**INTERPRETATION IC 135-2008-20 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE STANDARD 135-2008 BACnet® -
A Data Communication Protocol for Building
Automation and Control Networks**

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Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 135-2008, Clauses J.2 (page 617), relating to BACnet Broadcast Management Device (BBMD) and BACnet Virtual Link Layer (BVLL) Services.

Background: Annex J does not clearly specify what a device that is not a BBMD should do on receipt of a BVLL message that is intended for a BBMD (Write-Broadcast-Distribution-Table; Read-Broadcast-Distribution-Table; Register-Foreign-Device; Read-Foreign-Device-Table; Delete-Foreign-Device-Table-Entry; and Distribute-Broadcast-To-Network).

There is a provision for NAKing these services, but the standard does not indicate whether a non-BBMD should be NAKing, returning some other response (such as an empty BDT to a Read-Broadcast-Distribution-Table), or ignoring the requests.

This question applies to both devices that can never be BBMDs, and to devices which could be BBMDs but are not configured to operate as a BBMD.

Interpretation: Devices that are not BBMDs (and cannot be configured as BBMDs) shall return a NAK when one of the above noted services is received.

Devices that are capable of operating as a BBMD but are not configured as a BBMD shall return a NAK to Register-Foreign-Device, and Distribute-Broadcast-To-Network services. It is a local matter whether an ACK or a NAK is returned in response to the other services.

Question: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer: Yes.