INTERPRETATION IC 135-2012-15 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE STANDARD 135-2012 BACnet® -
A Data Communication Protocol for Building
Automation and Control Networks

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Request from: Clifford Copass, Johnson Controls, Inc., 507 E. Michigan St., Milwaukee, WI 53201.

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 135-2012, Clause 15.8, regarding ReadRange Service, by position with negative count.

Background: When requesting the ReadRange Service on a BACnetLIST that does not implement sequence numbers or time indexing, the ReadRange Service can use the "By Position" choice for the Range parameter. In the case that the Reference Index is greater than the index of the highest or last list entry, but the Count is negative and large enough to include some of the list entries that do exist, it is not clear what is to be returned by the server to the client.

Clause 15.8.1.1.4.1.2 Count (when reading by position) states: "…if 'Count' is negative the record specified by 'Reference Index' shall be the last record."

Interpretation: Since the record specified by 'Reference Index' does not exist in the list, there are no items in the list that match the 'Range' parameter criteria and the correct response to the server is a Result(+) with an 'Item Count' of 0 and no 'First Sequence Number' parameter as described at the end of Clause 15.8.2 Service Procedure.

Question: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer: Yes