



Joe Medosch

How Can Low-Cost IAQ Monitors Benefit Builders and Contractors







#### Joe Medosch Healthy Building Scientist



House Type



**Occupant Behaviors** 



Occupant Health Symptoms

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# Determine if your home is impacting your health!





Kaleb Saleeby HVAC School www.hvacrschool.com/



#### Special Thanks



Brett Singer and Woody Delp Lawrence Berkley Laboratory



Linda Wigington Team Leader, ROCIS Initiative www.ROCIS.org



# Low-Cost IAQ (Indoor Air Quality) Monitors

- Options for contractors
- Less optiuons for builders
- General overview of monitors and accuracy
- Criteria for monitoring IAQ
- Inherent challenges with low-cost devices
- Third Party evaluations and standard for monitors
- What is next for IAQ monitors and improving IAQ





#### Occupant is the IAQ Receptor







#### What are you breathing?





#### 3000 gallons of air every day.

Animation source: http://noticing.co/how-insects-breathe/#





# The Original IAQ Monitors



Foobot PM 2.5, Temperature, Humidity, Total VOCs, Carbon Dioxide

uHoo PM 2.5, Temperature, Humidity, Total VOCs, Carbon Dioxide, CO, Ozone, NO2, Barometric Pressure







### Consumer IAQ Monitors







## What do want to use the IAQ monitor for?

- Measure what conditions / ?
- Where in the house?
- How long is it measuring? When?
- How will you get the data or share it?
- How will you know what occurred in the home?
   cooking / showers

If you had a doctor visit that was 3 minutes – do you feel it would be a thorough evaluation?

# Consumer IAQ Monitors

# at that time Trend Indicators in that location





# IAQ Monitor =









# Consumer IAQ Monitors Blood Test Results IA

Blood Test	Result	Normal Value
WBCs (billion/L)	8.00	3.5 to 10.5
Neutrophils (%)	62	40 to 70
Lymphocytes (%)	28	25 to 45
Monocytes (%)	10	2 to 8
Eosinophils (%)	1	1 to 5
Basophils (%)	0	0 to 1
RBCs (trillion/L)	3.84	4.3 to 5.7
Hb (g/dL)	11.7	13 to 17
Hematocrit (%)	37	37 to 52
Platelets (billion/L)	262	150 to 450

# IAQ Monitor Results









# Multiple devices that measure multiple conditions

- Temperature & Humidity some Dew Point
- CO carbon monoxide ppm
- Radon pCi/L
- PM Particle count/mass PM 1, 2.5, 10
- tVOC total volatile organic compounds
- - Formaldehyde
- CO2 carbon monoxide have a direct CO2 sensor
- Ozone
- Air Pressure / Barometer
- Ambient light lux and or Sound dBA



# Trend Indicators



# Multiple devices that measure multiple conditions

- **Temperature & Humidity** some Dew Point
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These Are Most Consistent & Stable Readings



# Data – what do you get and how?

.

Save

97( 1030

← Edit Device

& Temperature

**O** Humidit

(?) Air Pressun

70\*

73°

50%

en Dioxide

100 . 208

Reset to Default Values

HAYWARD SCORE

17

62.1



#### Data – what do you get and how?



# IAQ Monitors – **Data** 1, 2, 3...

- The device measures the data...
- Where is it stored?
  - On the device?
  - In the cloud?
  - Do you own the data if you terminate the contract?
- Who has access to the data Manufacturer?
  - GEO location!





#### What is an AQ – Manufacturer's Air Quality

**EEBA** 





Same Sensor – different readings

- Most use same sensors Plantower or Honeywell
  - May be customized for each manufacturer
- Sensor is integrated with the device
- - Soldering and additional electronics



- Typically only one sensor accuracy can be questionable
- Sensors can get clogged with what your measuring





Same Sensor – different readings

- Some devices try to self correct
- This could cause the sensor to drift over time





Your device may drift differently



Same Sensor – different readings

- Some devices try to self correct
- This could cause the sensor to drift over time





Prefer non-dispersive NDIR sensor

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#### www.aqmd.gov/aq-spec





Foobot

Kumak - Air A10









Sensirion - SPS30 Eval Kit



Shinyei - PM Evaluation Kit

#### **AQ-SPEC** Air Quality Sensor Performance Evaluation Center

www.aqmd.gov/aq-spec

#### **Evaluation results guideline**

- PurpleAir PA-II vs GRIMM PM1 mass concentration
- PurpleAir PA-II vs GRIMM PM<sub>2.5</sub> mass concentration
- PurpleAir PA-II vs APS vs GRIMM PM<sub>10</sub> mass concentration









# **RESET**<sup>™</sup>

The intent of the RESET<sup>™</sup> Air Test Procedure for Accredited Monitors is to:

- Evaluate monitor quality via a singular, standardized test protocol ۲
- Standardization of the test methodologies and protocols as outlined, ۲ ensuring consistent replicability in laboratories, irrespective of geographic location.

