

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLUMBING ENGINEERS

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

BOSTON CHAPTER

CHARTERED 1973

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Fellow Chapter Members;

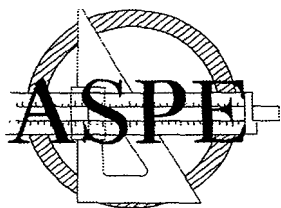
The Mass Plumbing Board has revised its policy regarding the review and approval of Siphonic drainage and Sovent Systems. We are awaiting a written summary from the Board which we will share with you.

This month, however, we would like to share with our members a letter which we sent to the Board in October. We were tremendously pleased that the Board saw fit to request an opinion from the Boston Chapter of ASPE. While this letter is under my signature, it reflects the opinion of several of our most distinguished colleagues who were kind enough to review, comment, and mark up my first draft.

We hope that the Board will continue to involve our Chapter in their future deliberations.

Manuel B. Garcia, PE, CPD. Jan. 20,2009

See attachment



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October 13, 2008

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Professional Licensure
Board of Examiners of Plumbers and Gasfitters
239 Causeway St. Suite 400
Boston, MA 02114

Att; Mr. Paul Kennedy, Chairman

Re: Sovent and Siphonic Roof Drainage

Dear Mr. Kennedy;

The Boston Chapter of the American Society of Plumbing Engineers is pleased that your Board has requested our position regarding your contemplated action which would eliminate Board review of engineered plans for Sovent Systems and for Siphonic Roof Drainage Systems. We understand that should your Board act favorably on this proposal there would no longer be Board review of the plans and the Engineer Stamping the Plans would be solely responsible for their suitability. The Board would retain the right, as with all systems, to inspect the installed system, however.

First, we would thank your Board sincerely for giving our chapter the opportunity to be part of the Legislative process. Our chapter is proud to share the knowledge and experience of our nearly 350 members. We understand the importance of your decisions as they impact not only the Design and Construction segments of our Plumbing Industry, but all of the citizenry of the Commonwealth. We are pleased to share our opinion on this matter and look forward to continue to be a resource of information for future actions contemplated by the Board.

As to the question at hand, we have solicited input from our Board of Directors and from a select subcommittee, which includes several of our most senior members, many of whom are Registered Professional Engineers.

The Boston Chapter of ASPE strongly recommends favorable action by the Board. We, as a body, welcome this action. We believe in the knowledge and integrity of the Design Professional and would gladly accept the responsibility for our work without additional review. With or without a review and the approval of documents by the Board, the ultimate responsibility of the work rests with the Design Professional. By eliminating the Plan approval process we will have better control over the Project's delivery schedule, a reduced cost to do the Project and a freeing up of Resources in your Office as well.

Again we thank you sincerely for the opportunity to share our insights with you.

Sincerely;

Manuel B. Garcia, PE, CPD
Legislative V.P.