Request from: Matthew Hawkins (E-mail: mhawkins@douglasengineering.com), Douglas Engineering Pacific, Inc., 10 Marin Lane, Honolulu, HI 96817.

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE/IESNA Standard 90.1-2001, Section 7 Service Water Heating, specifically Section 7.2.6 relating to heat traps serving storage water heaters and storage tanks.

Background: ANSI/ASHRAE/IESNA Standard 90.1-2001 Section 7.2.6, Heat Traps, refers to an arrangement of tubing that forms a 360 degree loop to form a heat trap, it also goes on to say, “or piping that from the point of connection to the water heater (inlet or outlet) includes a length of piping directed downward before connection to the vertical piping of the supply water or hot water distribution system, as applicable.”

Interpretation: Bending a piece of flex tubing in the shape of an inverted “U” before connecting into the vertical piping of the supply water or hot water distribution system would meet the requirements of Section 7.2.6 of ANSI/ASHRAE/IESNA Standard 90.1-2001.

Question: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer: Yes

Comments: Yes, the downward portion of the inverted “U” provides the trapping effect.