

GLOBAL INDOOR HEALTH NETWORK

"WORKING TOGETHER FOR HEALTHY INDOOR ENVIRONMENTS"

<http://globalindoorhealthnetwork.com>

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Research Papers from Finland

Sylgja Sigurjonsdottir provided the following research papers.

[Amoeba in Moisture-Damaged Buildings](#) (2009) by Terhi Yli-Pirila

[Characterization of Microorganisms in Indoor Environments](#) (2008) by Ulla Lignell

[Characterizing Moisture Damaged Buildings—Environmental and Biological Monitoring](#) (2002) by Anne Hyvarinen

[Environmental Microbes and Immunological Development in Children—The Role of Animal, Bacterial and Fungal Exposures](#) (2010) by Mikko Lappalainen

[Microbial Exposure and Health in Schools—Effects of Moisture Damage and Renovation](#) (2002) by Teija Meklin

[Modeling Moisture Damage Observations and Their Association with Health Symptoms](#) (2002) by Ulla Haverinen

Fort Bragg Infant Death Toll May Climb to Twelve

A 12th infant apparently has died of undetermined causes in military housing at Fort Bragg, N.C., and investigators are now trying to determine whether the death is linked to fumes from contaminated drywall or some other environmental problem in the home.

Last month, federal officials declared that 11 earlier infant deaths were not caused by environmental contaminants, but they did not suggest any alternative causes.

Three deaths in a single house

The first unexplained infant death at Fort Bragg occurred in February 2007. Three children from three different families died in a single home.

"The odds of three babies dying in a short order in the same house without an underlying condition of some sort, it's very unlikely. It's enormously unlikely," Abramson said. "Common sense would dictate there's something common in the environmental exposure."

The Garzas said they had problems with mold and leaks in and outside their home soon after they moved into it in February 2010. For help, they called Picerne Military Housing, the private company that builds and maintains housing at Fort Bragg.

"I complained about what turned out to be mold on the outside of the house the day we did our walk-through, and Picerne assured me that it would be cleaned up after we moved in," Brittany Garza said. The mold was never removed, she said.

The Garzas called Picerne several times, saying they were worried about mold and the health of their children.

[Fort Bragg Infant Death Toll May Climb to Twelve](#)

See *New User's Manual from ASHRAE* on page 2

New User's Manual for ASHRAE Ventilation Standard

The newest ASHRAE guide for using Standard 62.1-2010 includes a revised, user-friendly spreadsheet and examples, as well as the latest updates pertaining to the new version of the standard.

The 62.1 user's manual provides explanatory material, detailed information, figures and examples to guide users in designing, installing and operating buildings in accordance with ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 62.1-2010, 'Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air Quality', which sets minimum ventilation rates and other requirements for commercial and institutional buildings.

Also highlighted is the application of useful tools used for compliance with Standard 62.1-2010, including a newly-revised spreadsheet that assists in ventilation rate procedure calculations.

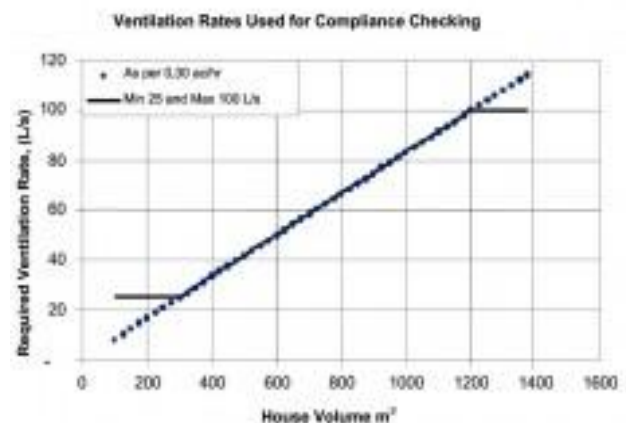
The spreadsheet provides calculations for the multiple spaces procedure, and has been significantly improved and made more user-friendly, now including two-example spreadsheets focusing on cooling and heating.

