

# FUTURE FOCUS

*Future Environment Designs Inc.*

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*The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands in times of challenge and controversy.*

*~ Martin Luther King, Jr.*

## Special points of interest:

- We accept MasterCard, Visa, and American Express credit cards.
- Call us at (800) 969-3888 for your Safety Equipment & Supply needs.
- Our new location is 6800 Jericho Turnpike, Suite 120W, Syosset, New York 11791.
- Visit our website at [www.futureenv.com](http://www.futureenv.com)

## EPA Relative Moldiness Index (ERMI) - A New Assessment Tool

Welcome to the Summer 2007 edition of Future Focus. As we head into the dog days of summer, we want to remind everyone that we have moved our training facility to 6800 Jericho Turnpike, Suite 120W, in Syosset. We are in the same building with the Coolfish Restaurant. In addition, we are proud to announce we have merged our initial hands-on training classes with Ando International. This means all our initial hands-on classes will be held at their facility located at 44-01 21st Street, Long Island City, New York. Our initial hands-on courses include Allied Trades, Operations and Maintenance, Handler, Supervisor, Air Sample Technician, and Project Monitor. Inspector, Management Planner, and Designer can be held in Syosset or at your convenience.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) utilizing the data generated by the Housing Urban Development's (HUD) American Healthy Home Survey developed a new screening tool to evaluate the potential risk of indoor mold growth. This tool is called the ERMI, which stands for the EPA Relative Moldiness Index. The main features of this method is the collection of

dust from carpets and other accumulation sites; the analysis of the dust by mold-specific quantitative polymerase chain reaction (MSQPCR); and the comparison of the results with the HUD database. We collect the carpet dust with the understanding that mold accumulates in



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homes over time and it can be found in carpet dust and other accumulation sites. The collected dust is then analyzed using MSQPCR, a precise biochemical analysis, for a 36 mold species panel. This panel is broken into two groups, the first group (Group 1) consists of 26 species representing molds associated with water damage, while Group 2 represents common indoor molds. Once the analysis is completed and the results of each species is determined, the index is calculated. The index is calculated by log-transforming all mold concentrations,

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## 2007 Training Sponsors:



# FUTURE ENVIRONMENT DESIGNS PROJECT NEWS

## MOISTURE AND MOLD REMEDICATION ASSESSMENTS - OFFICE BUILDING NASSAU COUNTY

Future Environment Designs performed a moisture damage assessment of three floors of an office building in Nassau County for the tenant occupying the floors. The assessment determined that moisture intrusion had affected sheet rock, carpeting, window sills, and electrical outlets, while mold was impacting workers in the area. The remediation done by the owner was then reviewed by FED requiring additional recommendations.

## ASBESTOS CONTAMINATION OF THEATER - PLATTSBURGH

Future Environment Designs consulted with safety and health personnel concerned with possible exposure of workers from asbestos releasing from a fire curtain while testing it for required fire inspections.

## OSHA ASBESTOS CLASS IV TRAINING-OLD WESTBURY

Future Environment Designs performed asbestos training for a University in Old Westbury in compliance with OSHA Class IV requirements for workers who may contact asbestos but not disturb asbestos. The purpose of this training is to comply with OSHA requirements under the 1910.1001 & 1926.1101 regulations.

## Reminders

We've moved to 6800 Jericho Turnpike, Suite 120W, Syosset, New York. Training classes being held in Syosset are located at this address unless otherwise noted in our schedule.

Visit our website at [www.futureenv.com](http://www.futureenv.com) our training calendar for 2007 is online. Our blog is at <http://futureenv.blogspot.com> or you can link to the blog under Angelo Garcia, III's picture.

Train online and take 5% off the course by entering the following code at checkout:  
NEWS06

## ERMI—Mold Assessment Tool

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then subtracting the sum of Group 2 molds from the sum of Group 1 molds. This results in an ERMI of a whole number usually between -10 and 20 with a standard deviation of plus or minus 3. The ERMI is then compared to the HUD national database. ERMIs were determined for 1,096 homes across the United States as part of the 2006 American Healthy Homes Survey. Individual indices, ranked from lowest to highest were used to create a national Relative Moldiness Index (RMI) scale. This is a tool to be used as one element of an overall indoor air quality assessment or as an indication that a more complete assessment is needed.

The advantages of this method include: simplicity of taking one

sample, since carpet dust acts as a reservoir for mold spores, this method is more representative of mold levels overtime versus short-term air samples, increased precision because of the use of MSQPCR versus microscopy. The disadvantages of this method include: cost (\$335 to \$395 including supplies), and the index is new and still under research (may not be readily accepted). One factor that is also under research is using the ERMI to assess health risks for susceptible individuals. We are setting up classes to train people to take these samples and interpret the results. Give us a call if you would be interested. Have a Great Summer!

