

Last Word



The Importance of Community

BY JORDAN BRANDES

In this month's issue, RSES International President Mike Ralston, CM went into detail on how to put together an RSES Chapter. It is a great piece that highlights the hard work that goes into running a Chapter smoothly. What I want to talk about is the other side of that coin: why Chapters and a sense of community is important to RSES and should be important to you as an HVACR professional.

As an international organization, RSES uses its Chapters as a means of interacting with Members around the world. Over the years, the way Chapters are run has changed, as it should, but the core concept remains the same: to create a sense of community in the HVACR industry. I love hearing stories of Chapter meetings (both online and in-person) where a prospective Member was introduced to RSES and was so enamored by what they learned from the people they met that they became a Lifetime Member.

The seminars put on by Chapters are a great way to educate the next generation of HVACR technicians and reach them in a way you might not get a chance to do at a conference or through an email. That personal touch is important and makes a big difference in getting through to people.

COVID did throw a bit of a wrench in the ability for our Chapters to conduct in-person meetings, but as those restrictions are slowly getting lifted and more people are getting vaccinated, Chapters around the country are starting to get together again in safe capacities. Although safety remains our top priority in the re-opening of the Chapters, seeing pictures of Members across the country getting together again to share their knowledge has been a real pleasure.

That is why we want to encourage you to not only attend a Chapter meeting (in any capacity that you wish) but start up a new Chapter in your area, as well. The first step in making that happen is to inform Headquarters and your state's Regional Director that you want to organize a new Chapter. Once that is done the organization must select a temporary President, Secretary and Treasurer (with permanent officers elected at the first working meeting). A Chapter name must also be selected as well as the resolution to petition RSES International for a charter and accept chapter bylaws. A charter may be granted upon the petition of 20 or more Members, provided that 10 or more Members are classified as active, certificate, specialist or associate Members.

If all of this sounds complicated, have no fear, RSES Headquarters is here to make sure everything runs smoothly. Our Member/Chapter Relations Representative Brenden Lurie can walk you through the process and is available over the phone or through email to answer any questions you may have along the way. Lurie can be reached via email at blurie@rses.org.

The internet is a great way to feel a sense of community, as well. That is why RSES has a wide social media presence. We regularly post on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn and encourage our Members use those platforms to connect with their colleagues from all over the world.

We are truly in the Age of Information and the world continues to work to make it easier than ever to stay connected. RSES encourages a sense of community regardless of where you're from or the level of expertise you have in the field. With that in mind, we would very much like to hear from you. What defines an HVACR community to you? Why do you attend Chapter meetings? What would motivate you to attend more? Send me an email at jbrandes@rses.org, I would love to hear your thoughts. ☺

▶ TROUBLESHOOTING ANSWER

There are a number of issues that cause defrost problems, my guess is defrosting issues is one of the top five recurring problems in supermarkets. Trying to defrost too much of the load at one time, low refrigerant charge, improper refrigerant control settings, defective check valves, and many more things can create defrosting problems.

In this case, the DDR was bad. The DDR is used to establish a pressure difference between the defrost hot gas manifold and the liquid manifold, this creates refrigerant flow to defrost the coils when the defrost solenoid valve opens. To learn more about these valves, check out RAC and supermarket manuals available at RSES.