



**ARTHUR V. MARTIN**  
ASSOCIATES INC  
The Air Quality Consultants

# The Air Quality Reporter

*"Certifying The Quality of Your Indoor Environment"*

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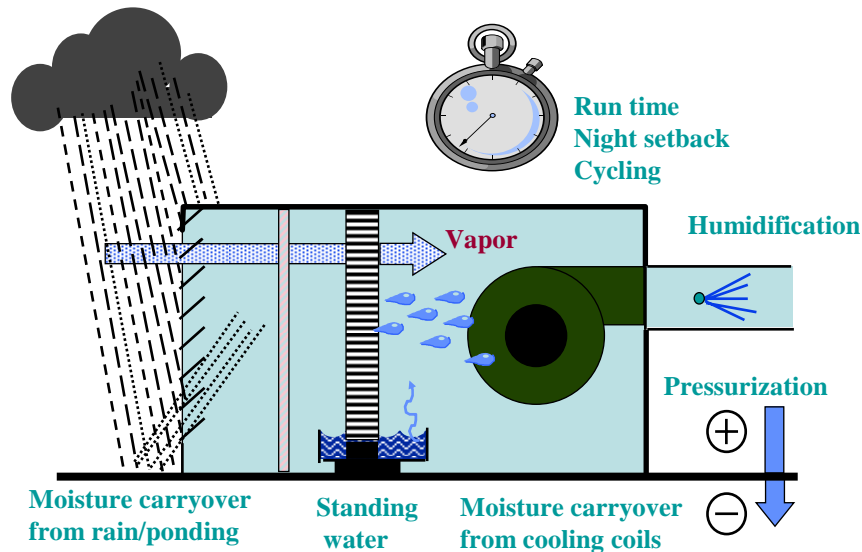
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## Is Your Mold Issue HVAC Related

### HVAC System Sources of Moisture



When investigating a complaint of mold growth in a building that has not had a catastrophic water loss you might do a little investigating of the building's HVAC system. It can be the root cause of your mold problems.

An inappropriately sized system or a misapplied system will not have the ability to control moisture in the enclosed environment. Allowing the humidity to remain high is always a cause of bioaerosol proliferation. The first step in designing a HVAC system is to do a "Manual J" load calculation or a commercial load calculation if it is that type of structure. This will allow the contractor to install a system that will properly as well as efficiently heat, cool and dehumidify the space.

The use of electronic data loggers is a great way to determine if the system is doing a good job.

An electronic data logger can be programmed on a laptop to record temperature, humidity and dew point over a set time period. Placing one or more inside the structure as well as one outdoors will allow you to chart and graph conditions and make a comparison of building needs with system performance. There are many tools available to the IEP to help in diagnosis of mold related issues. You should be aware of these tools and use them to maximize your efficiency and credibility with your clients.

