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ASPE NEW YORK CITY CHAPTER

PO BOX 293, GRAND CENTRAL STATION, NY, NY 10163

<http://www.aspenyc.org>

**MARCH
MEETING
INFORMATION**

Topic: Aluminum Pipe Systems

Speaker: Cory Jordan

Sponser: Airpipe USA

Date: March 5th, 2025

Location: The Tailor Public House & Kitchen - 505 8th Avenue

Time: Dinner Served: 5:30pm

Technical: 5:30-6:30pm

Social: 6:30-8:00pm



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A Message

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Members of the NYC Chapter,

As mentioned last month 2025 will be an exciting year for the New York City Chapter as we will be celebrating our 50th anniversary in October! You'll start seeing the new 50th anniversary logo in places.

Every two years we hold elections for the board of the NYC chapter. The next election will be in June 2025, for the 2025-2027 board. You do not have to be an existing board member to run for a position. The board provides a suggested roster for each position but there are write-ins for each role. If you are interested, please contact a current board member. We are also looking for individuals who are interested in being involved as ASPE Young Professional's (AYP), which is an appointed liaison position. If you are interested please contact a current board member.

Additionally, if anyone has any suggestions regarding ways to make our chapter better, or if there are any questions, please reach out to us via the email address above.

Best Regards,
Robb Risani, P.E., CPD

A promotional poster for the Plumbing and Fire Protection Exposition 2025. The background is a stylized cityscape of New York City in shades of blue and white, featuring the Statue of Liberty, the Empire State Building, and other skyscrapers. The text "Plumbing and Fire Protection Exposition" is at the top in white. Below it, "Thursday, May 15" is written in large white letters. The year "2025" is prominently displayed in the center in large black letters. At the bottom, it says "4 - 8 p.m. // Jacob Javits Center River Pavilion" and "Visit aspenyc.org for more information." in white. In the bottom right corner, there is a logo for "50 1975 - 2025 CASPE American Society of Plumbing Engineers NEW YORK CITY" with a blue ribbon graphic.