#### **Accredited monitors**

- A Grade = Reference
- B Grade = Commercial
- C Grade = Consumer

- Particulate Matter 2.5 (PM2.5)
- Total Volatiles Organic Compounds (TVOC)
- Carbon Dioxide (CO2)
- Temperature
- Humidity







www.reset.build/



# RESET™

RESET<sup>™</sup> Air Accredited Monitors are defined and categorized by both Grade and Type. Monitor Grade defines the performance, accuracy and data reporting proficiency of a monitoring device. Monitor Type defines the "fit for purpose" scenarios applicable to each Grade and serves to define appropriate deployment of monitoring devices.

#### The RESET<sup>™</sup> Air Accredited Monitor Grades include:

**Grade A:** Calibration Grade monitors. Monitors that are used for the calibration of Grade B and C monitors. Grade A monitors are typically (but not exclusively) handheld and are primarily utilized for project commissioning, site audits, and pollutant source detection.

**Grade B**: Commercial Grade monitors. Grade B monitors provide actionable, indoor air quality data at scale within buildings, balancing performance and cost while reliably enabling building automation and providing occupants with high-quality data.

**Grade C:** Consumer Grade monitors. Grade C monitors are affordable to the average user or "citizen scientist". Primarily utilized for personal data gathering or non-scientific purposes.





www.reset.build/



#### Contractors











### What do want to use the IAQ monitor for?

- Measure what conditions ? General conditions or ???
- Where in the house? Set a schedule for clients to relocate

   more than 1 monitor? the monitor and document location & time
- How long is it measuring? When?

3 work days + weekend min. 2 weeks +

- How will you get the data or share it? Send report / share data
- How will you know what occurred in the home?
   windows open? / cooking / showers Clients keep a journal?
   EEBA

Role of the contractor and role of the device

- Do you let the client see the measurements?
  - does a device have a display?
  - is it better to hide this information or let them see it?
- What is the data really mean as actionable items
  - are there thresholds for these readings
- What are these devices telling you?
  - conditions and materials in the home,

- their habits



Role of the contractor and role of the device

This is the ultimate engagement tool. It is useless unless you the contractor fully engage the client.

The success of the IAQ monitor is dependent on the contractor – more than the device, or the client.

Recommended - share one with technicians and staff.



Front indicator lights display conditions. Fully customizable

HAYWARD SCORE

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# The M5200 IAQ Monitor from AirAdvice A Complete Report in 30 Minutes







#### The AirAdvice 30- min. FlashReport





- Particles
- VOCs
- CO2
- Temperature
- Relative Humidity
- CO



#### What are you breathing?

\*Lawrence Berkley Labs (LBL) MERV 8-13







#### FURNACE AND HVAC SYSTEM FILTERS

Furnace and HVAC filters work to filter the air only when run only when heating or cooling is needed (usually less the In order to get more filtration, the system would have to run practical in many cases since longer run times increase el control during the cooling season.











#### Air Handler Intervention



CASE STUDY: Indoor Air Quality Interventions Chris Guignon, evolveEA



20x25x4 MERV 13





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#### 24/7 Air Handler w High MERV Filter

1) Using existing 1" pleated filter

2) Return drop modification

w/turning vanes

Chris Guignon, evolveEA

4", 20"x 25" MERV 13 filter

Dylos particles  $\geq 0.5 \, \mu m$ 



#### **Energy Audit**

- Actually an energy penalty
- Typically Exhaust only
- Follow ASHRAE 62.2 X









#### **Healthy Home Assessment**

 Balanced Ventilation has significant improvements including a reduction in respiratory triggers such as formaldehyde and other VOCs, airborne mold and phthalates, carbon dioxide as well as radon and fewer asthma/respiratory symptoms.

 And associated with lower dust mite levels.





# Handheld IAQ Monitors



HAYWARD SCORE 43



#### Virtual or Remote Diagnostics

Govee Temperature and Rh monitor and datalogger





Send to occupant. Place in different rooms, maybe move them every few days. You arrive and read the data via Bluetooth (set it up before you sent it) **EEBA** 

#### Digital Radon Detector



#### **AirThings Corentium Home Model**

Accuracy (±5%) (plus or minus 0.14 pCi/L) Precision (2.7 pCi/L): Short term (7 days): 80+% after 1 week, Long term: 90+% after 1 month LCD display short term 1 day and 7 days, and long term 1 year average Radon Gas Sampling Method: Passive radon diffusion chamber Radon Gas Detection Method: Alpha spectrometry using digital detector technology Readout in pCi/L Designed in Europe, and tested in Japan Unaffected by humidity, electromagnetic interference and dust Not universally accepted in Real Estate Transactions





#### Low Level CO Alarm – Perfict Gift

Low-Level Carbon Monoxide Monitor - These are Carbon Monoxide detectors that can detect and alarm at levels at 5 ppm. Other units detect when above 70ppm for 4+ hours.

