

From: R. Brad Harvey
To: Owen, Mark
Date: 3/18/05 3:24PM
Subject: RE: Updating Climatic Design Conditions in the ASHRAE Handbook of Fundamentals

Mark:

Your response was helpful. Thank you.

Brad

>>> "Owen, Mark" <mowen@ashrae.org> 03/18/05 03:18PM >>>
Dear Brad:

Although I would ultimately defer to the ASHRAE Technical Committee 4.2, who are responsible for the 2005 Fundamentals volume's chapter on Climatic Design Information, for additional comment on your question, the 2005 chapter manuscript reports that the data "...are provided for those locations for which long-term hourly observations were available (1972-2001 for most U.S. and Canadian stations, and 1982-2001 for the rest of the world)." Thus, the data in the 2005 Handbook are design conditions derived from these stated periods (under constraints described at length in the chapter), and offer no extrapolation or speculation regarding potential future changes.

In the context of representativeness of data and uncertainty, the 2005 chapter manuscript also states that "Longer-term climatic change due to human or natural causes may also introduce trends into design conditions, but no conclusive evidence or consensus of opinion is available on the rapidity or nature of such changes."

I hope this is helpful, and thank you for inquiry.

Sincerely,

Mark Owen
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-----Original Message-----

From: R. Brad Harvey [<mailto:RBH@nrc.gov>]
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2005 2:44 PM
To: Owen, Mark
Cc: Leta Brown
Subject: Updating Climatic Design Conditions in the ASHRAE Handbook of Fundamentals

Mark:

I see from ASHRAE's web site that a report entitled "RP-1273 -- Updating the Climatic Design Conditions in the ASHRAE Handbook of Fundamentals (2005 Edition)" is available, as is a CD-ROM entitled "Weather Data Viewer, Version 3.0". I am in the process of ordering these materials from ASHRAE. In the meantime, can you tell me if, in publishing this new climatic data, whether any attempt has been made to adjust the data to account for potential climatic changes due to global warming?

Thank you.

Brad Harvey

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CC: Brown, Leta; Dennig, Robert; Sosa, Belkys; Tschiltz, Michael

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