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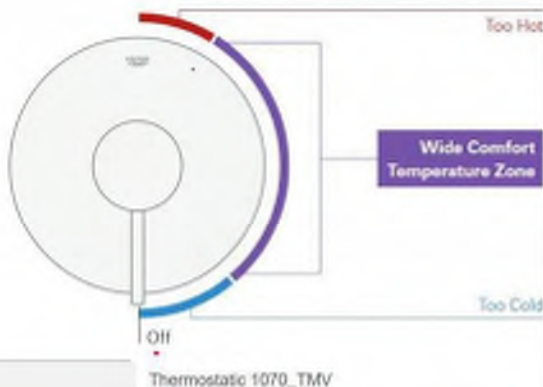
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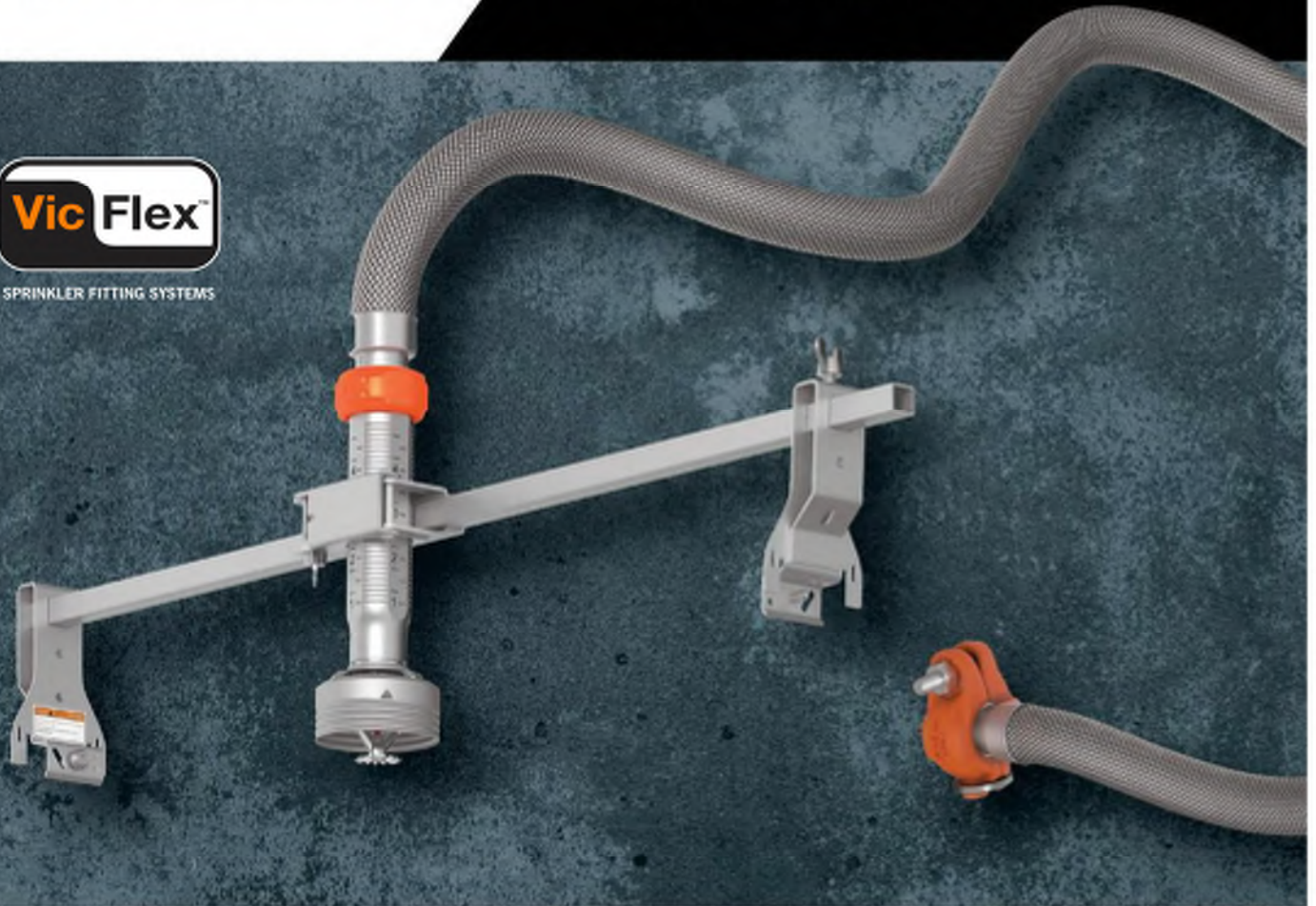
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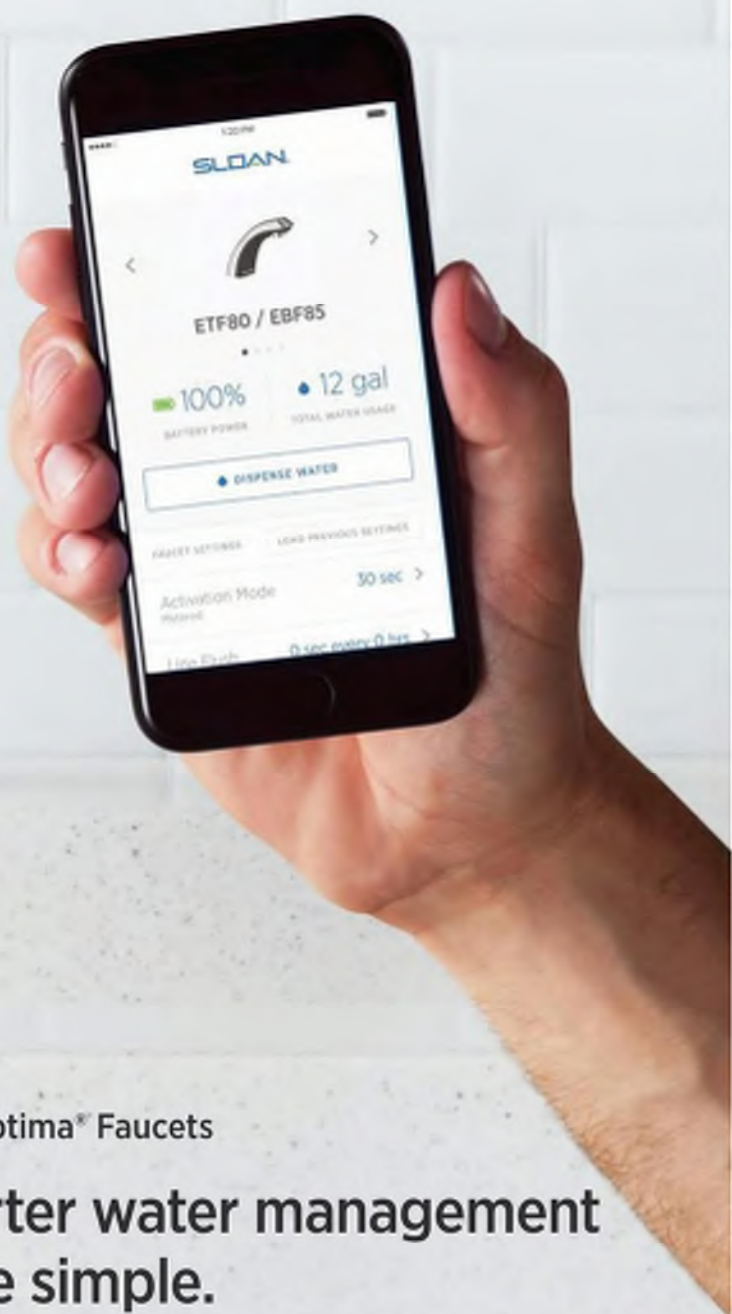
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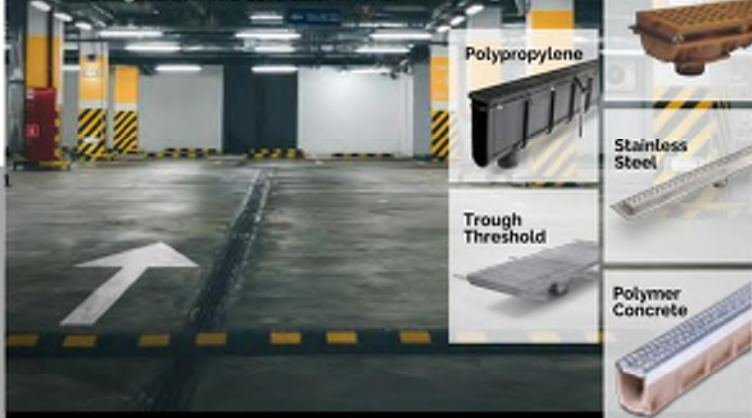
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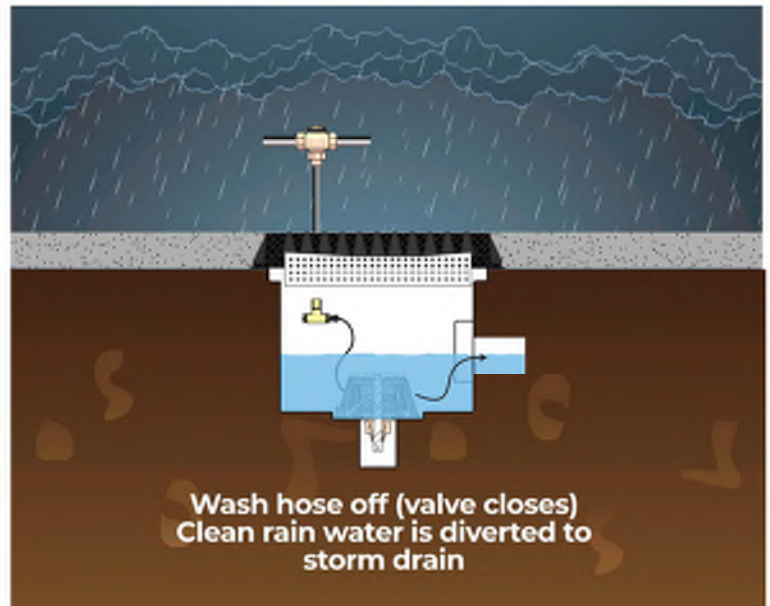
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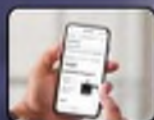
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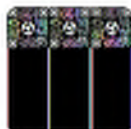


