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- Mold Assessments, Testing, & Removal Validation
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- Safety & Health Consulting
- Training

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## Swine Influenza: Key Facts About the Swine Flu from the CDC

### What is Swine Influenza?

Swine Influenza, or “Swine Flu,” is a respiratory disease of pigs caused by type A influenza virus that regularly causes outbreaks of influenza in pigs.

**Can humans catch swine flu?** Not normally; however, sporadic human infections with swine flu have occurred. Most commonly, these types of cases occur in persons with direct exposure to pigs. There have also been documented cases of one person spreading swine flu to others.

### How common is swine flu infection in humans?

In the past, CDC reports approximately one human swine influenza virus infection every one to two years in the U.S. From December 2005 through February 2009, 12 cases of human infection with swine influenza have been reported. As of April 29, however, 91 new cases have been documented by the CDC.

### Can people catch swine flu from eating pork? No.

Swine influenza viruses are

not transmitted by food. You can not get swine influenza from eating pork or pork products.

### Is there a vaccine for swine flu?

Vaccines are available to be given to pigs to prevent swine influenza. However, there is no vaccine to protect humans from swine flu.

*Source: “Key Facts About Swine Influenza (Swine Flu),” [http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/key\\_facts.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/key_facts.htm), 4/24/2009.*

## Infrared Cameras Today

Infrared (IR) cameras have gone through HUGE changes recently. Just a few years ago an IR camera would cost the environmental consultant 15 - 18 thousand dollars and the features were very basic. In today's market, the choices are unlimited with cost a third of the entry level camera of 5 years ago while increasing camera performance and features.

The newest and most exciting feature in the IR world has to be the introduction of Fusion Technology. This gives the consultant the ability to have a full visual image with a picture-in-picture (PIP) IR image. This type image

provides visual reference to areas and items while still allowing the scan for temperature differentials. These images can be saved and presented to the property owner in the PIP format for easy explanation.



The most overlooked facet of IR ownership is training. Many clients feel that they should buy the most expensive camera they can afford. The same consultants will then refuse to invest in a training course! Just as an IR camera in the hands of a trained

thermographer is an asset to a company, it can certainly be a liability in the untrained hands of a consultant.

IR cameras have quickly become a necessity verses a luxury of past years. The ability to track moisture, find building defects and provide energy audits are just a few reasons IR cameras will continue to grow in demand in the environmental and building science fields.

*Jody Thomason is the Director of Products for EMSL Analytical, Inc. Please feel free to contact him at [jthomason@emsl.com](mailto:jthomason@emsl.com) with any questions.*

## CEI Certifications and Appointments

CEI congratulates **Archie Barrett** and **Jeffrey Ogle** for being our most recent recipients of the Healthcare Construction Certificate awarded by the American Society of Healthcare Engineers. By enrolling our staff in this program, CEI personnel are best enabled to work with and for the healthcare industry by attaining a firm understanding of the unique and complex challenges of

working on facility improvement projects while maintaining focus on patient and occupant health and safety.

CEI also congratulates **Mike Bolling** for his appointment as **Vice President/Director of Engineering Services**. Mike serves as Operations Manager of CEI's corporate services division and performs day-to-day

management of industrial hygiene and engineering projects at CEI. Mike's dedication to both our clients and staff is invaluable.



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## Regulatory Updates

The **Virginia** General Assembly has approved legislation that would promulgate the regulation of mold professionals. Mold inspectors and remediators would require licensure in order to work in Virginia under this new statute. Enactment of the statute is slated for July 2011.



The State of **Arkansas** has passed Senate Bill 803, regulating the performance

of "mold and mildew" inspections. This bill, signed by the Governor, sets strict requirements for the qualifications of professionals performing such work. Implementation of this law is scheduled for January 2010.

## About Our Organization



CEI is a full-service **environmental and industrial hygiene consulting firm** and provides a full range of

occupational compliance services, with a specialization in compliance consulting and testing for healthcare facility management providers. Based in Baltimore (Glen Burnie), Maryland, CEI provides compliance. We hope that you will find this newsletter beneficial when you select or recommend a consulting firm, and we will gladly provide a Statement of Qualifications package,

client references, and job-specific proposals upon your request. At CEI, we take great satisfaction in helping clients **"turn problems into solutions."**



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