

**INTERPRETATION IC 135-2016-7 OF  
ANSI/ASHRAE STANDARD 135-2016 BACnet® -  
A Data Communication Protocol for Building  
Automation and Control Networks**

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**Request from:** Horst Hannappel, MBS GmbH, Roemerstr. 15, Krefeld D-47809.

**Reference:** This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 135-2016, Clause 16.1, regarding DeviceCommunicationControl for BACnet Router.

**Background:** Situation:  
135-2016 Clause 16.1:

#### 16.1 DeviceCommunicationControl Service

The DeviceCommunicationControl service is used by a client BACnet-user to instruct a remote device to stop initiating and optionally stop responding to all APDUs

**Problem:**

It seems not completely clear from the wording of the norm whether a BACnet routing device, that is silenced by a DCC request, is still supposed to perform routing of APDU requests or if the routed APDUs should also be discarded subject to the DCC state of the router.

Specifically that question came up regarding a device that acts as a BACnet router to a virtual network where the functional objects live in different virtual devices. The question is if after DCC on the "main" device successful BACnet APDU communication to the virtual devices is still allowed/required.

Requiring the DCC also on routed APDUs may create a number of practical problems:

- It is sometimes difficult for a client device to know which device object is associated with a certain BACnet router.
- In case of a router to a virtual network there may be no „central“ device, that can be associated with the router at all.
- There is the question how a router, that is silenced by DCC should act regarding to network messages like IamRouterToNetwork.

If the standard does not rule on the issue it might be stated, that it is a local matter.

**Interpretation:** The Device Communication state of BACnet Router does only have effect on APDUs generated by its own application layer. APDUs from other devices, that are routed are not affected by DCC.

**Question:** Is this Interpretation correct?

**Answer:** Yes