



MRBraz and Associates, PLLC

COOL NEWS

Issue 4

MRBraz News:

Autodesk Revit Architecture

As we continue to expand our customer base, and grow in number of projects, MRBraz is rising to meet new challenges and exceed our customers' expectations.

One way we are accomplishing this is by using Autodesk Revit Architecture™ (Revit), a Building Information Modeling program (BIM). Though not entirely new, it is an emerging technology in the Architecture, Engineering, and Construction (AEC) industry. BIM is a computable representation of a building and its related information, which provides a virtual view of the objects in the building with physical geometry (2D or 3D) and other functional parameters.

Diverse BIM tools such as Revit have been widely adopted within the AEC industry in design/modeling, construction energy analysis, clash detection (analysis of potential conflicts), construction scheduling and cost estimating. Revit can also combine other programs and bring together all models from various design teams across different disciplines (Architectural, Refrigeration, Structural, Civil, etc.) into a "Master Model".

The future hints at even more advancements in our industry, and MRBraz is not only adapting, but continuously moving and growing in that direction.

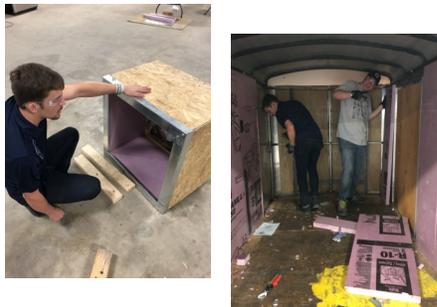


Ongoing Projects:

AHU Electrical and Ductwork Installation at the 2030 Assembly Testing Site



Internship Project:



Portable Freezer and VFD Cooling



In the News: Disruptive Tariffs

In the wake of U.S. plans to roll out an additional 10% import tariff in September on 6,000 Chinese products, including HVAC&R products, AHRI (the Air-Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Institute) called the on-going trade war "disruptive" and said it is leading to price increases.

"Our position remains the same – the tit-for-tat tariff situation is disruptive to the business cycles of our members, to the global supply chain, and also to negotiations on treaties like NAFTA," said Francis J. Dietz, vice-president, public affairs at AHRI. "Many of these tariffs have forced our members to raise prices to cover the increased cost of raw materials, which is unfortunate."

Dietz added that "our industry remains vibrant and strong, but the longer this situation persists, the more negative the effects on U.S. industry."

The 6,000 additional products, worth an estimated \$200 billion, include Chinese exports of air conditioners, heat pumps, refrigerators, two types of ammonia (anhydrous ammonia and ammonia in aqueous solution), HVAC&R components and some HCFCs.

"As major users of steel and aluminum, we have been proactive in explaining to the administration that the HVAC&R and water heating industry would be negatively impacted by an increase in tariffs, as would the consumers that rely on the products we manufacture," AHRI President and CEO Stephen Yurek said.

The 10% tariffs on the 6,000 new products in September still require feedback from the public (the deadline is 17 August for written comments).

Comments can be submitted through the Federal eRulemaking Portal:

www.regulations.gov by following the instructions in sections D and F. The docket number: USTR-2018-0026 also needs to be used.
Source: www.ammonia21.com



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Common First Aid Mistakes

These days, there are countless resources to turn to for medical information, but it is important to be able to identify the credible sources and disregard popular myths. Listed below are some of the most common first aid mistakes. Take a look to find out if you have your first aid facts straight.

*** Scraping off a bee stinger:** How *fast* you remove the stinger is much more important than *how* you remove it. Grab it, brush it, flick it -- it doesn't matter -- the longer bee stingers remain in the body, the more severe the reaction will be. **Instead:** Quickly remove the stinger, and try to get away from the offending bee. Bees release a scent when they die, and if you are still around when the bee's reinforcements get there, they will sting you, too. Benadryl and an ice pack will reduce swelling, Tylenol/Advil for pain. If you suspect a severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) call 911 immediately.

*** Sucking a snake bite:** Drug store snake bite kits advise you to slice into a newly bitten victim and remove the poison by sucking it out. It doesn't work. It's not like the venom just sits in the wound, waiting for you to remove it with a two-cent plastic syringe. It gets absorbed into the bloodstream and moved around your body. Sucking it out with your mouth is even worse - the snake will just get a two-for-one special that way. **Instead:** Call 911, wash the area with soap and water, remove constricting clothes and jewelry, and keep the bite below the level of the heart.

*** Putting butter on a burn:** Butter and oil are great for basting, but unless you want to make a burn worse, leave them in the kitchen. Oils hold in the heat, exactly the opposite of what a burn victim needs. **Instead:** Flush the burn area with cool running water for several minutes, use burn spray or ointment. *Do not use ice to cool a burn.* Ice can cause frostbite very quickly when used on a burn because the skin is already damaged.

*** If someone is feeling faint, sit them in a chair with their head in between their knees:** This is not an advisable position for someone feeling faint, they may suffer a head injury if they fall. **Instead:** if someone is feeling faint you should ask them to sit on the floor (where they cannot fall) in a comfortable position. If a faint does occur, you should call 911 and lie the person down with their legs raised in order to improve blood flow to the brain.

Routine and Habit

"We are what we repeatedly do."

This phrase was hung on a wall of one of the places I used to work at not too far in the distant past. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit. It is based on a quote from Aristotle, a Greek philosopher from over 2300 years ago.

I always like to have a fresh cup of coffee in the morning before I start to work at my desk. I know I am not alone, you may like a cup of tea or a coke instead. Drinking coffee is a habit that is intrinsic to the routine of how I start my day. Another habit is to check the news and see the weather forecast every morning. I like my daily morning routine.

The routine is an assembly of habits that we have, and repeatedly do over and over again many times without even thinking about it. Drinking coffee in the morning changes from a habit to routine when I use my favorite coffee mug, decide to use sweetener or not, choose the type of coffee, and how much, etc.. Routines are ingrained in the subconscious mind, and go on "automatic" very easily. In this competitive world, our company will benefit from excellent habits and outstanding routines. From saying good morning, to offering help when someone needs it, from organizing thoughts at the beginning of the day to creating a list of priorities; from making a point to reinforce the qualities of a colleague, to respecting each other as a valued team member, from asking for guidance to doing what is right and having a positive attitude towards the challenges of the day. Even something as simple as picking up litter off the floor, to holding the door open for the next person behind you.

I am a believer that small and meaningful positive habits don't have to be complex or require much meditation. For their consistency and repetition are the best characteristics of outstanding routines that improve oneself and influence others positively. By the way, a nice scoop of ice cream this summer should become a habit of our daily routine! Stay cool and productive.

Sincerely,
Marcos R. Braz, P.E., President



Employee Spotlight

Congratulations to Stacy Pendleton for completing the Hell's Acre Marathon— she ran a whopping 15.5 miles without stopping! Quite the amazing feat!



Help us in extending a very warm welcome to new Staff :

Taylor Freehuf



Birthdays And Anniversaries



8/5 Debra Sills' Anniversary (2015)

8/8 Jake Cross' Anniversary (2017)

8/15 Russell Wilson's Anniversary (2017)

8/30 Matthew Wood's Birthday

LOL Break



*Have a clean joke, cartoon or meme you'd like to share?

Send to carolinaearman@mr-braz.com