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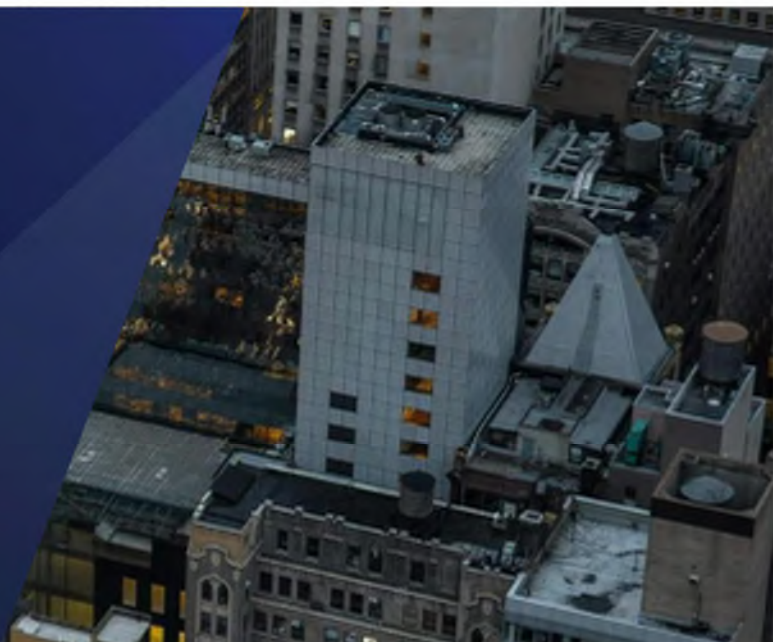
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Best Regards, Vinny Rotoli