"The spreadsheet and new examples have been revised in response to user feedback, and have much improved usability," said Roger Hedrick, chair of the Standard 62.1 committee.

"The spreadsheet should significantly reduce the effort needed to perform the calculations needed for multi-zone recirculating systems. The spreadsheets are a must have for designers," said Hedrick.

The manual encourages users of the standard to apply the principles of good indoor air quality and effective ventilation when designing buildings and building systems, and provides useful reference material to assist designers in efficiently completing a successful and compliant design.

[New User's Manual for ASHRAE Ventilation Standards](#)



Revised Spreadsheets in the New User's Manual for ASHRAE Ventilation Standard

Columbia Apartment Building Unfit to Reside

Some residents at the Lexington Station Apartment Complex say they're fed up with what they call unsanitary living conditions.

WACH Fox News spoke with a tenant named Jessica who showed us mold inside her apartment unit. Other neighbors came forth but didn't want to appear on camera.

One resident says her leaky roof sent her to the hospital. She claims she submitted several letters to management about the problems in her unit, but has not seen any results.

[Columbia Apartment Building Unfit to Reside](#)



Conditions inside an apartment at Lexington Station

See [\\$4.3 Million Verdict Buried in Litigation](#) on page 3

\$4.3 Million Mold Verdict Buried in Litigation

A \$4.3 million toxic mold jury verdict in October involving two homeowners, their ruined "dream" home, a North Pocono township and a private contractor remains buried in litigation.

More money, or a lengthy appeals process, could be at stake, according to recent court filings.

A 2002 Madison Twp. road project led to a lawsuit the following year that resulted in the multimillion-dollar verdict. The suit claimed the project funneled storm water onto the two former residents' property, spawning toxic mold inside their home and causing post-traumatic stress disorder.

In the aftermath of the jury award in Lackawanna County Court, an attorney representing Teresa Perrini and Theresa Koziell has filed motions for them to be awarded additional compensation - or delay damages - because of the length of time between when the suit was filed in 2003 and the trial's end.

Informal talks among the parties with Judge Minora to finalize the verdict - including the issue of delay damages and to prevent an appeal to higher court - broke down in the daylong, closed-door negotiation on January 10.

[\\$4.3 Million Mold Verdict Buried in Litigation](#)



Stock photo of moldy house



Miller Grove Middle School, Decatur, Georgia

Water Leaks Cause Health Hazard at Georgia Middle School

The DeKalb County School System is set to spend an estimated \$200,000 to repair a portion of the roof at Miller Grove Middle School that has become a health hazard, system spokesman Walter Woods said.

Substantial water damage caused by leaks in the roof were found in some of the classrooms, and photos obtained by *The Champion* show missing ceiling and floor tiles, and stains on the ceiling, walls and floor.

"There is sufficient mold to warrant the replacement of the roof," Woods said. He said the classrooms affected also will be cleaned and repaired, which is part of the \$200,000 expense. The work will take 12 weeks to complete, Woods said.

A teacher at the school, who asked not to be named, said she recently spent several days in an area hospital with a bacterial infection caused by the mold.

"I was hospitalized due to the conditions at the school," the teacher said. "I have asthma anyway and the mold and dust triggered asthma attacks. When I came back to school I was informed [I needed] to wear a mask in the building, especially in the areas that were affected."

[Water Leaks Cause Health Hazard at Middle School](#)

See *Member Profile: Mabel Larzelere* on page 4

Member Profile: Mabel Larzelere

I received a Bachelor's Degree in International Business in March of 2007, while working full time as a Senior Derivatives Analyst operating in a high-stress environment for a large European bank. I have sixteen years of experience straight from the Chicago Mercantile Exchange trading floor. I thrived in high-stress situations and challenges motivated me. I have a passion for swimming and a love of music, and I am a former Water Polo player from the Chicago Park District.

