Press Release

Air Handling Technology Association
Ventilation and air conditioning in facilities of healthcare - Further information document with reference to COVID-19

- High demand for information requires expert knowledge
- Second information document provides detailed information on subject of ventilation and air-conditioning systems in the healthcare sector

Frankfurt, May 5, 2020 – The VDMA Working Group Maintenance Building Technology (AIG) has published a second information paper in the series "Ventilation Systems in Times of COVID-19", in collaboration with companies from the Air Conditioning and Ventilation Technology Department and with experts from external institutions.

Health care facilities facing enormous challenges in the period marked by the COVID 19 pandemic. It is particularly important to provide the necessary treatment capacities for patients and suspected cases. Ventilation and air conditioning systems have a central role in this context. In the current situation, the operation and use of ventilation and air-conditioning systems raises many questions and causes uncertainty among the managers and operators of health care facilities.

Conversion of premises
The new information sheet "Recommendations for healthcare facilities" deals in detail with the suitability and operating conditions of various rooms with ventilation and air-conditioning systems for the two cases of use: regular operation (standard requirement according to DIN 1946-4:2018-09) and occupancy with corona (suspected) cases.
The aim of the information document is to prevent the spread of COVID-19 through ventilation and air-conditioning systems and between room areas when rooms in hospitals and other health care facilities are put to a different use. The building and system-specific measures described are intended for facilities that have ventilation and air-conditioning systems and in whose premises infectious patients and suspected cases are examined and treated on an outpatient, day-care or inpatient basis.

**First information document provides basic knowledge**
As early as the beginning of April, the first information paper regarding ventilation systems in the era of COVID-19, entitled "Fundamentals of Operation and Use", was published by the Air Handling Technology Association.

This publication of the Air Filter Working Group is aimed at experts in ventilation and air-conditioning technology, facility service providers and operators of buildings equipped with air conditioning systems.

The system-specific precautions described are intended for commercial and public buildings, including, for example, administration and office buildings, schools, shopping centres and cultural institutions.


Do you have any further questions? Dr Thomas Schräder, VDMA Air Handling Technology, phone +49 (0)69 6603 1227, thomas.schraeder@vdma.org will answer your questions.

The VDMA represents around 3300 German and European companies in the mechanical and plant engineering sector. The industry stands for innovation, export orientation, medium-sized companies and employs around four million people in Europe, more than one million of them in Germany.

The Air Handling Technology Association comprises the departments Air Conditioning and Ventilation Technology (Process air as well as Ventilation and air conditioning), Refrigeration and Heat Pump Technology, Air Pollution Control (Process air), Surface Technology and Drying Technology.

The VDMA Working Group Maintenance Building Technology (AIG) is an association of well-known companies under the umbrella of the Air Handling Technology Association, whose members offer highly qualified technical services in the field of maintenance and building and facility management.