Email: rotoliv@vfrengineering.com



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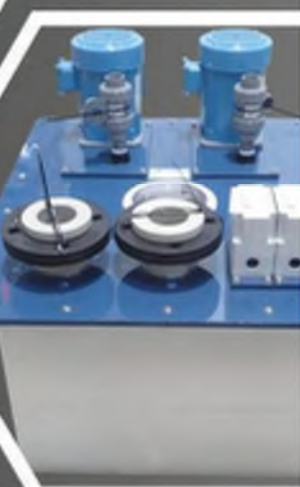
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FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES

As customary, Steve welcomed everyone to our February meeting and soon gave the floor to ASSE president board members who spoke about their upcoming events. After ASSE announcements, WOA and ASPE AYP announcements were made about some of the events in the works, including an upcoming AYP outing.

The last announcement given by Steve was about Engineers week. Flyers were handed out at the meeting to make members aware that the board is looking to recognize members and their peers who are active in promoting MEP Engineering to the next generation! Send us (ny.aspe@gmail.com) info, by February 9th, on who you think should be acknowledged for their efforts.

Finally, before the commencement of the presentation, Steve reiterated the effort that our presenters put into each meeting and asked that they be given the quiet and attentiveness they deserve.

Technical Presentation: Rainwater Harvesting Systems by Gordon Plocher

The session was opened by introducing the topic of rainwater harvesting and its relevance to New York City. He emphasized the growing importance of rainwater harvesting, particularly in urban environments like New York City, where water conservation, regulatory requirements, and stormwater management are becoming increasingly critical.

The Case for Rainwater Harvesting in NYC

Gordon explained that New York City sources its freshwater from three major watersheds: Croton, Catskill, and Delaware. The water from these sources travels through an extensive network of reservoirs, aqueducts, and tunnels before undergoing treatment and disinfection to ensure it meets safety standards. Over the past fifteen years, the cost of water in NYC has more than doubled, which has placed a financial strain on both residential and commercial users. This rising cost underscores the need for alternative solutions, such as rainwater harvesting, to supplement water use and reduce reliance on municipal supplies.

In addition to cost concerns, NYC also faces significant challenges related to stormwater runoff. The city operates a combined sewer system, meaning that stormwater and sewage flow through the same pipes. During heavy rain events, this system can become overwhelmed, leading to combined sewer overflow (CSO) events, where untreated water is discharged directly into nearby rivers and waterways. The NYC Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) reports that these overflow events occur approximately seventy times per year, releasing around seventeen billion gallons of untreated water into the environment annually. Such occurrences pose serious environmental risks, including water pollution and ecosystem disruption.

NYC DEP has implemented regulations requiring new buildings to incorporate stormwater detention tanks. These tanks are designed to capture and store stormwater runoff, allowing for controlled release into the sewer system over time. Detention tanks are now a standard requirement for buildings in NYC and serve as a foundational component of modern rainwater harvesting systems.

