INTERPRETATION IC 90.1-2004-12 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE/IESNA STANDARD 90.1-2004
Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings

Date Approved: October 12, 2007

Request from: Heather Camden (E-mail: camden@eceng.com), E&C Engineers & Consultants Inc., 1010 Lamar, Suite 650, Houston, Texas 77002.

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE/IESNA Standard 90.1-2004, Section 6.5.2.1, Exception (b), regarding reheat.

Background: The Exemptions to 6.5.2.1 include

   (b) Zones where special pressurization relationships, cross-contamination requirements, or code-required minimum circulation rates are such that variable air volume systems are impractical.

This exemption allows for "Code" required minimum circulation rates, but not "Accepted Standard" required circulation rates to allow for standards such as NIH requirements, AAAlac requirements or CDC requirements since these are not codes, but nationally recognized standards of construction.

Interpretation: Exemption 6.5.2.1 (b) statement of "code required minimum circulation rates" would be interpreted to mean "code or nationally accepted Standard required minimum circulation rates."

Question: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer: No

Comment: It is the committee’s opinion that the wording “nationally accepted standard” is not equivalent to code-required and will expose the standard to a loophole. However the committee recognizes that there may be standards that are mandated by agencies other than “codes” and will review the wording of this exception.