Ventilation of Health Care Facilities

Approved by the ASHRAE Standards Committee on January 21, 2012; by the ASHRAE Board of Directors on January 25, 2012; by the American Society for Healthcare Engineering of the American Hospital Association on December 9, 2011; and by the American National Standards Institute on January 26, 2012.

This addendum was approved by a Standing Standard Project Committee (SSPC) for which the Standards Committee has established a documented program for regular publication of addenda or revisions, including procedures for timely, documented, consensus action on requests for change to any part of the standard. The change submittal form, instructions, and deadlines may be obtained in electronic form from the ASHRAE Web site (www.ashrae.org) or in paper form from the Manager of Standards.

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FOREWORD

This addendum clarifies the requirements in Section 6.7.1 for the use of fully ducted return systems by recognizing that some spaces requiring a negative pressure relationship with the adjacent space require a fully ducted exhaust system rather than a return air system. This addendum also adds four spaces to meet the requirement for being fully ducted.

Note: In this addendum, changes to the current standard are indicated in the text by underlining (for additions) and strikethrough (for deletions) unless the instructions specifically mention some other means of indicating the changes.

Revise Section 6.7.1 as follows:

6.7.1 General. Maintain the pressure relationships required in Table 7-1 in all modes of HVAC system operation, except as noted in the table. Spaces listed in Table 7-1 that have required pressure relationships shall be served by fully ducted return systems or fully ducted exhaust systems. The following additional surgery and critical care patient care areas that do not require a pressure relationship to adjacent areas shall also be served by fully ducted return or exhaust systems: 1) recovery rooms, 2) critical and intensive care areas, 3) intermediate care areas, and 4) wound intensive care units (burn units). Where space pressure relationships are required, the air-distribution system design shall maintain them, the required space pressure relationships, taking into account recommended maximum filter loading, heating-season lowered airflow operation, and cooling-season higher airflow operation. Airstream surfaces of the air distribution system downstream of Filter Bank No. 2, shall comply with Section 5.5 of ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 62.1-2007. The air distribution system shall be provided with access doors, panels, or other means to allow convenient access for inspection and cleaning. (For further information, see ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 62.1.)
POLICY STATEMENT DEFINING ASHRAE’S CONCERN
FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF ITS ACTIVITIES

ASHRAE is concerned with the impact of its members’ activities on both the indoor and outdoor environment. ASHRAE’s members will strive to minimize any possible deleterious effect on the indoor and outdoor environment of the systems and components in their responsibility while maximizing the beneficial effects these systems provide, consistent with accepted standards and the practical state of the art.

ASHRAE’s short-range goal is to ensure that the systems and components within its scope do not impact the indoor and outdoor environment to a greater extent than specified by the standards and guidelines as established by itself and other responsible bodies.

As an ongoing goal, ASHRAE will, through its Standards Committee and extensive technical committee structure, continue to generate up-to-date standards and guidelines where appropriate and adopt, recommend, and promote those new and revised standards developed by other responsible organizations.

Through its Handbook, appropriate chapters will contain up-to-date standards and design considerations as the material is systematically revised.

ASHRAE will take the lead with respect to dissemination of environmental information of its primary interest and will seek out and disseminate information from other responsible organizations that is pertinent, as guides to updating standards and guidelines.

The effects of the design and selection of equipment and systems will be considered within the scope of the system’s intended use and expected misuse. The disposal of hazardous materials, if any, will also be considered.

ASHRAE’s primary concern for environmental impact will be at the site where equipment within ASHRAE’s scope operates. However, energy source selection and the possible environmental impact due to the energy source and energy transportation will be considered where possible. Recommendations concerning energy source selection should be made by its members.