Ultra Low Level Display Time: Low Level Visual Alert Time: Low Level Audible Alert Time: Low Level Alarm Time: Mid Level Alarm Time: High Level Alarm Times: Visual Alert and Alarm Signals: Display Resolution: Display Accuracy: 5 ppm within 1 minute 9 ppm within 10 minutes, 25 ppm within 2 minutes 15 ppm within 60 minutes 25 ppm within 30 minutes 50 ppm within 15 minutes 100 ppm within 5 minutes; 150 ppm within 3 minutes Current CO level detected and flashing Red Alarm LED 1 PPM ±15%, plus ±2% each succeeding year, or 5 PPM,

whichever is greater, from 20 to 500 PPM @ 50% RH, 72F  $\pm 5F$ 





### Particulate and VOC / Formaldehyde Meters





FM200: Formaldehyde Meter

Particulate Counter

VFM200: VOC/Formaldehyde Meter



# Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) Meters







Your Report or Treatment Plan Cooling Energy Loss

ing lost in your home?

.

Cooling Energy lost in you

Energy Efficient Upgrades

.



.

**Third Party** 





### buildingdoctors.com









GET THE BEST INDOOR AIR QUALITY MAKE YOUR HOUSE MORE COMFORTABLE

HELP THE ENVIRONMENT







## HEALTHY HOMES & INDOOR AIR QUALITY





#### HAZARDS THAT AFFECT YOUR HOME'S HEALTH & INDOOR AIR QUALITY

Did you know that according to the EPA, your indoor air might be two to five times more polluted than the air outside? This is because many homes have structural issues which allow airborne contaminants to accumulate inside the home.

Even if you give your house a deep clean on a regular basis, there could be problem areas in your house which harm your IAQ and waste valuable energy. For example:

- Air leaks let outside pollutants seep into the home
- Poor ventilation keeps stale air indoors
- Ductwork leaks let dust into your HVAC system
- Excess indoor humidity causes mold growth
- Crawl space issues send musty air throughout the home

For a truly healthy home, it's important to uncover these types of issues at the source and make targeted improvements which improve indoor air quality, comfort, and energy efficiency.

#### totalhomeperformance.com

#### HOW TO MAKE YOUR HOME A HEALTHY HOME

With Total Home Performance, creating a healthy home is simple. We offer a wide range of services that work together to make your home healthier inside and out.

Here are some key home improvements we recommend if you're looking to boost overall home health.











#### ecoperformancebuilders.com











#### Is your house at risk to make you sick? Start here to find out!

#### Does your house have:

Active and/or recent leaks? O Yes O No O I don't know

Visible or suspected mold? OYes ONo OI don't know

Wall-to-wall carpet? OYes ONo OI don't know

A crawlspace? O Yes O No O I don't know

Forced air heating/cooling? O Yes O No O I don't know

Frequent indoor or outdoor pest treatment?





virtual assessments Healthy Homes, Healthy Living. MINNICK'S Heating • Cooling • Plumbing • Insulation



# Builders













# меева 2019











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**PurpleAir** 



You Can Only Control If You Measure the Conditions.

If you Measure the Conditions... Can You Control the Conditions

#### Sensor Integration

#### **Air Purifiers**







# New & Unique

TM

A057

# **Central Air Monitor**

by TZOA® In-duct monitor integrates with any HVAC system to track indoor air quality

#### CENTRAL AIR CONTROLLER

To control HVAC system fan during air quality events and ensure regular circulation

#### OTHER EQUIPMENT

Automatically triggers ventilation or filtration during AQ events



**AH** Control

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Indoor Stand Alone Device

# Haven Central IAQ Monitor





Dashboard LIVE HOUR

> FILTHATION ( (Particies)

> > FULTER O

DAY

(Chemicals)

Fair o

JUNE 27 | TTAM-12PM



### Sensor Integration CONNECTED IAQ SYSTEM

# BRCAN<sup>®</sup> NuTone<sup>®</sup>







# Sensor Integration Panasonic







Cosmos HQ Monitors system operations in real-time, receives alerts and recommendations, and automates processes efficiently

#### Cosmos Indoor Air Quality Monitor

Constantly monitors indoor air quality levels to determine when outside the normal range. Color coded LED lights provide instant air quality reading



Cosmos Communication Modules Provides communication for signal reliability among Cosmos components



Mobile App Provides data on your home's indoor air quality in an easy to read dashboard, you'll know when something is wrong, and how Cosmos resolves it, automatically.