Rainwater Collection and Filtration

Effective rainwater harvesting systems are designed to achieve multiple objectives simultaneously. Beyond water conservation, these systems can help buildings comply with regulatory mandates, provide alternative water sources for both indoor and outdoor use, and reduce overall infrastructure costs by minimizing the demand for large water mains or extensive stormwater management facilities.

Rainwater harvesting systems typically consist of several key components. Tanks, which can be constructed from fiberglass-reinforced plastic (FRP), polyethylene, concrete, or other materials suitable for water storage. Tanks are equipped with advanced filtration systems to maintain water quality. Pre-tank filtration plays a crucial role by removing debris and contaminants from collected rainwater before it enters storage. Additional filtration steps include sediment removal, carbon filtration to neutralize odors and chemicals, and ultraviolet (UV) sterilization to eliminate pathogens.

Properly designed pumping and treatment systems ensure that collected rainwater can be efficiently distributed to its intended applications. Systems may include booster pumps or day tanks that regulate water distribution. Quality controllers be built and programmed in-house rather than outsourced to third-party manufacturers, as this ensures better functionality, lower costs, and increased reliability.

Integration of Rainwater and Stormwater Systems

Designing a rainwater harvesting system should begin at the roof, where water quality is highest. By implementing best practices in roof

material selection and filtration, designers can minimize contaminants and ensure that harvested water remains suitable for reuse. One of the primary advantages of integrating rainwater and stormwater management strategies is the ability to maximize water savings through multiple year-round applications. In many cases, harvested rainwater can be used for irrigation, toilet flushing, cooling tower makeup, vehicle washing, and even fire suppression systems. By leveraging both rainwater and stormwater for these applications, building owners can reduce their reliance on municipal water supplies and lower their overall water bills.

Additionally, integrating these systems can help buildings meet regulatory requirements and earn stormwater credits, which can translate into financial incentives or reduced fees.

Case Studies

To illustrate the real-world benefits of rainwater harvesting, Gordon presented several case studies of successful implementations.

One of the most notable projects discussed was Allianz Field in St. Paul, Minnesota, where a large-scale stormwater treatment system was implemented to manage water runoff from the stadium and surrounding development. This project included a 685,000-gallon storage system, hydrodynamic separators for pre-filtration, and a complex pumping and distribution network. The harvested water is used for outdoor irrigation, and the system is designed to be expanded for additional non-potable uses in the future.

Another example was Promega in Fitchburg, Wisconsin, where a stormwater pond application was implemented to capture and treat runoff. This system includes backflushing water intake, sediment filtration, UV treatment, and chlorine injection. The harvested water is used for irrigation, toilet flushing, and cooling tower makeup.

The Komatsu facility in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, serves as an example of a roof harvesting application, where rainwater collected from a 72,000-square-foot roof area is stored in a 25,000-gallon fiberglass tank. The water undergoes sediment, carbon, and UV treatment before being used for toilets, urinals, and utility hose bibs.

Gordon highlighted the Local 130 UA Training Facility in Chicago, where a rainwater harvesting system was integrated into the facility to provide practical training for plumbers. Similarly, the Climate Pledge Arena in Seattle implemented an innovative "Rain to Ice" system that repurposes rainwater to create ice for the hockey rink.

Learning Assessment and Discussion

As the session concluded, Plocher facilitated a learning assessment to reinforce key concepts discussed throughout the presentation. Attendees reviewed challenges associated with NYC's combined sewer system, the frequency of overflow events, and the regulatory requirements for detention tanks in new construction. Participants also reflected on the significant increase in NYC's water costs, the benefits of rainwater harvesting, and the various applications for harvested water, including irrigation, toilet flushing, and cooling tower makeup. Additionally, the discussion covered the essential steps of rainwater filtration and the importance of compliance with UL standards such as UL 979.



In closing, Gordon reiterated the importance of rainwater harvesting as a sustainable and cost-effective solution for water management in NYC. He encouraged attendees to explore feasibility studies for incorporating rainwater harvesting systems into their projects and to stay informed about NYC's evolving regulations and incentives.

Members were thanked for their attentiveness and respect for the presenter, and are encouraged to visit aspencyc.org where the presentation is uploaded to or contact Gordon Plocher at GPlocher@rainwatermanagement.com.

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T: (718) 451-2000 F: (718) 629-0367

G.A. Fleet Associates

55 Calvert St., Harrison, NY 10528
T: (914) 835-4000 F: (914) 835-1331

Geberit

2100 S. Clearwater Dr. Des Plaines, IL 60018
T: (847) 803-5000

www.geberitnorthamerica.com/home/

Harper Control Solutions Inc.