In March of 2008, I moved into a rental house. BIG MISTAKE!! Since moving in, my symptoms have ranged from debilitating migraines, reoccurring sinus & ear infections, loss of smell & taste, allergies, fevers, weakness, inflammation, loss of appetite, hypoglycemia, nutritional deficiencies, stress reaction, short-term memory loss, vision changes, Autonomic Nervous System out of balance, pain in my hands, neck and shoulders, and my most recent symptom--chemical sensitivity – taking away my passion for swimming. In September of 2008, I had the most painful surgery of my life--a tonsillectomy and sinus repair, and I have never fully recovered. My family has developed asthma and allergies to mold, pollen and foods.

I have had multiple doctor visits--to a family doctor, Ear, Nose & Throat Specialist (ENT), Gastroenterologist, and Neurologist—and endless blood tests and MRIs. Every visit ended with the same line, "It's in your head," so they sent me to a psychiatrist.

After a torrential downfall of rain in October of 2009, we discovered my finished basement was very wet. We were alarmed to find damage in my walk-in closet, on the walls and the basement ceiling. We had the house tested, and the report stated Penicillium and Aspergillus spores were 400 times greater than the outdoor counts.

Within two weeks of the mold results, I was released from my lease. We had two water leaks prior to the incident in October of 2009, and the landlord's resolution was to place fans and run a dehumidifier.

I am thankful to Dr. Robert H. Schmidt for his never-ending research and dedication to my recovery, Global Indoor Health Network for their immense support, Marcie McGovern for her shoulder, and my family and friends.



Mabel Larzelere

New Papers Added to the GIHN Website

The following papers were provided by Dr. Jack Thrasher and Mayleen Laguna.

[Aspergillus Pituitary Abscess](#) (2004) by A.C. Iplikcioglu, et al

[\(The\) Diagnosis of Fungus Diseases by Biopsy](#) (1956) by Roger Denio Baker, et al

[Fulminant Mucosal Pneumonitis: An Emergency Presentation of Chronic Granulomatous Disease](#) (2007) by Sophia Siddiqui, et al

[Fungal Exposure Endocrinopathy in Sinusitis with Growth Hormone Deficiency: Dennis-Robertson Syndrome](#) (2009) by Donald Dennis, et al

[Indoor Air Studies of Fungi Contamination of Social Welfare Home in Czerewki n North-East Part of Poland](#) (2005) by H. Rolka, et al

[Mycobacterium terrae Isolated from Indoor Air of a Moisture-Damaged Building Induces Sustained Biphasic Inflammatory Response in Mouse Lungs](#) (2002) by Juha Jussila, et al

[Neurogenic Hyponatremia with Mycotic Brain Granulomas Due to Cladosporium Trichoides](#) (1960) by I. Harold Horn, et al

[Restoration of anti-Aspergillus Defense by Neutrophil Extracellular Traps in Human Chronic Granulomatous Disease After Gene Therapy is Calprotectin-Dependent](#) (2011) by Matteo Bianchi, et al

See *U.K. Family...in a Mouldy House* on page 5

U.K. Family Says, “We Don’t Want to Live in a Mouldy House”

A U.K. couple have told of their “living nightmare” of having to live in a mouldy house.

The walls of the Eves family’s home on Claremount Road, in Seaforth, are covered in green and black mould and the air is damp, cold and smelly.

Resident Sally Eve said her family feel trapped in having to live in “horrid” and “dangerous” conditions, branded the property as “unlivable”.

Sally Eves, 29, said: “It’s very dangerous to be living in these conditions but we don’t have any alternative.

“I have bleached the walls several times to get rid of it but it just keeps coming back in a matter of days.

“The mould gets everywhere – in the mattresses, pillow cases, storage bags, suitcases and tables. It’s disgusting and we should not have to be living in such horrible conditions.

“The mould is in the living room, the toilet, the kitchen, in the baby’s room and in the bedroom. I’m sleeping in a mouldy bed. It’s very depressing. It’s unlivable.”