# COVID-19 Zappers











#### uHoo Virus Index

The 'uHoo Virus Index' is a patent pending technology that uses the power of air quality data to help you know **how to deactivate viruses** in your home/workplace and how your air quality affects your health and immune system. Optimize your air quality so you can **deactivate viruses**, if they're present.





#### **Responsive Purification**

Designed to help optimize indoor environmental conditions, DARWIN Home Wellness Intelligence uses

advanced algorithms and

indoor air quality. Air monitoring sensors passively test air quality in real-time and automatically turns on the heating and cooling system to provide you with fresh air exactly when you need it

#### Readings

- Temperature
- Humidity
- Dew Point
- TVOCs
- Formaldehyde
- CO2 Carbon dioxide
- CO Carbon monoxide
- NO2 Nitrogen dioxide
- PM 1.0, 2.5, 10
- Ozone
- Air Pressure / Barometer
- Ambient light lux
- Sound dBA
- Local Whether

#### Sensor

- Self Calibration
- Factory Calibration
- Passive or fan assist

#### Connectivity

- 3G / 4G/ 5G
- WiFi
- Bluetooth / range
- Collects data if not connected to cloud
- Phone app
- Web access
- -Cloud storage
- Integrates w/ other devices
- API

Power

120v
 Portable - internal battery
 Portable - works off a battery pack
 USB power



## Active Spread Sheet

A	В	C	D	E	F	G	н
	ALPHABETICAL Updated 2020-05-26	Air Advice	AirThinx - standard	(IAQ) AirVisual Pro	Atmotube PRO	Awair 2 Element	Awair Omni
	Туре	Contractor	Commercial / Residential	Residendial / Maybe small commercial applications	Personal Portable monitor	Residential	Consummer
	Esta Price for unit (as of June 2020)	\$1,200	\$699	\$269	\$149	\$149	\$300
	Monthly / anual service fee	Yes	\$299	No	No		\$60
	Visual Display	Minimal -	Connectivity and Alert single color	Full color display	No	Yes - minimal - can be changed	Yes - minimal - can be changed
	Display can be turned OFF	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes
e	adings						
	Temperature	Yes	Range - 0-99°C Resolution - 0.1 °C Maximum Error - ±0.5 °C	14 - 104°F	Yes	-40 to +125°C (-40 to +257°F),+/- 0.3°C	Range: -40 to 125°C (-40 to 257°F) Accuracy: +0.2°C (=/- ~3° F)
	Humidity	Yes	Range - 0-99 %RH Resolution - 0.1 %RH Maximum Error - ±2 %RH	0 - 95%	Yes	0 to 95%, +/- 3%	Range: 0-100% RH Accuracy: +2% RH
	Dew Point	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
	TVOCs	Yes	PPM Effective Range - 1~30ppm of EtOH Sensitivity - 0.15 ~ 0.5 Rs (10ppm of EtOH)/ Rs (air)	No	Yes	0 to 2014 ppb	TVOC Range: 0-60,000 ppb Accuracy: +10%
	Formaldahyde	No	CH2O Sensor Effective Range - 0~1 mg/m3 Resolution - 0.001 mg/m3 Maximum Error - < 5% FS		No		
	CO2 Carbon dioxide	Yes	Effective Range - 0~3000 PPM Resolution - 1 PPM Maximum Consistancy Error - ±50ppm+5%FS Single Response Time - < 3 sec. Total Response Time - ≤ 25 sec	CO2: 400 - 10,000 PPM	Yes	0 to 4000 ppm,+/- 75ppm	Range: 400-5,000 ppm Accuracy:+ 75 ppm or +10%

link - https://bit.ly/36t1jPZ











# Conclusions

- All chemicals matter
  - All particulates matter
    - All homes matter





• All occupants matter

Thank You joemedosch@gmail.com







#### **Building Science Principles**

#### **Reference Guide and**

#### Certificate of Knowledge Exam



Building Science Principles Reference Guide Second Edition

#### EEBA

#### Healthy Housing Principles

#### **Reference Guide and**

#### Certificate of Knowledge Exam



Building Performance Institute, Inc.







Healthy Housing Principles Reference Guide First Edition



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Building Performance Institute, Inc.







Healthy Housing Principles Reference Guide First Edition





# More information go to bpi.org/HHP

#### Download the full PowerPoint PDF - bpi.org/hhp





#### Quick Links



#### Video Recording is on EEBAs YouTube site



https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL18eaEJUabuVXShxYBZw5Ym1bt9AlMv2p

or

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL18eaEJUabuWTrFvqC1-NhSjFPSnZtWLo



