



## NATATORIUM SPREADS HUMIDITY AND MOLD GROWTH

Background	<p>A newly constructed fitness center in rural West Virginia boasted an indoor track, an array of fitness machines, and a natatorium with an Olympic-size swimming pool. The configuration of the heating, ventilating and air-conditioning (HVAC) system was pushing moisture-laden air from above the swimming pool to adjacent areas of the building causing wide-spread elevated humidity.</p>
Our Approach	<p>Rafferty &amp; James was retained to conduct a mold investigation. We interviewed the facility manager, inspected the facility, collected temperature and humidity data, and measured the moisture content of wall systems using hand-held moisture meters. Where moisture measurements indicated elevated moisture content, we inspected wall and ceiling cavities for mold growth. Visible mold growth was confirmed by tape-lift sampling with direct microscopic analysis, and bulk samples were collected for fungal analysis.</p> <p>We used this information to direct and document the needed cleanup, which included the removal of selected wall and ceiling systems around the natatorium, and thorough cleaning of surrounding areas.</p>
Benefits and Added Value	<p>Rafferty &amp; James conducted our investigation so as to minimize operational impact on the fitness center. We prepared and oversaw the implementation of a mold remediation specification that was completed with minimal disruption to the center's activities.</p>