

# METROPOLITAN NY CHAPTER Refrigeration Service Engineers Society

Continued Education for the HVAC/R Industry  
"Better Service Through Knowledge"

\*\*\*\*\*

February 2011

[WWW.METRONYRSES.ORG](http://WWW.METRONYRSES.ORG)



## ATTENTION MEMBERS

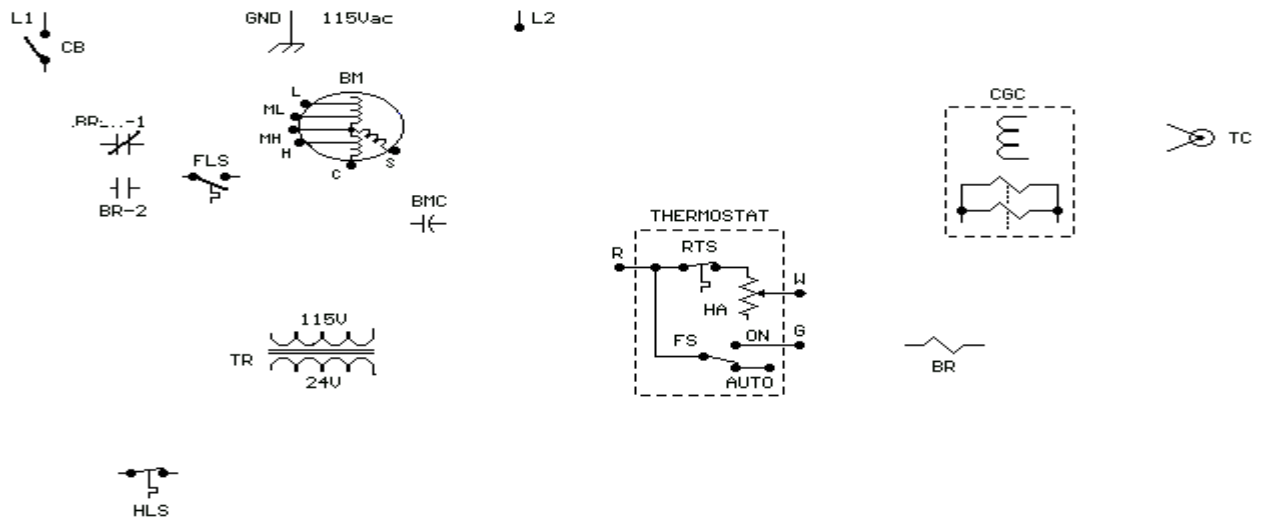
Your Chapter needs your email addresses so that you may be notified of any last minute changes to meetings. We may also advise you of scheduling or programming additions and/or changes.

Your privacy is assured. We will use your email address only for RSES notifications, and will not make it available for any other purpose.

Please send your email address to: [president@metronyrses.org](mailto:president@metronyrses.org)

## TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Complete the wiring diagram for the forced-air gas-fired furnace below:



### LEGEND

CB: Circuit breaker/fuse  
BR: Blower relay  
CGC: Combination gas valve

BM: Blower motor  
HLS: High limit switch  
TC: Thermocouple

BMC: Blower motor capacitor  
TR: Transformer  
FLS: Fan switch

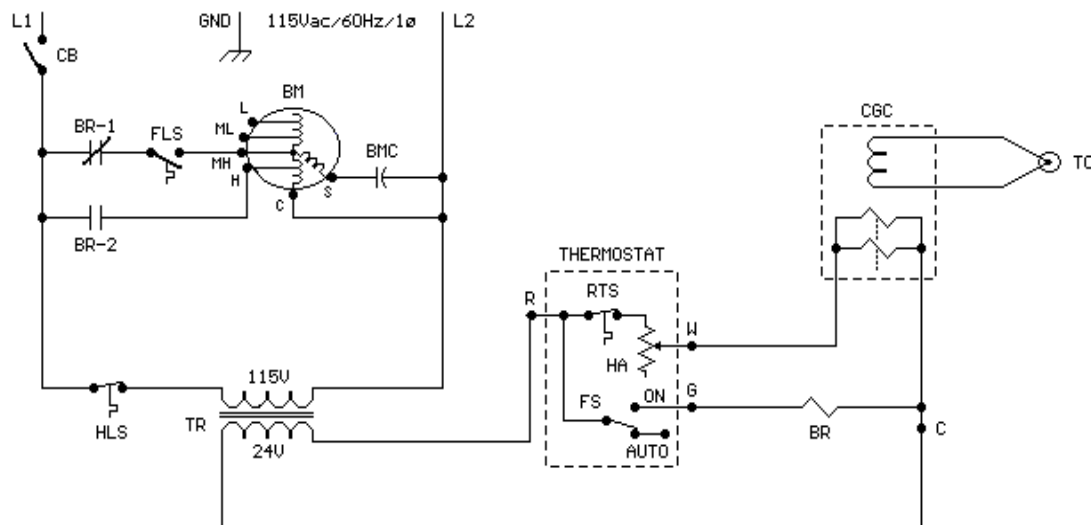
Answer on next page

### EVER WONDER WHERE ENGINEERING SPECIFICATIONS COME FROM?

- The U.S. standard railroad gauge (distance between the rails) is 4 feet, 8.5 inches, an exceedingly odd number. Why was that gauge used? .Because that's the way they built them in England, and the English built the first U.S. railroads.
  - Why did the English build them like that? Because the first rail lines were built by the people who built the pre-railroad tramways, and that is the gauge they used.
  - Why did they use that particular gauge then? Because the people who built the tramways used the same jigs and tools that they used for building wagons, which used the same wheel spacing.
  - Okay! Why did the wagons have that particular odd wheel spacing? Well, if they tried to use any other spacing, the wagon wheels would break on the old, long distance roads in England, because that's the spacing of the wheel ruts in the granite sets.
  - So, who built those old rutted roads? Imperial Rome built the first long distance roads in Europe (and England) for their legions. The roads have been used ever since.
  - And the ruts in the roads? Roman war chariots formed the initial ruts, which everyone else had to match for fear of destroying their wagon wheels. Since the chariots were made for (or by) Imperial Rome, they all had the same wheel spacing.
  - The United States standard railroad gauge of 4 feet, 8.5 inches is derived from the specification for an Imperial Roman war chariot.
- Now let's cut to the present...*
- The Space Shuttle, sitting on its launch pad, has two booster rockets attached to the sides of the main fuel tank. These are solid rocket boosters or SRBs. A company builds SRBs at its factory in Utah. The engineers who designed the SRBs wanted to make them a bit fatter, but the SRBs had to be shipped by train from the factory to the launch site. The railroad line from the factory has to run through a tunnel in the mountains. The SRBs had to fit through that tunnel, which is slightly wider than the railroad track and the railroad track is about as wide as two horses' behinds.
  - So ... a major design feature of what is arguably the world's most advanced transportation system was determined two thousand years ago by a horse's ass.
  - Which is pretty much how most government decisions are made!

#### Monthly Joke

- Q. Why can't you play cards in the jungle?  
 A. Because there are too many cheetahs!
- Q. Where do lawyers live?  
 A. In legal pads.



**ANSWER TO TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE**



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**For Information Call: Stan Hollander, CMS (718) 232-6679**

**PLEASE NOTE:**

It is important that you check our website [www.metronyrses.org](http://www.metronyrses.org) for any last minute changes and updates. If you remember, we cancelled last month's meeting due to adverse weather conditions.

Within 5 minutes of our Board of Directors making that decision, it was posted on our website. Please also check back from time to time for any other additions and/or changes that are made in our programming and scheduling.

**Wednesday February 9th, 2011 at 7:30pm**

at

**RICCARDO'S**

**21-01 24th Avenue, Astoria NY 11102**

**500 microns—  
Getting There Quickly  
(Rescheduled from last month)**

by

**Rich Aughey—JB Industries**

— PLACE LABEL HERE —

**EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM  
Wednesday February 9th, 2011  
at 7:30pm  
SEE DETAILS THIS PAGE**

