Earlier this summer, IAPMO R&T hosted our annual Industry Advisory Forum, an opportunity to bring many of our clients — and some of the industry’s true heavyweights — together in one place to listen to their thoughts, concerns and advice regarding the manufacturing industry and how IAPMO R&T can be better equipped to serve it.

The forum was already an overwhelming success the moment it started, as it was the best-attended event in the forum’s long history. Top listees, including Kohler, Moen, Delta, Toto, Price Pfister and Globe Union, sent representatives to share their thoughts and exchange ideas of how third-party certification enhances their product lines, why IAPMO R&T is their first choice to provide it and how we can do an even better job meeting their needs.

The manufacturers came prepared with many questions that IAPMO R&T staff took great time and care in answering and a number of action items were recommended and noted for future resolution.

Among the topics of conversation brought to the table by manufacturers were:

**IAPMO R&T’s Enhanced Green Certification Program**

We now offer manufacturers a certificate of listing showing their products to be compliant with any or all of the following: 2010 California Green Building Standards Code — “CAL-Green”; The IAPMO Green Plumbing and Mechanical Code Supplement; USGBC’s LEED® Rating System; and GBI’s Green Globes.

**IAPMO R&T’s Canadian Certification Program**

We are excited to announce the number of listings to Canadian standards has exceeded 1,000, a significant milestone for this vital international service.

**IAPMO R&T’s Participation in the ENERGY STAR® Program**

We are an EPA-recognized certification body to the ENERGY STAR® product labeling system for appliances, HVAC equipment, commercial food equipment, battery charging systems, luminaries and roof products.

**Updates to the EPA WaterSense Program**

The EPA published Version 1.1 of its WaterSense® Tank-Type Toilet Specification. The specification has been revised to include a new sampling plan for testing water efficiency, clarifications on tanks with adjustable water use settings, requirements for certification and labeling of tanks and bowls manufactured and sold by different companies, guidance for using the WaterSense® label on products and product packaging, and information on compliance with the aftermarket closure seal requirements now that 3-inch adjustable flappers are readily available on the market.

We value this face-to-face opportunity to listen to our clients and learn from them how our services can be better tailored to serve them and assist in the introduction and marketing of their products. If some aspect of our partnership with them isn’t meeting their full satisfaction, we want to know so that we can make every necessary change in order to do so.

One recent development in this regard I’m happy to share is the hiring of Abraham I. Murra as our new director of Standards Development. A 20-plus year veteran of the construction industry, the last nine spent as project manager for Sustainability Standards with the Canadian Standard Association (CSA), Abraham brings a wealth of experience to his new role heading up IAPMO R&T’s very active standards department. I am positive our clients are going to enjoy working with Abraham and appreciate his considerable knowledge of the industry.
IAPMO R&T staff members, including Shirley Dewi, director of Management System Registration Services, Anish Desai, director of Certification, and Ohannes Dembekjian, senior director of Continuous Compliance, listen to concerns and answer questions from many IAPMO R&T clients during the 2011 Industry Advisory Forum.

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