INTERPRETATION IC 90.1-2001-14 OF ANSI/ASHRAE/IESNA STANDARD 90.1-2001 Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings

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Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE/IESNA Standard 90.1-2001, Section 6.2.1, related to mechanical equipment efficiency and certification.

Background: Section 6.2.1 states "If a certification program exists for a product covered in Tables 6.2.1A through 6.2.1G, and it includes provisions for verification and challenge of equipment efficiency ratings, then the product shall be either listed in the certification program or, alternatively, the ratings shall be verified by an independent labaoratory test report." The statement above notes that the certification program must include provisions for verification, which means that regular testing of covered models is required.

<u>Interpretation</u>: Since certification programs do require regular testing of products to ensure that they continue to meet the published performance, I interpret Section 6.2.1 to mean that each product sold that is not part of a certification program, where a certification program exists that includes provisions for verification and challenge of efficiency ratings, must be tested by an independent laboratory. It is not acceptable to test a similar model and use this as performance verification for the particular unit sold.

Question: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer: No, your interpretation is incorrect.

Comments:

It is important to clarify that there is a difference between a certification program and a test procedure. Certification programs include a test procedure. Not every test procedure listed in Table 6.2.1 has a certification program. Further complicating the issue, some of the test procedures in Table 6.2.1 have an identical naming convention to their coordinating certification program.

It is expected that models electing not to participate in a certification program will be tested in accordance with the test procedure(s) listed in Table 6.2.1, as specified in 6.2.1 whenever there is a change in their published ratings. If data provided by a manufacturer is different than previously published ratings, then the independent test would be required.