



# **ASHRAE STANDARD**

## **Ventilation and Acceptable Indoor Air Quality in Low-Rise Residential Buildings**

Approved by the ASHRAE Standards Committee on January 23, 2010; by the ASHRAE Board of Directors on January 27, 2010; and by the American National Standards Institute on January 28, 2010.

This standard is under continuous maintenance by a Standing Standard Project Committee (SSPC) for which the Standards Committee has established a documented program for regular publication of addenda or revisions, including procedures for timely, documented, consensus action on requests for change to any part of the standard. The change submittal form, instructions, and deadlines may be obtained in electronic form from the ASHRAE Web site, <http://www.ashrae.org>, or in paper form from the Manager of Standards. The latest edition of an ASHRAE Standard may be purchased from ASHRAE Customer Service, 1791 Tullie Circle, NE, Atlanta, GA 30329-2305. E-mail: [orders@ashrae.org](mailto:orders@ashrae.org). Fax: 404-321-5478. Telephone: 404-636-8400 (worldwide), or toll free 1-800-527-4723 (for orders in US and Canada).

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## FOREWORD

This addendum revises and extends duct tightness requirements. The ventilation system requirements of this standard are intended to provide outdoor air to the home and remove pollutants, either as part of or independent of heating and/or cooling systems. Even if a forced air distribution system is independent of the ventilation system, the goal of the standard is not met if the forced air distribution system increases pollutant transport to the home whenever it operates. This is likely for air systems that include leaky ducts located in unconditioned spaces. Prior to this change, the standard only addressed this concern partially, in a general sense through Section 6.1 Transfer Air and with specific airtightness requirements only applicable to attached garages in Section 6.5 Garages.

This addendum moves the duct-tightness requirements for ducts in garages to a new subsection 6.5.2, and expands its coverage to all unconditioned spaces. It keeps the original prescriptive language regarding the air-tightness of the garage-house interface in subsection 6.5.1.

In order to clearly identify when this new provision applies for ducts in unconditioned crawlspaces, 6.5.2 refers to the pressure boundary and an additional clarification was added to the definition of pressure boundary.

**Note:** In this addendum, changes to the current standard are indicated in the text by underlining (for additions) and ~~strike-through~~ (for deletions) unless the instructions specifically mention some other means of indicating the changes.

## Addendum m to 62.2-2007

**Note:** Revise the following definition is Section 3 as shown.

**pressure boundary:** primary air enclosure boundary separating indoor and outdoor air. For example, a volume that has more leakage to the outside than to the conditioned space would be considered outside the pressure boundary. Exposed earth in a crawlspace or basement shall not be considered part of the pressure boundary.

**Note:** Revise Section 6.5 as shown. Addenda a and c of 62.2-2007 (included in the 2008 Supplement) made changes to Section 6.5 in the published standard. The 2008 Supplement is available for free download from the ASHRAE website at <http://www.ashrae.org/technology/page/132>.

### 6.5 Airtightness Requirements

**6.5.16.5 Garages.** When an occupiable space adjoins a garage, the design must prevent migration of contaminants to the adjoining occupiable space. Air seal walls, ceilings, and floors that separate garages from occupiable space. To be considered air sealed, all joints, seams, penetrations; openings between door assemblies and their respective jambs and framing; and other sources of air leakage through the wall and ceiling assemblies separating the garage from the residence and its attic area shall be caulked, gasketed, weatherstripped, wrapped, or otherwise sealed to limit air movement. Doors between garages and occupiable spaces shall be gasketed or made substantially airtight with weather stripping.

**6.5.2 Space-Conditioning System Ducts.** All air distribution joints located outside the pressure boundary in the garage shall be sealed. HVAC systems that serve occupiable space shall not be designed to supply air to, or return air from, the garage. HVAC systems that include air handlers or ~~return~~ ducts located outside the pressure boundary in garages shall have total air leakage of no more than 6% of total fan flow when measured at 0.1 in. w.c. (25 Pa) using California Title 24<sup>5</sup> or equivalent. Method DB of ANSI/ASTM E1554<sup>10</sup> may be used to meet this requirement. If the air handler and/or ducts are located in the garage, provided that the garage door shall be open to the outside when the duct leakage is tested and that supply and return leakage results are added to get the total system leakage.



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## **FOREWORD**

*This addendum deletes the provision limiting pressure drop through the HVAC system filter in Section 6.7. Filter manufacturers typically do not make this type of pressure drop information available, so it is difficult to enforce this requirement. In addition, excessive filter pressure drop would have a bigger impact on energy efficiency or equipment reliability than indoor air quality.*

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## **Addendum o to 62.2-2007**

*Note: Delete the last sentence in Section 6.7 as follows:*

**6.7 Minimum Filtration.** Mechanical systems that supply air to an occupiable space through ductwork exceeding 10 ft (3 m) in length and through a thermal conditioning component, except evaporative coolers, shall be provided with a filter having a designated minimum efficiency of MERV 6, or better, when tested in accordance with *ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 52.2, Method of Testing General Ventilation Air-Cleaning Devices for Removal Efficiency by Particle Size*.<sup>6</sup> The system shall be designed such that all recirculated and mechanically supplied outdoor air is filtered before passing through the thermal conditioning components. The filter shall be located and installed in such a manner as to facilitate access and regular service by the owner. ~~The filter shall be selected and sized to operate at a clean pressure drop no greater than 0.1 in. w.c. (25 Pa) unless the equipment is designed or selected to accommodate any additional pressure drop imposed by the filter selection (i.e., greater than 0.1 in. w.c. [25 Pa]).~~

