



Smart Home Council (SHC) Webinar

Meeting will commence 12:05pm ET

Thursday, August 13, 2026 | 12 PM – 1:30 PM (ET)

SHC Chair: Ken Wacks (Ken Wacks Associates)

Vice-Chair: Joshua Gerena (2N/Axis Communications)

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Agenda

Marta Klopotowska (ASHB)

1. Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions, About the SHC
2. Administrative
3. Research Update
4. Keynote: From Smart Homes to Intelligent Infrastructure: Why the Network Is Becoming the Foundation of Residential Design with Akram Khalis, MHT Technologies
5. ASHB Podcast
6. ASHB Whitepapers
7. ASHB Journal
8. New Business
9. Announcements
10. Adjournment



1. Call to Order, Welcome, Intro, About the SHC

Ken Wacks (Ken Wacks Associates)



SHC Chair
Dr. Kenneth Wacks
Management &
Engineering
Consultant

KENNETH WACKS, Ph.D.
Management & Engineering Consultant



SHC Vice-Chair
Joshua Gerena
Segment
Development
Manager - CRE



About the SHC

Established in 2004, the ASHB Smart Home Council initiates and reviews projects that relate to smart home and multiple dwelling unit technologies and applications. The Council also examines industry opportunities that can accelerate the adoption of new technologies, consumer electronics and broadband services within the burgeoning smart home market. www.ashb.com/shc



2. Administrative

Ken Wacks (Ken Wacks Associates)

Approval of SHC Minutes

June 9, 2026

www.ashb.com/shc



Open Call for SHC Vice Chairs

The Smart Home Council (SHC) is seeking Vice-Chairs to help guide its quarterly meetings. Contact admin@ashb.com to learn more and find out how you can be part of this council.



3. Research Update

Greg Walker (ASHB)



SHC Landmark Research Smart Home Trends & Technology Adoption

Funders



Contact admin@ashb.com to obtain research findings and to join as a funder.



4. Keynote

Greg Walker (ASHB)



The slide features a background image of a modern, multi-story house at night, illuminated with warm lights. Overlaid on the house are several glowing blue icons: a Wi-Fi symbol at the top right, a camera icon on the upper floor, a temperature sensor icon (72°F) on the middle floor, and a padlock icon on the ground floor. A network of glowing blue lines connects these points across the house. On the right side of the slide is a portrait of Akram Khalis, a man with a beard and bald head, wearing a blue patterned blazer over a white shirt. The text on the slide is as follows:

Keynote Speaker

**From Smart Homes to Intelligent Infrastructure:
Why the Network Is Becoming the Foundation
of Residential Design**

Akram Khalis, CEO of MHT Technologies and
Co-Founder of Inspextor

 MHT





*Why the **Network** Is Becoming the Foundation of Residential Design*

Connecting the foundation of tomorrow's
intelligent homes

Presented by:

Akram "AK" Khalis

Co-founder & CEO, MHT Technologies



A modern, multi-story smart home at night, illuminated from within. The house features large glass windows and a swimming pool in the foreground. Overlaid on the image are several glowing blue circular icons connected by a network of lines, representing various smart home technologies: a Wi-Fi symbol, a lightbulb, a temperature gauge showing 72°, a security camera, a smart lock, a solar panel, a battery, and a car. The background is a soft, hazy landscape.

The Smart Home Has Reached an Inflection Point

Homes are evolving from connected devices to intelligent environments.

- More connected devices than ever
- AI is entering the home
- Energy systems are becoming smarter
- Occupants expect seamless experiences
- Infrastructure is struggling to keep pace

How We Got Here

The evolution of residential technology.



Every major advancement has been driven by infrastructure, not individual devices.

The Device Problem



Each has:



Different app



Different gateway



Different protocol



Different installer

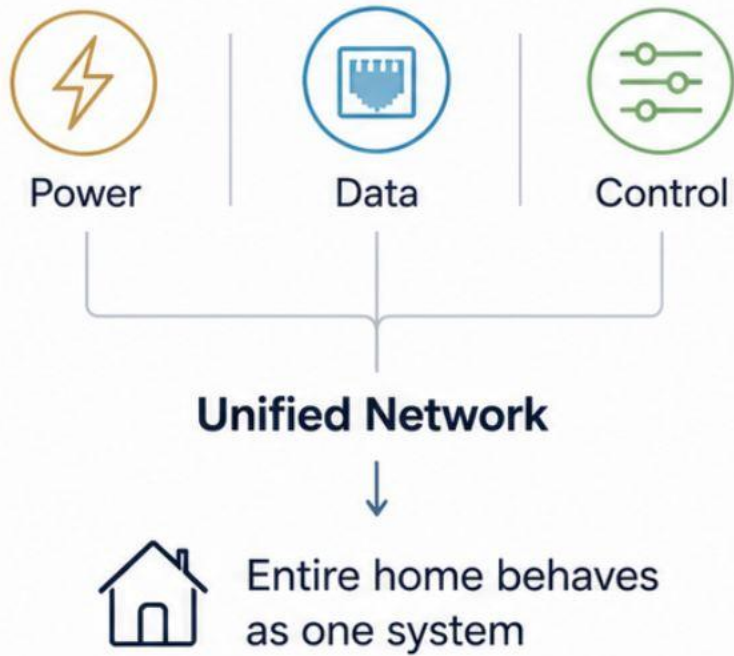


Different maintenance

More devices $\neq$ More intelligence

Infrastructure Changes Everything

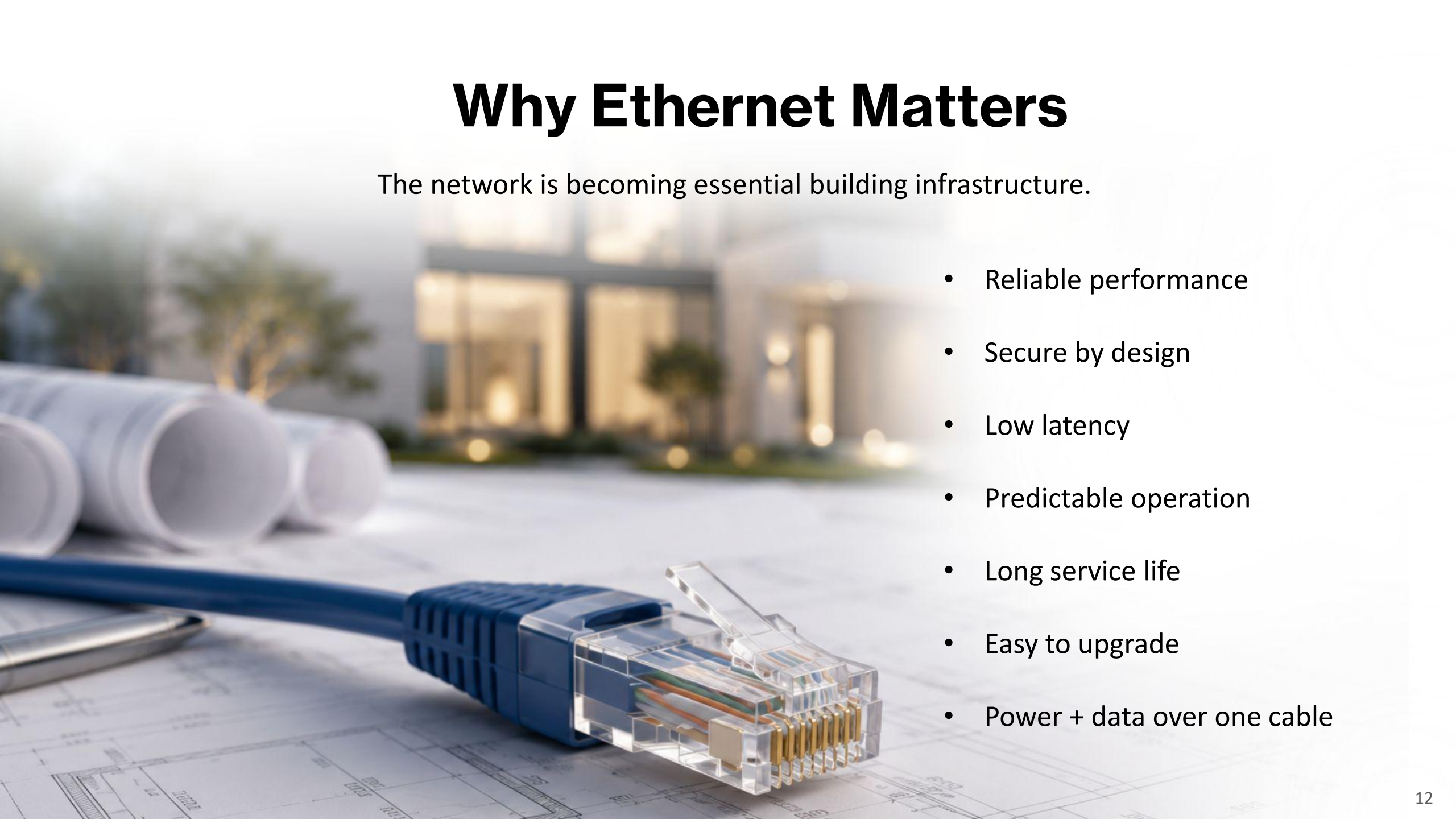
Great buildings aren't defined by the devices they contain, but by the infrastructure connecting them.



Why Ethernet Matters

The network is becoming essential building infrastructure.

