

# Last Word



## Supporting Each Other

BY JORDAN BRANDES

I'm shocked I have to write on this topic. We received some extremely negative responses from our post regarding RSES Past International President Harlan "Skip" Krepcik, CMS, MBA, RCT meeting U.S. President Biden last month, so I felt it was necessary to put my thoughts into this column.

As you have probably already read in RSES News, Past International President Harlan "Skip" Krepcik, CMS, RCT had the opportunity to talk to current U.S. President Biden and first lady Dr. Jill Biden about HVAC and electronics at Tidewater Community College. This meeting was set up by President Biden and his current administration to promote his American Families Plan, which focuses on community college education. Krepcik, with his team, showed the president and first lady a presentation on basic electronics.

This was followed by a speech by President Biden that focused on the importance of community college education and promoted his American Families Plan which allocates \$109 billion for two years of free community college, as well as billions in investments toward Pell Grants for low-income students, college retention and completion rates.

By all accounts, the HVACR community should have been overjoyed about this visit. One of the most powerful people on the planet decided to not only put HVACR education in the international spotlight but also highlighted one of our own. That kind of free publicity is hard to come by these days.

Yet I saw our community lash out, seeing this press as more of a political matter than a workforce issue. We received messages with Members airing their grievances with the president simply because he showed up in a matter that involved the HVACR industry. I don't think it would have mattered what he did, they were simply looking for an excuse to vent their disapproval of him.

RSES is not the platform for that. Our Association encourages HVACR education and training so that will always be our focus. We take pride in being the leader in education and will continue to report on any organization that supports that cause, regardless of political affiliation.

So how can you help to support the industry, RSES and its Members? Help us rebuild. Take time now to share the learning, resources and connections of RSES with your colleagues or friends. Anyone with HVACR-related responsibilities can join! Recruit new Members and receive a \$25 Gift Card for every three new Members that a current member recruits

during the campaign timeframe.

You can also attend a meeting whether it be virtual or in-person. The Metro New York, Long Beach and AreaFifty-One Chapters have monthly meetings available on Facebook Live and Zoom that can be viewed from anywhere in the world. If you would like to know more about local in-person meetings reach out to Member/Chapter Relations Representative Brenden Lurie at [blurie@rses.org](mailto:blurie@rses.org) to find a contact near you.

Social media is another great medium for supporting your fellow HVACR colleagues. RSES has a number of social media platforms where you can discuss your views on the industry. You can find us on Facebook or on Twitter @rseshq and on LinkedIn at RSES: The HVACR Training Authority.

Keeping political debates separate from the education and training of HVACR technicians could help save the integrity of our trade. We are always stronger together. 🤝

### ▶ TROUBLESHOOTING ANSWER

If the old whip had been sealed properly it would have helped prevent condensation in the whip that caused the rusting, when the air handler was running it was drawing warm humid air through the conduit. When the new whip was installed it should be sealed with conduit sealant.

If you look at the motor data plate, you will notice it has no thermal protection, this motor should have some means of external overload protection for the motor like a motor starter or some other protection.

One other issue is the new whip should have a ground wire, I'm not sure of the prevailing codes at the time of the original installation.

The final answer is to install a proper whip. Install an approved form of motor overload protection. Try to determine the cause of failure, don't just assume it is old age. To learn more, check out the RSES SAM Chapters 620-36 and 620-109 on the RSES website. You need to be a Member to see the SAM sections. Visit [www.rses.org/ctrcorp.aspx](http://www.rses.org/ctrcorp.aspx).