

Maryland Commission on Climate Change

Mitigation Working Group

April 16, 2019 10:00AM - 12:00PM

Panelist Biographies

Thomas Walz - Multi Family Energy Production Manager, DHCD; Mitigation Working Group Member

Tom's background includes program development energy efficiency modeling design and retrofit of Single and multi-family dwellings, contracting and construction management, and manufacturing building components.

Dr. Reinhard Radermacher - Minta Martin Professor, University of Maryland

Dr. Radermacher's research areas include efficient heat pumping, air conditioning and refrigeration systems; renewable energy utilization; vapor compression system software; cooling, heating and power; oil return and retention; two-phase flow visualization; refrigerant mixtures; and single- and multi-stage, multi-effect absorption and adsorption systems. He has more than 30 years of experience in the research and development of energy conversion systems in general, and Cooling, Heating, and Power (CHP) Systems and air-conditioning/heat pumping devices in particular. He is an internationally recognized expert in the use of working fluid mixtures. His work has resulted in over three hundred publications, numerous invention records, ten patents, and three co-authored books.

Dr. Radermacher founded both the Energy Laboratory, which became the Center for Environmental Energy Engineering (CEEE) at the University of Maryland, and Optimized Thermal Systems (formerly Thermal Analysis Partners). He currently acts as Director of CEEE and CEO of Optimized Thermal Systems.

Cara Martin - COO, Optimized Thermal Systems, Inc.

Ms. Cara Martin serves as Chief Operating Officer for Optimized Thermal Systems, Inc. (OTS), an engineering consulting company focused on providing research and development services, primarily for the HVAC industry. In her current role, she is responsible for business development and growth, customer outreach, and project management. She obtained her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park. Prior to OTS, Ms. Martin worked as a consulting engineer for HVAC and Building systems in Albany, NY evaluating energy efficiency and conservation opportunities, largely for NYSERDA programs. This experience served as a valuable resource in understanding current OTS client needs and challenges in developing new HVAC&R technologies to meet stricter energy and environmental demands. Ms. Martin is a member of ASHRAE, an active volunteer in her community, and a former member of the Mayoral Task Force on Urban Solar Power Initiative (2014 – 2015) under Baltimore Mayor Rawlings-Blake.