INTERPRETATION IC 135-2016-19 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE STANDARD 135-2016 BACnet® -
A Data Communication Protocol for Building
Automation and Control Networks

Approval Date: October 30, 2019

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Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 135-2016, Clause 12.56, regarding activating changes.

Background: Numerous properties in the Network Port object include the following language:

> If this property is writable, then a successful write to this property shall set the Changes_Pending property to TRUE. A value written to this property shall become effective when the device receives a ReinitializeDevice service request with a 'Reinitialized State of Device' of ACTIVATE_CHANGES or WARMSTART.

The above language implies that execution of ReinitializeDevice is required if the property is writable but there is no language that explicitly states that this is the case.

The description of the Changes_Pending property includes the following allowance:

> It is a local matter as to whether or not resetting the device by means other than a ReinitializeDevice service with a 'Reinitialized State of Device' of ACTIVATE_CHANGES or WARMSTART discards pending changes, activates pending changes, or leaves the changes pending.

The description of the RESTART_PORT command relates it to re-initializing the device and as such makes it unclear whether, or not, the RESTART_PORT command results in activating changes or whether it is a local matter whether the changes are activated, left alone, or discarded.

Interpretation No.1: Any device which contains writable properties in Network Port objects, which when written alter the Changes_Pending property, shall support execution of ReinitializeDevice.

Question No.1: Is this Interpretation correct?

Answer No.1: Yes.

Interpretation No.2: When a Network Port object executes the RESTART_PORT command, it shall activate all pending changes.

Question No.2: Is this Interpretation correct?

Answer No.2: No.

Comments: The description of the Command property is clear that the only command that may be accepted while Changes_Pending is true, is DISCARD_CHANGES, and that all other commands shall result in a Result(-).