# Delivering High Performance Buildings and Systems: Solutions for Sustainable Spaces





## NEBB Certified Firms test high performance buildings for compliance with owners performance requirements: They understand your opportunities and challenges

NEBB programs exist to assist architects, engineers, buildings owners, and contractors in producing exceptional buildings with systems that perform as they were visualized and designed. NEBB delivers through Procedural Standards, seminars, publications and through the NEBB Quality Assurance Program.

"NEBB Certification has meant more to my firm than just recognition of our technical abilities. It has also been the best avenue for increasing our technical knowledge through NEBB's training and networking opportunities."

Jim Huber, CEM, CMVP, NCP, LEED AP, Complete Commissioning, Inc.

"Our firm has been able to help shape standards and procedures in Building Commissioning and Retro-Commissioning. Not only were we able to contribute, I personally benefitted from working side-by-side with some of the top Industry leaders. The give and take in discussions at committee meetings helped to develop robust standards and also increased the working knowledge of all participants."

Robert Linder, P.E., Sebesta Blomberg

"NEBB certification has made all the difference in our company's growth and development. Besides being specified by most Engineers, it provides a framework and pathway to professional and personal development through training, technical support, and connection to the HVAC Industry's top professionals."

Nick White, P.E., N.D. White Engineering

"NEBB's philosophy and its insistence that member firms maintain the highest quality standards, fits right in with our company vision statement. Our involvement in NEBB has also given our firm instant credibility on a national level. This credibility has helped grow our Retro- Commissioning and Commissioning business with growth rates of 50 percent per year for the past three years. NEBB is the industry leader in providing certifications of firms who can help provide high performing buildings and I am proud to be a member of this organization."

Dave McFarlane, McFarlane Inc.

"NEBB works to keep their members up to speed and ahead of the modern technology with chapter and national involvement. Through NEBB's industry noted standards and expectations, our experienced staff have been able to demonstrate our potential and quality to our clients which in turn has grown our young company of 2 years well beyond our initial 5 year goal including multiple states and countries. We encourage all our team members, clients and industry partners to share in the experience of NEBB's disciplines and Quality Assurance Program as we are proud to be part of the NEBB organization."

Jason Huffman-Pacific Test & Balance-Principal and NEBB Certified Professional in TAB & Cx

Established in 1971, the National Environmental Balancing Bureau (NEBB) is the premier international association of Certified Firms that perform Building Systems Commissioning, Building Envelope Testing, Cleanroom Performance Testing, Fume Hood Testing, Retro-Commissioning, Sound and/or Vibration Measurement, and Testing, Adjusting, and Balancing of HVAC systems.

In addition to certifying firms and individuals, NEBB is the leading source of industry information providing technical and Procedural Standards, publications, study courses, and newsletters.

Building owners and tenants are concerned about their buildings' environmental systems, so performance must be at a maximum while costs should be at a minimum. These "green" goals can be accomplished only when a building's environmental system is properly tested, balanced and/or commissioned by a NEBB Certified Professional or Technician. NEBB's function is to establish, promote and maintain high quality standards through certification of Firms, Professionals and Technicians.

There are more than 650 NEBB Certified Firms worldwide and over 1800 NEBB Certified Professionals and Certified Technicians. They are recognized by the industry and building owners as specialists having the skills necessary to measure the efficiency of building systems, and as the leaders in practical knowledge and communication skills for creating customized solutions for business owners. NEBB Certification offers tangible proof of their qualification in the procedures outlined for NEBB disciplines.



NEBB certifies firms that meet specific criteria, ensuring strict conformance to its high standards and procedures. Among other requirements, NEBB Certified Firms must document a record of responsible performance, own a complete set of instruments required for the sophisticated techniques and procedures necessary to fine-tune modern environmental systems, and have a NEBB Certified Professional as a full-time employee in a management position. To achieve NEBB Certification, Professionals must have extensive experience plus pass both rigorous written and practical examinations. They must also keep up with industry trends by completing annual continuing education requirements.

NEBB also establishes professional qualifications for the supervision and performance of work in its various disciplines.

#### Why NEBB certification?

The NEBB program affords building owners, architects, engineers and other agents a reliable basis for specifying work or acquiring services within the various disciplines of NEBB. The program provides contractors highly competent in their field and promotes proper execution of projects by ensuring compliance with NEBB standards and procedures. NEBB certification is a detailed and demanding process. The wide acceptance of NEBB and its stringent requirements have led to growing worldwide acceptance, including Certified Firms in Australia, Canada, Caribbean Islands, Europe, Far East, Middle East and South America.

#### **NEBB** disciplines

- Building Systems Commissioning
- Building Envelope Testing
- Cleanroom Performance Testing
- Fume Hood Testing
- Retro-Commissioning
- Sound and/or Vibration Measurement
- Testing, Adjusting, and Balancing

Each discipline has its own set of certification requirements, and, certification in one discipline does not provide certification in any other discipline. Each discipline is anchored by a NEBB Procedural Standard that provides guidelines for work to be performed.

Interested applicants should contact the chapter in their area of business to obtain an application and certification details. For a listing of chapters, visit <a href="https://www.nebb.org">www.nebb.org</a>.

#### **Program administration**

The NEBB program is administrated through local chapters and the International office. On the local level, chapters participate in the certification process by reviewing candidate firm qualifications and conducting courses of instruction for the training of Certified Professionals and Certified Technicians. Chapters also proctor written and practical qualification examinations. Central administration is provided by the International NEBB office, which also issues NEBB certificates. Each NEBB Certified Professional receives a NEBB certificate and a seal which is used to authenticate NEBB certified reports. Each NEBB Certified Technician receives a NEBB certificate. Only NEBB Certified Professionals may authenticate NEBB certified reports.