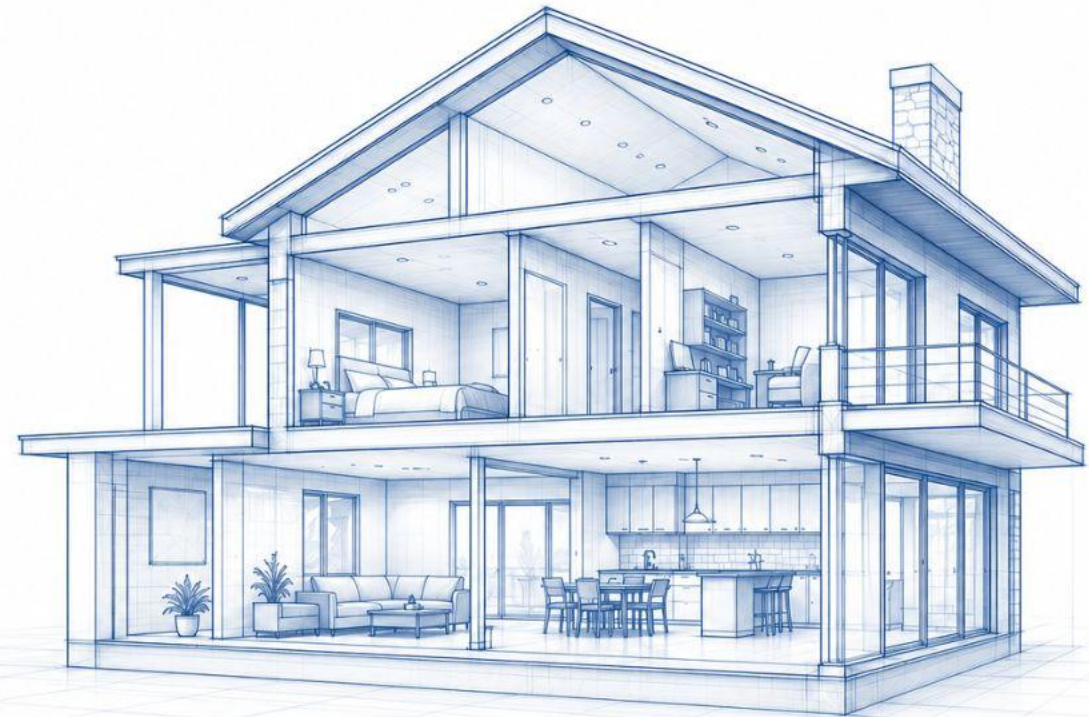
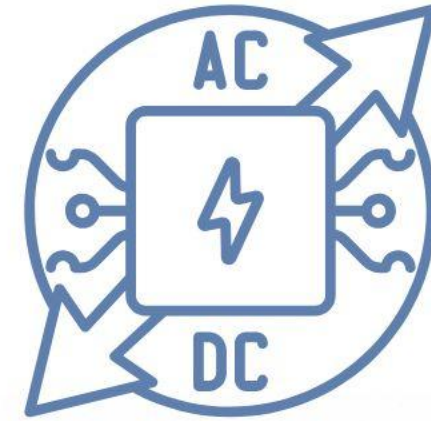
- Reliable performance
- Secure by design
- Low latency
- Predictable operation
- Long service life
- Easy to upgrade
- Power + data over one cable



The Shift to DC Power

Traditional AC-powered systems can't keep pace with intelligent homes.

- AC wiring is rigid: new circuits mean new panels and labor
- Adding devices often means rewiring, not just plugging in
- Low-voltage DC scales by adding devices, not construction
- Centralized power simplifies management, reduces failure points
- Safer, more efficient power delivery throughout the home



Extending DC Power with FMPS

Panduit's Fault Managed Power System (FMPS) converts and delivers DC at scale, with the potential to power entire homes from a single source.

- Developed by MHT's partner, Panduit
- Converts incoming AC power to high-voltage DC at the source
- Delivers power safely over longer distances at higher wattages
- Built for larger homes and higher-draw devices
- Future potential: whole-home power conversion at a single point of entry



Power over Ethernet (PoE)

PoE is the foundation for connected living.

- Powers connected devices through Ethernet
- Simplifies installation and infrastructure
- Centralizes power and management
- Enables remote monitoring and updates
- Reduces long-term maintenance costs





Homes Are Becoming Software-Defined

Tomorrow's intelligent homes will be defined as much by software as hardware.

- Adaptive automation
- Energy optimization
- AI assistance
- Remote diagnostics

Hardware provides capability.
Software creates value.

aida™ Intelligent Home Management



An AI-powered intelligent home management system that provides centralized visibility, management, and automation.

Capabilities

- Real-time monitoring
- Device management
- Environmental intelligence
- Occupancy visibility
- Energy analytics
- Cross-system orchestration
- Open API integrations



AI Reaches Its Full Potential with Intelligent Infrastructure

Artificial intelligence is only as good as the systems supporting it.

