

ASHRAE Technical FAQ

ID 23

Question What is ASHRAE's recommendation on the use of ultraviolet light in air systems for microbial control?

ASHRAE does not presently have a policy or recommendation on the use of ultraviolet light in air systems for microbial control.

Also refer to the ASHRAE Position Documents on [Indoor Air Quality and Airborne Infectious Diseases](#), as well as [2015 ASHRAE Handbook – Applications, Chapter A60](#), Ultraviolet Air and Surface Treatment and [2016 ASHRAE Handbook – Systems and Equipment, Chapter S17](#), Ultraviolet Lamp Systems.

Answer ASHRAE does publish two method of test standards to evaluated such equipment: [ASHRAE Standard 185.2-2014, Method of Testing Ultraviolet Lamps for Use in HVAC&R Units or Air Ducts to Inactivate Microorganisms on Irradiated Surfaces](#) and [ASHRAE Standard 185.1-2015, Method of Testing UV-C Lights for Use in Air-Handling Units or Air Ducts to Inactivate Airborne Microorganisms](#)

In addition to these published standards, ASHRAE has published a Position Document on the subject as well.

- [Filtration and Air Cleaning](#)

Refer to the International Ultraviolet Association ([IUVA](#)), Environmental Protection Agency ([U.S. EPA](#)) or Research Triangle Institute ([RTI](#)) as a further resource for UVC use.

ASHRAE publications may be purchased on-line at our website, www.ashrae.org or by calling 1-800-527-4723 in the USA and Canada or 1-404-636-8400 worldwide.

[2015 ASHRAE Handbook – Applications, Chapter A60](#), Ultraviolet Air and Surface Treatment.

[2016 ASHRAE Handbook – Systems and Equipment, Chapter S17](#), Ultraviolet Lamp Systems.

ASHRAE Pubs

[IAQ '94 Proceedings](#)-- "Suggested Guidance on Prevention of Microbial Contamination for the next Revision on ASHRAE Standard 62."

ASHRAE Position Document on [Indoor Air Quality](#).

ASHRAE Position Document on [Airborne Infectious Diseases](#)

[ASHRAE Standard 185.2-2014](#)

[ASHRAE Standard 185.1-2015](#)

ASHRAE Position Document on [Filtration and Air Cleaning](#)

Topic References Ultraviolet light, microbial control, indoor air quality

	Cognizant ASHRAE Committees	Refer to Organization
1	TC 2.9	IUVA
2	TC 2.4	U.S. EPA
3	EHC	RTI
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