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION



### *Safety Suzy Says:*

Visit OSHA's On-site Consultation Program Web page to get valuable information on how this program helps you to provide

a safe working environment for your employees. The service is provided only at your request and is delivered at no cost. For additional information, visit our Web link at <http://www.osha.gov/dcsp/smallbusiness/index.html>.

### *Ban Asbestos in America Act of 2007.*

On July 31, 2007, Senator Patty Murray (D-WA)'s Ban Asbestos in America Act of 2007 was passed by the US Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works. The bill was unanimously voted out of committee and will now move to the Senate floor. The Ban is an effort to ban all production and use of asbestos in America, launch public education campaigns to raise awareness about its dangers and expand research and treatment of diseases caused by asbestos. The legislation, if passed, will also authorize additional studies to determine which commercial products today still contain asbestos, increase funding for asbestos-related diseases, and call for a national mesothelioma registry to help public health professionals track the disease.

### *MetLife Study Finds Five Conditions Drive 60% of Lost Workdays.*

MetLife analyzed more than 1.5 million short-term disability income insurance claims and found that five ailments - heart conditions, trauma, cancer, mental disorders, and pulmonary conditions - accounted for an average of 60% of all lost workdays. For more information, visit [www.metlife.com](http://www.metlife.com).

## AUGUST - NOVEMBER Courses (Location)

## DATE

Asbestos Project Designer Initial (Syosset)	Aug 20 - 22
Asbestos Handler Initial (Long Island City, NY)	Aug 20 - 23
Asbestos Inspector/Management Planner Refresher (Syosset)	Aug 23
Asbestos Inspector Initial (Syosset)	Aug 27 - 29
Asbestos Project Monitor Initial (Long Island City, NY)	Aug 27 - 31
Asbestos Project Designer Refresher (Syosset)	Sept 6
Asbestos Supervisor Refresher (Syosset)	Sept 10
Asbestos Supervisor Initial (Long Island City, NY)	Sept 10 - 14
Asbestos Supervisor Initial (Plattsburgh, NY) Tentative	Sept. 10-14 or 17-21
Asbestos Inspector/Management Planner Refresher (Syosset)	Sept 18
Asbestos O & M/Handler Refresher (Syosset)	Sept 24
Asbestos Project Monitor Initial (Long Island City, NY)	Sept 24 - 28
Asbestos Handler Initial (Long Island City, NY)	Sept 24 - 27
Asbestos Supervisor Refresher (Plattsburgh, NY)	Oct 4
Asbestos Operations & Maintenance Refresher (Plattsburgh, NY)	Oct 5
Asbestos Air Sample Technician/Project Monitor Refresher (Syosset)	Oct 11
Asbestos Supervisor Refresher (Syosset)	Oct 16
Asbestos Inspector/Management Planner Refresher (Syosset)	Oct 23
Asbestos Supervisor Refresher (Syosset)	Nov 8
Asbestos Inspector/Management Planner Refresher (Syosset)	Nov 15
Asbestos Air Sample Technician/Project Monitor Refresher (Syosset)	Nov 27



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Keeping Employees Safe

We're on the web  
[www.futureenv.com](http://www.futureenv.com)

## Sponsorships Help You Advertise Your Business or Job Openings

Future Environment Designs is now offering sponsorships that can work with your advertising, marketing, or hiring campaigns to specifically access the individuals that purchase asbestos, safety and health supplies and equipment or individuals that may be looking for work. So far in 2007, we have printed over 100 course manuals that our students use for our courses and as a reference for looking up questions with the regulations. In addition, we have handed-out catalogs, posters, postcards, and other handouts from our current sponsors.

We have three levels of sponsorships that have been set-up to work with various budgets and because we are primarily an asbestos training

provider, each level is named after a type of asbestos. For complete information and details on each of these Sponsorship levels call us for our brochure.

The first level is the Chrysotile Sponsorship Level for \$500 per year. This level gives you an 1/8 page ad in our course manual, your logo link on our website and on this newsletter under training sponsors on the front page, and handing out marketing materials at all our classes.

The Amosite Sponsorship Level for \$1,000 per year. This level gives you a 1/4 page ad in our course manual, your logo link on our website and on this newsletter, and handing out marketing materials at all our classes.

The Crocidolite Sponsorship Level for \$2,000 per year. This level gives you a 1/2 page ad in our course manual, your logo link on our website, blog, and on this newsletter, provide continental breakfast for our students, and handing out marketing materials at all our classes.



*The biggest need in politics and government today is for people of integrity and courage, who will do what they believe is right and not worry about the political consequences to themselves.*  
~ Reva Beck Bosone