AI depends on:

- Connected infrastructure
- Trusted data
- Secure networking
- Real-time communication



The Infrastructure Is Converging

Residential and commercial environments are being built on similar digital foundations.



Bringing it All Together

Intelligent environments are created by managing every connected system as one.



lighting



network



security



hvac



shades



occupancy



audio



energy

What Should Builders & Designers Rethink Today?



Design for Connectivity

Ensure every system can communicate on a unified network foundation.



Design for Flexibility

Build infrastructure that adapts to changing needs without rework.



Design for Software

Enable capabilities that improve through software, not renovations.



Design for AI

Prepare infrastructure for intelligent services that learn, adapt, and create value.



Designing the next generation of intelligent homes starts today.

The Next Generation of Homes

Homes that are more connected,
more adaptive, and ready for what's
next.



Questions & Answers

Why the **Network** Is Becoming the Foundation of Residential Design

Connecting the foundation of tomorrow's
intelligent homes

Presented by:
Akram "AK" Khalis
Co-founder & CEO, MHT Technologies





MHT Technologies

Headquarters

241 West 37th Street, 12FL
New York, NY 10018

US Manufacturing

1961 Richmond Terrace
Staten Island, NY 10302

Contact

+1 718-524-4370
sales@mht-technologies.com



THANK YOU!

Questions?



5. Smarter Homes & Buildings Podcast

Marta Klopotowska (ASHB)



ashb.com/podcast

Join industry experts and leaders from around the globe as they discuss everything smart home and intelligent buildings.



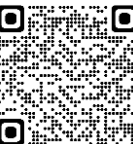
Apple
Podcasts



ASHB is looking for guests and hosts for future pre-recorded episodes. Contact admin@ashb.com for more information.

Recent Recordings:

- Smart Homes for Special Needs: Technology Supporting Autism, Aging & Independence
- The Role of Lighting in the AI-Powered Home
- Basement Flooding Isn't Inevitable: How Technology Can Save Your Home



6. ASHB Whitepapers

Ken Wacks (Ken Wacks Associates)



ASHB
Research Program

Published IBC White Papers can be downloaded at:
ashb.com/whitepapers
Send proposals to admin@ashb.com

Recently Published



6. ASHB Research Library

Ken Wacks (Ken Wacks Associates)

ASHB

About Membership Networking Marketing Research & Information Join ASHB Login

The ASHB Research Library

The ASHB Library is the #1 resource to find smart home and building research. Our industry papers.

[Access the ASHB Public Library](#). No subscription is needed to view these reports, which are available here.

[Access the ASHB Member Library](#), with reports going back three years (2022-present). View reports here.

If your organization is an ASHB member and if you have questions on how to access the ASHB Library, please [contact us](#). Visit the [Members' Directory](#) for the full list of ASHB members.

2025 Collaborative Research

Members' Library

White Paper Program (over 1,000 reports and white papers)

Newsletter (weekly)

Journal

Free ASHB Reports (summaries of these reports [here](#)).

Discounts

Podcast (reports [here](#)).

Access ASHB Public Library

2050

EXPLORE LIBRARY

The Hidden Drains & Pipes Impacting Your Asset Efficiency

Preview ASHB Members Library

EXPLORE LIBRARY

and How to Choose the Right Technology to Help



7. ASHB Journal

Ken Wacks (Ken Wacks Associates)



The ASHB Journal aims to educate and inform the ASHB membership and industry at large on emerging research, issues, challenges, and opportunities in the smart home and building sectors.

New articles are posted to the ASHB website, included in the weekly NewsBrief, and circulated on Twitter and LinkedIn.

Send proposals to admin@ashb.com

Recent posts:

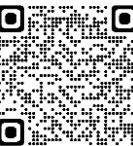
- **Retrofitting Commercial Buildings with Smart BAS for Deep Energy and Carbon Reduction**
- **Ken Wacks' Perspectives: CES 2026: From AI and flying machines to typewriters**
- **From Passive Monitoring to Energy Intelligence: Controlling the Invisible Drain in Commercial Buildings**



8. New Business

Ken Wacks (Ken Wacks Associates)

New SHC Business?



9. Announcements

Marta Klopotoska (ASHB)

Upcoming Events

Smart Energy Summit by Parks Associates
August 20 | Virtual

CEDIA Expo
September 1-4 | Denver, CO

Smart Spaces by Parks Associates
September 15-16 | Dallas, TX

International Smart Space Exhibition (ISSE)
September 23-27 | China

IoT Tech Expo
October 19-20 | Amsterdam



10. Adjournment

Ken Wacks (Ken Wacks Associates)

Next SHC Meeting: November 3, 2026

Association for Smarter Homes & Buildings (ASHB)

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ASHB

Smart Home Council

