

Jim Vallort, Fellow ASHRAE
Practice Leader: Energy+ECO, Automation and Commissioning
Environmental Systems Design, Inc. (ESD)

Jim Vallort has spent his career focusing on energy: ranging from measuring energy usage, optimizing the systems, integrating automation to control energy and the impact of commissioning on energy consumption.

Jim is a Senior Vice president with ESD headquartered in Chicago, IL, a consulting engineering firm. Jim also serves as an ASHRAE Society Vice President for the 2015-2016 Board of Directors. He currently serves as a member of Standard Project Committee 211P, Standard for Commercial Building Energy Audits, and Technical Committee (TC) 7.9, Building Commissioning. Jim previously served on the Board as a director-at-large in 2005-08 and as Region VI director and Regional Chair in 2001-04.

Jim has over 20 publications and numerous presentations under his belt on topics ranging from Energy Efficiency, Automation and Commissioning to Underfloor Air Distribution. He has been an invited speaker at multiple fortune 500 companies educating their staff on building automation, energy efficiency, existing building commissioning and new construction commissioning. He brings a unique perspective on the constructability and real world aspects of our industry having been a union pipefitter, spent years in the field commissioning projects, combined with the experience as a mechanical designer, building automation designer and energy modeler.

Jim's greatest joy at work is teaching and mentoring others on the mix of art and science that is required to solve today's challenges in the engineering community. Vallort is the recipient of the ASHRAE Exceptional Service Award, ASHRAE Distinguished Service Award and an Excellence in Engineering Award from the ASHRAE Illinois Chapter in 1998.

Jim Vallort plays a large role in organizing one of ASHRAE's largest, best-attended, and most profitable Conferences held in Chicago every three years. Vallort served as advisor to the most recent 2015 ASHRAE Winter Conference; co-chaired the Chicago meetings in 2012, 2006, 2003 and 1999; and served as chair of the ASHRAE Centennial Meeting in 1993; he organized the Technical Tours and was on the Entertainment Committee for the 2009 Chicago Winter Conference. His earlier service includes Technology Council, the Planning Committee, the Standards Advisory Committee and a presidential ad hoc Committee on Certification. He also served as chair of the CIBSE/ASHRAE 2000 Joint Conference Steering Committee, the Member Council ad hoc Committee on Young Engineers (YEA) and the Society Program Committee and vice chair of the CIBSE/ASHRAE 2003 Joint Conference Steering Committee. He was president of the Illinois Chapter in 1999-2000.

LECTURE TOPIC

► Building Automation System Master Planning - Take Control of Your Facility's Future

This presentation will explore ways a Building Automation System Master Plan can prepare for future technological advancements and enable today's facility managers to harness the power of their building systems, to better utilize energy and to increase energy efficiency, reduce utility costs and improve occupant comfort.

Many building owners and operators currently face issues associated with their existing building control systems. These issues can include, but are not limited to: Outdated or obsolete technology, limitations of older generations of automation systems, multiple disparate control systems functioning in the same facility and concerns related to expansion or renovation plans

These issues lead to underutilization of the control system, robbing the users of the opportunity to maximize their investment in their automation technology. I will discuss how to improve the efficiency of building systems with the ultimate goal of reducing utility and energy costs.