NEBB certifies firms and individuals that work for NEBB certified firms. For NEBB certification, a firm must designate a professional within their firm to supervise all NEBB related work. Once the designated individual successfully passes the required testing, he/she is the firm's NEBB Certified Professional. Certification requirements for each NEBB discipline vary. Firms may have multiple Certified Professionals and Certified Technicians.

#### **Recertification requirements**

Once having met NEBB's rigid requirements for certification, the firm's certification must be reviewed and renewed every two years. Through the recertification procedures, the firm must verify that its NEBB Certified Professional is still a full-time management employee and that it continues to own a complete set of instruments which are in current calibration. In addition, the firm's NEBB Certified Professional(s) must renew their qualification by keeping abreast of developments in their discipline by attending and successfully completing continuing education seminars. The firm also verifies that its Certified Technicians are current employees with 1,000 hours of field work per year and strong job performance.

#### **NEBB** certifications &

#### accreditation

There are different types of certifications offered by NEBB to individuals working for NEBB Certified Firms. They are: Certified Professional and Certified Technician. In addition, NEBB has an and Accredited Associate program.

#### **Certified Professional**

NEBB has established guidelines for the supervision and performance of work in its various disciplines. NEBB Certified Professionals must work for a NEBB Certified Firm, have extensive experience, and must pass the appropriate examinations. In certain disciplines, the NEBB Certified Professional must demonstrate practical working knowledge and proficiency in the use of instruments. After a person meets the rigid requirements for NEBB certification, he/she must continue to demonstrate technical competence in work performed.

#### Certified Technician

NEBB Certified Technician programs are available in Testing, Adjusting, and Balancing, Sound and/or Vibration measurement, and Cleanroom Performance Testing disciplines. NEBB Certified Technicians must work for a NEBB Certified firm, demonstrate competencies in measuring and recording data, and understand how to perform the work properly on a wide variety of complex systems. A uniform and systematic set of eligibility criteria, training, and examinations are used by NEBB to award Certified Technician status to those who meet the criteria and complete all requirements.

#### **NEBB Accredited Associate**

The NEBB Accredited Associate Program is for people who have a special interest in learning more about industry technological updates but are unable to meet the requirements of NEBB certification.

NEBB Accredited Associate status provides individuals with NEBB newsletters and announcements, discounted prices for NEBB publications and manuals, and the opportunity to attend NEBB educational seminars. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.nebb.org">www.nebb.org</a>



#### **Quality Assurance Program**

The Quality Assurance Program (QAP) is a commitment to project owners that the work will be done right. NEBB's credibility is built by maintaining integrity through high standards, quality programs and demonstrated capabilities of its Certified Firms. This is achieved through NEBB's QAP. The program ensures swift, single-source mediation and resolution of disputes between NEBB Certified Firms and their customers.

NEBB's QAP applies to all projects that have been specified for completion in accordance with NEBB's applicable Procedural Standards by a NEBB Certified Firm.

NEBB will issue a Conformance Certificate when called for in specifications and applied for by a NEBB Certified Firm. A certificate is not a requirement to seek assistance under NEBB's QAP.

Project owners not satisfied with work delivered by a NEBB Certified Firm can contact the local chapter or NEBB for assistance.

#### **NEBB Procedural Standards**

NEBB Procedural Standards contain comprehensive guidance for the systematic developmental and implementation of plans related to NEBB disciplines.

When applied by a NEBB Certified Firm, the NEBB Procedural Standards provide consistently high levels of results based on state-of-the art requirements.

#### **Publications and updates**

NEBB enhances the educational experience of its various disciplines by providing technical manuals, training materials and other printed resources.

Publications and Manuals are available to NEBB Certified Firms and select titles are available to non-NEBB Certified Firms.

NEBB Certified Professionals and Accredited Associates receive a monthly enewsletter from NEBB via *Program News* and quarterly industry updates via *The NEBB Professional*, NEBB's official magazine.

#### **Conferences and seminars**

NEBB conducts seminars to enhance the educational experience of each NEBB discipline:

- Building Envelope Testing
- Building Systems Commissioning
- Cleanroom Performance Testing
- Fume Hood Testing
- Retro-Commissioning
- Sound and/or Vibration Measurement
- Testing, Adjusting, and Balancing of HVAC systems

In addition, each year NEBB hosts an Annual Conference which features technical sessions on the latest industry and technological updates delivered by prominent industry leaders. This conference also provides an excellent networking opportunity for members to meet peers, industry experts, and manufacturers.

#### **Industry involvement**

NEBB supports/participates in the following industry organizations/events:

- ASHRAE
- AHR Expo
- AIHA
- ASHE
- AIA
- GovEnergy

- IFMA
- MCAA
- RSES
- NFMT
- SMACNA
- USGBC



### No other industry affects the quality of life and impacts energy efficiency like the HVAC industry.

#### What customers say about our members:

"More responsive than other firms and a great mix of highly technical and creative people"

"The NEBB Certified Firm we worked with helped us sort through a lot of issues that we would have otherwise gotten tangled up in"

"The superior NEBB Procedural Standards helped us get though building commission project effortlessly"

"I cannot say enough about the NEBB Certified Firm who worked on our Building Commissioning. The team was very knowledgeable about Technical aspects of Building Systems and addressed all things that came up during the process. They had a lot of resources available to navigate every corner. I highly recommend working with a NEBB Certified Firm and will be sure to work with a NEBB Certified Firm again"



#### 2013 NEBB ANNUAL CONFERENCE

#### **Solutions for Optimizing High Performance Buildings**





Conference registration opens Fall 2012.
Visit www.nebb.org for updates.

#### **National Environmental Balancing Bureau**

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