INTERPRETATION IC 90.1-2013-15 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE/IES STANDARD 90.1-2013
Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings

Date Approved: October 21, 2017

Request from: Mike Donovan, HTS, 3350 Yale Street, Houston, TX 77018.

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1-2013, Sections 6.5.3.1.3, regarding fan efficiency.

Background: The requirement of fans to have a fan efficiency grade (FEG) of 67 or higher based on certified data as defined by AMCA 205 is now in the standard. There has been confusion on whether or not the fans have to be listed by AMCA for FEG. Without being listed, there is no easy way for owners and engineers to verify FEG data between manufacturers is the same. We have also seen an increasing number of fan systems claim to have greater than an FEG of 67 with no independent test data to back this up.

Interpretation: Fans must have their FEGs certified in accordance with AMCA 205. It must be listed through AMCA certification or by an independent lab as listed on AMCA’s website.

Question: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer: No.

Comments: AMCA Standard 205 defines and details how to calculate FEG. Verification of the FEG falls under ASHRAE 90.1 Section 6.4.1.4. Because there is a certification program for FEG ratings, subparts b and c apply. Neither the AMCA certified ratings program nor listing of the laboratory on the AMCA website are required.