

**INTERPRETATION IC 62-2001-43 OF  
ASHRAE STANDARD 62-2001  
VENTILATION FOR ACCEPTABLE INDOOR AIR QUALITY**

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**Request from:** Ed Fickes (fickes@fickes-engineering.com), Fickes Engineering and Code Group, Inc., 1540 Keller Parkway, Suite 108-B306, Keller, TX 76248.

**Reference:** This request for interpretation refers to Table 2 of ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 62-2001 dealing with Outdoor Air Requirements for Ventilation.

**Background:** A client has mechanical design requirements that state, “ASHRAE Standard 62 shall be used to calculate the minimum acceptable outdoor air rate and verify that indoor contaminants are below acceptable levels.” I can respond to the first portion of the statement regarding calculating “minimum outdoor air rates” by referring to Table 2. However, I am having difficulty with the requirements of “verify that indoor contaminants are below acceptable levels”. Appendix B of Standard 62-2001 is for indoor environment air pollutants and is not part of the Standard and Table 1 is for outdoor air contaminants. Other than assuming acceptable contaminant levels are met when outdoor air rates are provided in accordance with Table 2, I don’t see that Standard 62 sets acceptable indoor contaminant levels.

**Interpretation:** ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 62-2001 does not set mandatory maximum acceptable levels of indoor contaminants.

**Question:** Is this Interpretation correct?

**Answer:** Yes

**Comments:** However, the standard contains acceptable levels for some contaminants in Table 1 and Table 3 that are not mandatory.