She added: “I’m not allowed to use my dryer or radiator because I’m told it causes condensation in the flat. The air vents are useless.”

She also explained that the married couple’s two-year-old baby was struck with a rash which is understood to have been triggered by the fungi.

[We Don’t Want to Live in a Mouldy House](#)

Scientist warns of new fungal-like organism. It is able to reproduce...and there is strong evidence that this infectious agent promotes diseases of both plants and mammals, which is very rare.



Sally Eve and her daughter in their mouldy house

Scientist Warns of New Fungal-Like Organism

Dr. Michael Gray brought this item to my attention.

Scientist COL (Ret.) Don M. Huber Emeritus Professor, Purdue University - USDA National Plant Disease Recovery System (NPDRS) states [in a letter to Secretary of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack](#):

“For the past 40 years, I have been a scientist in the professional and military agencies that evaluate and prepare for natural and manmade biological threats, including germ warfare and disease outbreaks. Based on this experience, **I believe the threat we are facing from this pathogen is unique and of a high-risk status. In layman’s terms, it should be treated as an emergency.**”

“A team of senior plant and animal scientists have recently brought to my attention the discovery of an electron microscopic pathogen that appears to significantly impact the health of plants, animals, and probably human beings. Based on a review of the data, it is widespread, very serious, and is in much higher concentrations in Roundup Ready (RR) soybeans and corn suggesting a link with the RR gene or more likely the presence of Roundup. This organism appears NEW to science!”

Of the pathogen he states ... **“It is able to reproduce and appears to be a micro-fungal-like organism. If so, it would be the first such micro-fungus ever identified. There is strong evidence that this infectious agent promotes diseases of both plants and mammals, which is very rare.”**

[Letter to Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack](#)

Jury Awards \$7.7 Million to Naples Florida Homeowner

A Collier Circuit jury deliberated about two hours Thursday and awarded a Naples homeowner \$7.71 million for damages his Gulf Shore Boulevard North mansion sustained during heavy rains in spring 2005 and during Hurricane Wilma.

It was a battle between a homeowner and a large insurance company, one of many involving lawsuits and insurance claims that occurred after Hurricane Wilma.

But it wasn't the usual "little guy" battling a large insurer. In this case, it was a multimillionaire, J. Robert "Bob" Sebo of Naples, who alleged American Home Assurance Co. failed him by wrongly denying his claim.

The massive amount of water damage, mold, dry and wet rot ended in Naples denying a permit after the home was found to be structurally unsafe, forcing Sebo to have to demolish it and rebuild.

"I am totally appreciative and impressed that the jury was able to reach the conclusion they did, which was, quite frankly, very complicated," a smiling Sebo said, surrounded by his attorneys, Edward Cheffy, Mark Boyle and David Zulian of Naples.

[Jury Awards \\$7.7 Million to Owner of Naples Money Pit Home](#)

For more information about insurance company bad faith:

BadFaithInsurance.org

Policyholders of America.org

[Insurance News](#)

[The Insurance Hoax \(Bloomberg News\)](#)

[American Association for Justice: Tricks of the Trade](#)

Next Newsletter: Friday, March 25, 2011



New Federal Courthouse in Buffalo, New York

New Federal Courthouse in Buffalo, New York has Mold Problems

Originally set for completion in 2010, the new federal courthouse in downtown Buffalo has been beset by a series of construction delays brought about by issues-- the latest of which -- has cast a cloud of uncertainty over its latest projected completion date in August.

The US General Service Administration (GSA), which is overseeing the construction of the building and will administer its operation upon completion, confirms that a moisture problem of unknown origin has apparently lead to the presence of mold, which is a potential health hazard.

[New Federal Courthouse has Mold Problems](#)

Quick Links

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<http://globalindoorhealthnetwork.com/members>

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http://globalindoorhealthnetwork.com/personal_stories.html

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http://globalindoorhealthnetwork.com/health_effects.html

Working Together for Healthy Indoor Environments