

**Interpretation IC 170-2013-6 of  
ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2013  
Ventilation of Health Care Facilities**

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**Request from:** Travis English, Kaiser Permanente, 1800 Harrison Street, Oakland, CA 94612.

**Reference:** This request for interpretation refers to the requirements in ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2013, Section 7.1.a.6.ii, regarding use of the multiple space calculation method.

**Background:** Standard 170-2013 §7.1.a.6.ii indicates designers may use “*the Ventilation Rate Procedure (multiple zone formula) of ASHRAE Standard 62.1*” (S62). And, in doing so, “*The minimum outdoor air change rate listed in this standard shall be interpreted as  $V_{oz}$  (zone outdoor airflow) for purposes of this calculation.*”

Thus,

$$V_{170} = V_{oz}$$

Where  $V_{170}$  is the per space outdoor air flow derived from air change rate.

In ASHRAE Standard 62.1,  $V_{oz}$  is composed of an area-based component,  $(R_a \cdot A_z)$ , and an occupant based component,  $(R_p \cdot P_z)$ . In order to calculate the uncorrected outdoor air intake,  $V_{ou}$ , in S62 Equation 6-6, it is necessary to separate  $V_{oz}$  into these two components. Equation 6-6 reads:

$$V_{ou} = D \sum_{all\ zones} (R_a \cdot A_z) + \sum_{all\ zones} (R_p \cdot P_z)$$

Where  $D$  is the occupant diversity, defined by S62 Equation 6-7, which reads:  $D = P_s / \sum_{all\ zones} P_z$

To successfully complete the calculation, the following is proposed:

1. Assume a relatively high value of  $R_a$  to ensuring that each area receives minimum ventilation.  $R_a = 0.12$  is here proposed, which is equal to the  $R_a$  in S62 used for spaces such as break rooms, photo studios, libraries, children’s museums, etc. See S62, Table 6-1.
2. Substitute  $V_{170}$  into S62 Equation 6-6, using  $R_a = 0.12$ . S62 Equation 6-6 is currently written as:

$$V_{ou} = D \sum_{all\ zones} (R_p \cdot P_z) + \sum_{all\ zones} (R_a \cdot A_z)$$

It would be re-written as follows

$$V_{ou} = D \sum_{all\ zones} [V_{170} - R_a \cdot A_z] + \sum_{all\ zones} (R_a \cdot A_z)$$

Which, using  $R_a=0.12$ , simplifies to the following:

$$V_{ou} = D \sum_{allzones} V_{170} + (1-D) \sum_{allzones} 0.12 A_z$$

Using this, the remaining calculations in S62 Equations 6-6 through 6-8, may be completed.

**Interpretation:** Is it acceptable to assume a value of  $R_a$  for the calculation of  $V_{ou}$  (S62, Equation 6-6).

**Question:** Is this interpretation correct?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Comments:** Values for  $R_p$  and  $R_a$  have not yet been identified for health care spaces.