

INTERPRETATION IC 62-1989-9 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE STANDARD 62-1989
VENTILATION FOR ACCEPTABLE INDOOR AIR QUALITY

October 6, 1993

Request from: Donald C. Herrmann, Creighton & Associates, Inc., 611 East Broward Boulevard, Suite 207, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301

Reference. This request pertains to the requirements given in ASHRAE Standard ANSI/ASHRAE 62-1989 including Addendum 62a-1990, paragraph 6.1.3

Background. Paragraph 6.1.3 reads as follows:

"Where occupant density differs from that in table 2, use the per occupant ventilation rate for the anticipated occupancy load."

Creighton & Associates has established the following two possible interpretations for complying with 6.1.3.

Interpretation No. 1. If an anticipated occupancy rate is provided by an owner or architect and it is less than or greater than that listed in Table 2, the system designer is to use the anticipated occupancy in lieu of the estimated maximum occupancy P/1000 square feet listed in Table 2.

Interpretation No. 2. If a local occupancy code or fire occupancy code indicates a greater occupancy than that listed in table 2, the system designer is to use the greater of the occupancies regardless of the known or anticipated occupancy provided by the building owner or architect.

Creighton & Associates believes that Interpretation No. 1 above expresses the intent of Standard 62-1989.

Question. Is Interpretation No. 1 correct?

Answer. Yes

Comment. Interpretation No. 1 is consistent with the directions on occupant density given in 6.1.3. Provisions of ASHRAE 62-1989 do not have legal precedence over prevailing codes that may contain conflicting provisions. Occupancy loads as codified for fire safety are based upon considerations that may differ from those on which ventilation are based. In jurisdictions where ASHRAE 62-1989 is adopted into the building or mechanical code by reference, it is our opinion that 6.1.3 is applicable and appropriate; however, this opinion should be confirmed by the authority having jurisdiction.