

**INTERPRETATION IC 62-2001-01 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE STANDARD 62-2001
VENTILATION FOR ACCEPTABLE INDOOR AIR QUALITY**

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Request from: Steve Doty, P.E. (e-mail: <mailto:sdoty@fw.com>). Farnsworth Group, 5585 Erindale Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80918.

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 62-2001, Table 2, Outdoor Air Requirements For Ventilation.

Background: The ventilation rates in the standard are listed in CFM values. No mention is made of the effects of the ventilation rates at differing altitudes. Altitude has marked effects on the performance of certain equipment, and is considered in many design calculations in high altitude areas. If the premise of the ventilation is volumetric dilution, then the CFMs listed in the standard may be altitude independent; however, if the premise of the ventilation is mass dilution, the CFMs may be altitude dependent.

Interpretation: Since no mention is made of altitude in the standard, I presume the CFMs in the standard are altitude independent and that the CFM values do not require adjustment for altitude.

Question: Is Mr. Doty's Interpretation correct?

Answer: Yes, but not entirely.

Comment: As noted, the standard makes no mention of density, including altitude corrections. It is not accurate, however, to describe the rates in Table 2 as "altitude independent" since altitude is not specifically addressed. But the interpretation is correct in noting that no adjustment for altitude is required by the standard. There may be situations where the designer needs to take altitude into account, but again this is not required by the standard. A proposed addendum to the standard (62n), which has been out for public review, should clarify this issue by stating that density adjustments are not required.