INTERPRETATION IC 90.1-2010-7 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE/IES STANDARD 90.1-2010
Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings

Date Approved: October 22, 2011

Request from: Richard Pavlak (rpavlak@heapy.com), Heapy Engineering, 1400 W. Dorothy Lane, Dayton, OH 45409.

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1-2010, Section 6.5.1 Economizers, Exception k.4, relating to datacenters.

Background: As a facility design engineer for an international banking company that handles federal funds transfers, among other things. We’re in the planning stages of a new datacenter, which is estimated to have a design cooling load of 1,000 tons. We are very familiar with the Interagency Fed White Paper and understand the requirements of this document to apply to the facilities transactions for core clearing and settlement services. We meet the definition of a computer room and have a minimum of 75% of the design load of the facility dedicated to the datacenter cooling.

Interpretation: As we understand it, we are exempt from the prescriptive requirements for economizers on the HVAC systems serving the datacenter spaces of this facility based on Section 6.5.1 Economizers, Exemption k.4.

Question: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer: Yes.

Comments: Provided this facility meets the requirements of k.4.