INTERPRETATION IC 90.1-2007-21 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE/IESNA STANDARD 90.1-2007
Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings

Date Approved: March 7, 2013

Request from: Craig Lanham (craig.lanham@hei-eng.com), Henderson Engineers, Inc., 8345 Lenexa Drive, Suite 300, Lenexa, Kansas 66214.

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE/IESNA Standard 90.1-2007, Section 9.4.1.1 Exception c, regarding the exception where automatic lighting shutoff would endanger the safety or security of the room or building occupant(s).

Background: Similar language has also been used in 90.1-2010 in Sections 9.4.1d and 9.4.1.2c Exception c. Building owners and tenants focus on the sentence’s use of “security of the room” to rationalize night lighting for security camera performance when the facility is unoccupied. At issue is whether the sentence is to be applied to only the occupants of a room or building, or whether the sentence does intend to cover the safety or security of contents in a room or building as well as the people in a room or building. “Endanger” typically is applied to people and not contents, so it seems as if “safety or security of the room or building” is a modifier to the word “occupant(s)”.

Interpretation: The portion of the sentence “would endanger the safety or security of the room or building occupant(s)” applies to only the people in a room or building and not to the contents.

Question: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer: Yes