

Listing of Certified Industrial Hygienists Offering IAQ and Mold Services in the Sacramento Area

Prepared by
County of Sacramento, Environmental Management Department
8475 Jackson Road, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95762
Telephone: 916-875-8440

DISCLAIMER

This list is provided by the County of Sacramento, Environmental Management Department as a service to the public and to aid those who want to hire professional assistance in addressing IAQ and Mold problems. The information presented in the list is "self-reported" by the listed firms, and its accuracy is not verified by the EMD. Firms included on this list are in no way specifically endorsed or certified by the EMD.

How to Use This List

This list has been prepared to identify Certified Industrial Hygienists (CIHs) in the Sacramento area that promote themselves as capable of providing indoor air quality and mold diagnostic or mitigation services. The indoor air quality and mold assessment profession remains in its infancy, and there are no nationally-recognized licenses or certifications specific to the practice of mold remediation. As CIHs must have specific education in the sciences and experience in workplace health hazard mitigation, their nationally-recognized certification is felt to be a reasonable standard from which to begin the selection of an IAQ and Mold Assessment consultant.

Before making your decision, make a short list of firms to contact and obtain the following information concerning the nature of their firm and the services they can perform. Having this information will help you be certain that you are choosing the one that best suits your needs. Use these contacts to confirm whether you need to hire an IAQ and Mold professional.

Carefully describe the problem.

Try to avoid presupposing what is causing the problem, emphasizing instead what the specific nature of the problem is. Start with a brief, concise description, since an initial contact will often forward you to someone else in the company, based on this information.

Find out what the firm can do and what it will charge.

Ask the following questions and others that you think are appropriate:

- What is your firm's experience in diagnosing problems of this nature?
- What kind of personnel would perform the work?
- How much will it cost? Do you require a deposit?
- What laboratory will analyze field samples, if these are collected? Is the laboratory accredited by a national accreditation body, such as the American Industrial Hygiene Association?
- How long has the firm been in business? How long has the firm done this type of work?

Be certain you are getting the services you need:

Ask the company representative to explain the nature of the diagnosis and/or mitigation they will perform.

Be sure they have explained any test methods they will use so that you can understand it.

Don't be pressed by an IAQ professional into the use of expensive testing, unless it can be explained why this information is needed to solve your problem.

Don't insist they do testing, when they feel that the results are not likely to give you information you really need.

Check References and Complaints.

Firms that have been in business for a long time and have a permanent address have a better chance of having developed a reputation that you can check out:

Ask for references, including other clients who have used the firm, can verify that the firm can provide the services you need, and were satisfied with quality of the services. You can contact your local Better Business Bureau (listed in the phone book) or the State Department of Consumer Affairs (www.dca.ca.gov or 800-952-5210) to determine if unresolved complaints have been lodged against the firm.

Report any instances of fraud or misrepresentation to the organizations mentioned above. They can also assist you in resolving disputes or conflicts, if these develop.

Check for Conflict of Interests.

Be aware that firms that sell mitigation devices and services as their main business may have a conflict of interest; they may tend to gear their diagnoses and recommendations toward the use of their mitigation devices or services.

Find out if the firm also sells mitigation services or devices, such as air duct cleaning services, air cleaners, or mold remediation services.

Reconsider hiring any firm that misrepresents itself as having been approved or endorsed in any way by virtue of its inclusion in this list.

Obtain a written contract:

Carefully read the contract to make sure that the services the consultant will provide are clearly described and the charges are fully defined.

Be certain that you and the consultant are in agreement on what kind of report you will receive and when. Understand that you will pay more when you need results "immediately".

In the case of mitigation service, verify whether there are warranties to retest or continue services to resolve problems, if they recur.

You can find further information on the California Dept. of Health Services web site: www.cal-iaq.org, including useful guidance from these sources:

[Guidelines for Selecting an Indoor Air Quality Consultant](http://www.cal-iaq.org/guide_aiha_9901.htm) (http://www.cal-iaq.org/guide_aiha_9901.htm), modified from "Operation Outreach," American Industrial Hygiene Association (<http://www.aiha.org>).

[Hiring Professional Assistance to Solve an IAQ Problem](http://www.cal-iaq.org/guide_baq_9901.htm) (http://www.cal-iaq.org/guide_baq_9901.htm), modified from Building Air Quality: A Guide for Building Owners and Facility Managers, NIOSH Publication 91-114 .

[Hiring Professional Assistance](http://www.cal-iaq.org/guide_ak_9901.htm) (http://www.cal-iaq.org/guide_ak_9901.htm), modified from Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools: IAQ Coordinator's Guide (<http://www.epa.gov/iaq/schools/tools4s2.html>), U.S. EPA Publication 402-K-95-001.

DISCLAIMER

This list is provided by the County of Sacramento, Environmental Management Department as a service to the public and to aid those who want to hire professional assistance in addressing IAQ and Mold problems. The information presented in the list is "self-reported" by the listed firms, and its accuracy is not verified by the EMD. Firms included on this list are in no way specifically endorsed or certified by the EMD.

Contents:

- Consultant Name
- Location
- Phone Number
- Contact Name

Air Quality Sciences – Building Consulting, Inc.

Fairfield
707-399-9110
Susan Evans, CIH, CSP, PE

Atlantic Pacific Environmental

Elverta
916-991-6426
Mark Pheatt, CIH

Earthshine Consulting

Rocklin
916-769-1434
John Sacco, CIH, PE, CSP

Geomatrix

Folsom
916-353-2152
Jeff Hicks, CIH, QEP

Krause and Associates

Davis
530-758-6397
Douglas S. Krause, CIH

KWA Safety and HazMat

El Dorado Hills
530-622-7196
Pam Murcell, CIH

HMS, Inc.

Rocklin
916-632-6800
Rick Beall, CIH

Network Environmental Systems

Folsom
916-353-2360
David Durst, CIH, CSP

Created June 2002