

**INTERPRETATION IC 52.2-2012-3 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE STANDARD 52.2-2012**
*Method of Testing General Ventilation Air-Cleaning Devices
for Removal Efficiency by Particle Size*

Approval Date: March 2, 2015

Request from: Kathleen Owen (mko@rti.org), RTI International, 3040 Cornwallis Rd., RTP, NC 27511.

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 52.2-2012, Section 12.3 and Table 12-1, regarding MERV determination using the 2015 Supplement to ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 52.2-2012.

Background: As stated in the foreword of Addendum a to Standard 52.2-2012 included in the 2015 Supplement to Standard 52.2-2012 *“These proposed MERV table changes are a direct result of a thorough review and series of votes at the committee level to address key issues about the variability of the standard, specifically the MERV 8 through 11 overlap issue and the need for each range to be consistent with the lower limits of the other ranges. These inconsistencies have been a source of legitimate confusion and have been used to abet the known occasional intentional misuse of the data. It is our sincere belief that these steps are critical in the further use of the standard and its data product.”* In keeping with the intent of the MERV table changes to help clarify the MERVs achieved by filters, it seems appropriate that the newly published MERV table changes should apply to any data set (52.2 test) that meets all of the requirements of Standard 52.2-2012 as of the publication of the 2015 Supplement.

Interpretation: My interpretation of Section 12.3 is that a MERV based on the 2015 Supplement Table 12-1 is acceptable for any ASHRAE Standard 52.2 test data set that meets the requirements of Standard 52.2-2012 with the 2015 Supplement. This interpretation means that recalculation of the MERV for older, but 2015 Supplement-compliant data sets is acceptable as long as the resultant MERV (and report containing it) is clearly labeled for the date the data was taken and the date the MERV (2015 Supplement based) was recalculated.

Question: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer: Yes

Comments: Only tests performed against ASHRAE/ANSI 52.2-2012 that meet all requirements of the 2015 Supplement to ASHRAE/ANSI 52.2-2012 shall be qualified to use the new Reporting Value as placed by Addendum A. Requirements of testing shall include revised RH restrictions along with Release Rate measurements. Reports that meet these requirements shall include the title “ASHRAE/ANSI 52.2 with 2015 Supplement”.

If data is used to update reports, the report shall include “Recalculated” along with the recalculation date alongside the original test date. All information should make it clear that the user that test was recalculated.