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April 29th 2014: Consumer Decisions: Buying Appliances

Buying a new large appliance for your home or office can be a daunting task. For refrigerators alone, today's shopper will find an ever-increasing range of color and style options, some designed to disappear into the decor, and a wide variety of new smart features, including ones aimed at transforming the kitchen itself into an entertainment hub. According to CNET, the choices available can make one wonder if the ol' fridge might be going through a bit of an identity crisis. But how about safety? Are manufacturers protecting our health while innovating their design? This week, join our host

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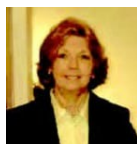
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Featured Guest



Dr. JoAnn M. Emmel

Dr. JoAnn M. Emmel is Associate Professor Emerita of housing from the Department of Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia. She completed her BS and MS degrees at Iowa State University and holds a Ph.D. from New Mexico State University. She taught classes at Virginia Tech, including two classes related to home technologies which includes appliance selection and use. Dr. Emmel has been involved in standards activities since 2005. Currently she is a member of the USNC/IEC as a consumer representative. She is a member of ANSI's Consumers Interest Forum and serves on standards committees for the Canadian Standards Association, ASTM and Underwriters

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