



Greetings from Texas! As we kick off this year's National Health Care Facilities and Engineering Week, I want to recognize what you do every day to support patient care in our health care facilities. Our jobs are often challenging, and in some cases — like coordinating a 2 a.m. utility shutdown — may seem downright thankless. But this work is foundational for providing an effective healing environment, whether it's making simple temperature adjustments or coordinating a full-blown replacement of an HVAC system over a three-day weekend... just in time for Monday morning visitors.

Each of us interacts with the patient care environment in various ways, both simple and complex: managing renovations and new builds; conducting regulatory and safety inspections; performing important preventive maintenance; and keeping contingency plans current to minimize risk of unexpected and preventable events alike. Not to mention always looking for ways to streamline operational costs and drive performance improvements (a passion of mine — need I remind you that there's an opportunity to save more than \$1 billion in utility costs each year!).

To sustain the important work of supporting patient care, our health care facilities family needs a new generation of technicians, managers, coordinators, licensed professionals — from entry level to the executive ranks — to support our facilities, whether they're existing or new, on-site or virtual. This is a great time to reach out and educate a new person about our work, and hopefully recruit them to the team (if not yours, then maybe a neighbor who has an opening!). Let's focus on building our teams and our workforce!

Thank you for all that you do. Please reach out if I can be of service in any way.

Regards,

Michael A. "Mike" Hatton, 2025 ASHE President