

**INTERPRETATION IC 135-2016-16 OF  
ANSI/ASHRAE STANDARD 135-2016 BACnet® -  
A Data Communication Protocol for Building  
Automation and Control Networks**

Approval Date: June 20, 2019

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**Reference:** This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 135-2016, Clause K.1.12, regarding devices claiming conformance to DS-COV-B.

**Background:** In Clause 13.1 the standard says: *It is responsibility of the COV-Server to maintain the list of active subscriptions for each object that support COV Notification. This list of subscriptions shall be capable of holding at least a single subscription for each object that supports COV notification.*

Then in K.1.12 the standard says: *Devices claiming conformance to DS-COV-B shall support a minimum of five concurrent subscriptions.*

**Interpretation:** There is a single list of active subscriptions within the device; this list shall hold at least 5 elements, whatever the number of object supporting COV notification is. Every object supporting COV notification shall be capable of holding at least a single subscription for each object that supports COV notification, till a minimum of 5 concurrent subscription overall. Any subscriber trying to subscribe as the 6<sup>th</sup> or higher concurrent subscriber might receive an error of type: NO\_SPACE\_TO\_ADD\_LIST\_ELEMENT.

**Question:** Is this Interpretation correct?

**Answer:** No.

**Comments:** A device that supports DS-COV-B shall support a single subscription for each object that supports COV notifications and, if that number of objects is less than 5, at least 5 subscriptions shall be supported.