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## FOREWORD

*Builders and code authorities using 62.2-2007 are unsure which systems can use the prescriptive sizing approach and which systems need to measure airflow. For some systems the current requirements are ambiguous as to which air flow must be measured. This addendum moves the requirements in Section 7.3 to the relevant sections (Sections 4 and 5) to help clarify the application of the airflow measurement requirements.*

*Based on their experience, many SSPC 62.2 members believe that it is necessary to measure the ventilation airflow of every whole house ventilation system to make sure it is installed and functioning correctly. Outdoor ventilation airflow sufficient to meet the standard in systems such as central fan integrated systems must be measured in heating mode, cooling mode and all other modes for which they are intended to operate.*

*The committee feels that simple local exhaust systems meeting the prescriptive criteria need not be measured to comply with the standard.*

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## Addendum p to 62.2-2007

**Note:** Delete Section 7.3 and renumber Section 7.4 as required.

**7.3 Airflow Rating.** The airflows required by this standard refer to the delivered airflow of the system as installed and tested using a flow hood, flow grid, or other airflow measuring device. Alternatively, the airflow rating at a pressure of 0.25 in. w.c. (62.5 Pa) may be used, provided the duct sizing meets the prescriptive requirements of Table 7.1 or manufacturer's design criteria.

**Note:** Add a new Section 4.3 and renumber the existing Sections 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5 as required.

**4.3 Airflow Measurement.** The airflow required by this section is the quantity of outdoor ventilation air supplied and/or indoor air exhausted by the ventilation system as installed and shall be measured using a flow hood, flow grid, or other airflow measuring device. Ventilation airflow of systems with multiple operating modes shall be tested in all modes designed to meet this section.

**Note:** Add a new Section 5.4 as follows:

**5.4 Airflow Measurement.** The airflow required by this section is the quantity of indoor air exhausted by the ventilation system as installed and shall be measured using a flow hood, flow grid, or other airflow measuring device. **Exception:** The airflow rating, according to Section 7.1, at a pressure of 0.25 in. w.c. (62.5 Pa) may be used, provided the duct sizing meets the prescriptive requirements of Table 7.1 or manufacturer's design criteria.

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## FOREWORD

*This addendum updates the normative references in Section 9 of the standard.*

**Note: In this addendum, changes to the current standard are indicated in the text by underlining (for additions) and ~~strikethrough~~ (for deletions) unless the instructions specifically mention some other means of indicating the changes.**

### Addendum t to 62.2-2007

**Note: Revise the references in Section 9 as follows: Addendum a of 62.2-2007 (included in the 2008 Supplement) added reference 10 to Section 9 in the published standard. The 2008 Supplement is available for free download from the ASHRAE website at <http://www.ashrae.org/technology/page/132>.**

## 9. REFERENCES

1. ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 136-1993 (RA 2006), *A Method of Determining Air Change Rates in Detached Dwellings*. American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc., Atlanta, GA.
2. NFPA 54-2002/ANSI Z223.1-2002, *National Fuel Gas Code*. National Fire Protection Association and American Gas Association, Quincy, MA, and Washington, D.C.
3. NFPA 31-2004-2006, *Standard for the Installation of Oil-Burning Equipment*. National Fire Protection Association, Quincy, MA.
4. NFPA 211-2000-2006, *Standard for Chimneys, Fireplaces, Vents, and Solid-Fuel Burning Appliances*, National Fire Protection Association, Quincy, MA.
5. California Energy Commission (2001). California Title 24 Standards, ACM Manual, Appendix F, Sections 4.3.8.2.1 and 4.3.7.2.
6. ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 52.2-1999-2007, *Method of Testing General Ventilation Air-Cleaning Devices for Removal Efficiency by Particle Size*. American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc., Atlanta, GA.
7. HVI 915-06, *Procedure for Loudness Testing and Rating Procedure of Residential Fan Products*. Home Ventilating Institute, Arlington Heights, IL.
8. HVI 916-05-09, *Airflow Test Procedure*. Home Ventilating Institute, Arlington Heights, IL.
9. HVI 920-05-09, *Product Performance Certification Procedure Including Verification and Challenge*. Home Ventilating Institute. Arlington Heights, IL.
10. ANSI/ASTM E1554-03-07, *Standard Test Methods for Determining External Air Leakage of Air Distribution Systems by Fan Pressurization*. ASTM International, West Conshohocken, PA.

**POLICY STATEMENT DEFINING ASHRAE'S CONCERN  
FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF ITS ACTIVITIES**

ASHRAE is concerned with the impact of its members' activities on both the indoor and outdoor environment. ASHRAE's members will strive to minimize any possible deleterious effect on the indoor and outdoor environment of the systems and components in their responsibility while maximizing the beneficial effects these systems provide, consistent with accepted standards and the practical state of the art.

ASHRAE's short-range goal is to ensure that the systems and components within its scope do not impact the indoor and outdoor environment to a greater extent than specified by the standards and guidelines as established by itself and other responsible bodies.

As an ongoing goal, ASHRAE will, through its Standards Committee and extensive technical committee structure, continue to generate up-to-date standards and guidelines where appropriate and adopt, recommend, and promote those new and revised standards developed by other responsible organizations.

Through its *Handbook*, appropriate chapters will contain up-to-date standards and design considerations as the material is systematically revised.

ASHRAE will take the lead with respect to dissemination of environmental information of its primary interest and will seek out and disseminate information from other responsible organizations that is pertinent, as guides to updating standards and guidelines.

The effects of the design and selection of equipment and systems will be considered within the scope of the system's intended use and expected misuse. The disposal of hazardous materials, if any, will also be considered.

ASHRAE's primary concern for environmental impact will be at the site where equipment within ASHRAE's scope operates. However, energy source selection and the possible environmental impact due to the energy source and energy transportation will be considered where possible. Recommendations concerning energy source selection should be made by its members.