the huge problems that normally follow a storm like Superstorm Sandy,” commented Bob Baker of ASHRAE and co-creator of this important conference.

“We must hold our industry to a higher standard by improving and then monitoring the mitigation process to realize the full potential of quality remediation to restore high indoor environmental quality,” said Bill Bahnfleth, President-Elect of ASHRAE.

“This conference will develop strategies to anticipate and avoid problems that can show up months and even years after a disaster occurs. It is paramount that real estate stakeholders attend this conference to hear these important strategies,” stated Tom Watson, President of ASHRAE.

“Disasters precipitate special problems for HVAC systems, and we must learn from Sandy on how to avoid these problems in the future,” said Tim Wentz, Vice President of ASHRAE.

This conference will feature many subject matter experts including **Cas Holloway**, Deputy Mayor, City of New York (Invited); **Robert D. LiMandri**, Commissioner of the Department of Buildings, City of New York; **Timothy G. Wentz**, Vice President, ASHRAE; **Judith Kunoff**, Chief Architect, MTA New York City Transit; **Robert G. Baker**, Managing Director, BBJ Consulting Service; **Scott Armour**, Senior Managing Partner, Armour Applied Science, LLC; **Fiona Cousins**, Principal, ARUP; **P. Michael Bowdoin**, Attorney at Law, PC; **Christopher D’Andrea**, Acting Director, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; **Ron Jerman**, Operations Manager, Durst Organization; **Richard Bearak**, Director of Land Use, Office of the President of the Borough of Brooklyn; **Wei Tang**, President, QLab; and **Howard Wolf**, Principal, HW3 Group, LLC.

WHAT: Don’t Miss This Step! – Lessons to Be Learned from Superstorm Sandy
WHEN: Thursday, April 11, 2013 from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
WHERE: The William and Anita Newman Conference Center, 151 East 25th Street, Room 750, New York, NY 10010

Conference funding reflects wide industry interest in post-superstorm recovery and the Newman Real Estate Institute’s leadership in addressing solutions that will strengthen the real estate industry. Lead sponsors include BBJ Environmental Services, Indoor Air Quality Association, Inc., the Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration Certification and Goodway Technologies.

The conference has been accepted to provide two hours of AIA CES hours and three hours of BOMI continuing education units. Also, ASHRAE may award three ACE hours post-conference toward the renewal of one or more ASHRAE certification programs.

Go to <http://www.baruch.cuny.edu/realestate/events/dontmissthisstep.html> to register for the conference or for more information.

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[Baruch College](#) is a senior college in the [City University of New York](#) (CUNY) with a total enrollment of more than 17,000 students, who represent 160 countries and speak more than 100 languages. Ranked among the top 15% of U.S. colleges and the No. 3 public regional university, Baruch College is regularly recognized as among the most ethnically diverse colleges in the country. As a public institution with a tradition of academic excellence, Baruch College offers accessibility and opportunity for students and community members from every corner of New York City and from around the world.

[The Steven L. Newman Real Estate Institute](#) offers education and research opportunities to address the needs of the real estate industry. Through professional education courses and workshops, the Institute trains current practitioners and the next generation of real estate professionals, helping them succeed in, and contribute to, an evolving marketplace. As Executive Director of The Steven L. Newman Real Estate Institute, [Jack S. Nyman](#) leads strategic planning and partnering; guides education programs, research,

publishing, and public events; and manages operations. Under his direction, the Institute hosts dynamic public events for industry experts to share their knowledge and advance thinking in the field. Individuals, companies, nonprofit organizations, and public agencies all benefit from the programs offered by the Institute.

[ASHRAE](#), founded in 1894, is a building technology society with more than 50,000 members and 176 chapters in 132 countries worldwide. The Society and its members focus on building systems, energy efficiency, indoor air quality, refrigeration and sustainability within the industry. Through research, standards writing, publishing and continuing education, ASHRAE shapes tomorrow's built environment today.

CONTACTS:

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