1010 Washington Blvd, Stamford, CT 06901
T: (203) 964-1900 F: (203) 964-4900

www.HarperValves.com

Heat Timer Corp.

20 New Dutch Lane, Fairfield, NJ 07004
T: (973) 575-4004 F: (973) 575-4052

www.heat-timer.com

Highmark

49 W. 45th St., 6th Floor New York, NY 10036
T: (212) 920-4878

www.highmark.co

Holby Valve Co. Inc.

24 Ferdon Street, Newark, NJ 07105
T: (973) 465-7400 F: (973) 465-7475

www.holbyvalve.com

Isseks Bros.

298 Broome Street, New York, NY 10002
T: (212) 267-2688

www.isseks.com

Kohler

Joe Ghazarian
(215) 378-4903

joseph.ghazarian@kohler.com

Lawrence Lowy Associates

113 DeWitt St., Suite 203, Garfield, NJ 07026
T: (973) 772-9224 F: (973) 772-9226

Lixil (American Standard/Grohe)

Mike Ford
(732) 628-6367

michael.ford@lixil.com

LPI Controls

442 W 49th St, NY, NY 10019
T: (212) 244-8878

Mifab c/o Platsky

298 Montrose Road, Westbury, NY 11590
T: (516) 860-5813 F: (516) 333-9446

Metropolitan Industries, Inc.

37 Forestwood Dr. Romeoville, IL 60446
T: (815) 886-9200

[metropolitanind.com](http://www.metropolitanind.com)

Nibco Valve Co.

1516 Middlebury St., Elkhart, IN 46515-1167
T: (973) 886-5322 F: (574) 295-3307

www.nibco.com

Platsky Company

298 Montrose Road, Westbury, NY 11590
T: (516) 860-5813 F: (516) 333-9446

<https://platsky.com/>

Reliable Automatic Sprinkler Co. Inc.,

103 Fairview Park Drive, Elmsford, NY 10523
T: (800) 431-1588 F: (800) 848-6051

www.reliable sprinkler.com

Rheem c/o Dellon Sales

1100 Abernathy Rd, Suite 1700 Atlanta, GA 30328
<https://www.rheem.com/>

Rosenwach Tank Co. Inc.

43-02 Ditmars Blvd. 2nd Floor
Astoria, NY 11105

T: (718) 729-4900 F: (718) 482-0661

SCHOTT North America, Inc.

2 International Drive, suite 105
Rye Brook, NY 10573

T: (914) 831-2215 F: (914) 831-2368

Sloan, c/o Edwards, Platt & Deely

368 Wyandanch Ave., W Babylon, NY 11703
T: (631) 253-0600 F: (631) 253-0303

Synergy Process Solutions, LLC

4610 Entrance Drive Suite H
Charlotte, NC 28273

T: (704) 529-5442

www.pattonsmmedical.com

T&S Brass & Bronze

2 Saddleback Cove, P.O. Box 1088
Traveller's Rest, SC 26990-1088

T: (864) 834-4102 F: (864) 834-3518

www.tsbrass.com

Town & Country Plastics

10B Timber Lane, Marlboro, NJ 07746
T: (732) 780-5300 F: (732) 294-0001

www.tandcplastics.net

Viking Corp

Jim Dooley
(215)280-4764

jdooley@vikingcorp.com

Viega

9-03 44th Rd. Long Island City, NY 11101
T: (718) 308-6320

www.viega.us

Wales Darby Inc.

2910 Express Drive South, Islandia, NY 11749 T:
(631) 585-6800 F: (631) 585-6838

Wallace Eannace Associates

50 Newton Rd., Plainview, NY 11803
T: (516) 454-9300 F: (516) 454-9307

www.wea-inc.com

Watts, c/o Edwards, Platt & Deely

368 Wyandanch Ave., W. Babylon, NY 11703
T: (631) 253-0600 F: (631) 253-0303

Woods & Jaye Sales

33-09 37th Ave., LIC, NY 11101
T: (718) 786-8260 F: (718) 786-5393

sales@wjny.com www.wjny.com

Zurn, c/o Dellon Sales

5 Albertson Avenue, Albertson, NY 11507
T: (516) 625-2626 F: (516) 625-3030