OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

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To: North American WUFI Users

Call for ORNL-Certified WUFI Instructors

The Building Envelope Group at Oak Ridge National Laboratory has conducted an ongoing building moisture project funded by the Department of Energy's Building Technologies Program for more than 10 years. This project has led to a strong partnership between ORNL and Fraunhofer IBP, Germany, and to the adaption of the hygrothermal software tool WUFI to the North American market. Today we can state that WUFI is the accepted standard, with thousands of registered users in North America. During this project, ORNL conducted more than 40 WUFI workshops all over North America and trained hundreds of architects, engineers, and building practitioners in the fundamentals of moisture transport, handling the software, and evaluating the results, to design better building envelopes. Today, virtually all building science conferences feature presentations on studies based on WUFI simulations.

At the same time, we find that conducting workshops and training students in the use of WUFI is a major effort that conflicts with our scientific work. Furthermore, we believe that some training could be conducted by advanced WUFI users with many years of experience and a good grounding in hygrothermal knowledge, but that qualifications for WUFI instructors do not necessarily include expertise in hygrothermal science. In fact, advanced WUFI users will likely prove to be better than hygrothermal scientists at training others to use the software, and possible at teaching related concepts as well.

Our idea, then, is to "Train the Trainers" — to establish a group of "ORNL-Certified WUFI Instructors" who can train users of the free WUFI ORNL version. Toward this end we will offer a special "Train the Trainers" workshop to those who would like to become ORNL-Certified WUFI Instructors. To register for the workshop, please see http://section08.com/wufi.htm.

The requirements to become an "ORNL-Certified WUFI Instructor" will be the following:
- Being a registered user of WUFI Pro, WUFI 2D, or WUFI ORNL.
- Having participated in at least a Standard Workshop and perhaps an Advanced Workshop.
- Declaring three projects where WUFI Pro, WUFI 2D or WUFI ORNL has been successfully applied.
- Passing the oral examination at the end of the "Train the Trainers" Workshop. (The oral examination will contain questions about material properties, handling of the software, ASHRAE Standard 160, and typical questions from students we experienced in the last year.)

After passing the oral examination we will encourage new WUFI trainers to:
- Organize and conduct workshops for the free WUFI ORNL version on their own, depending on market demand, and
- Join the www.WUFI-Forum.com in the "WUFI ORNL" section to help WUFI users.

Please contact me for further information,

Kind Regards,

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