

**INTERPRETATION IC 135-2020-14 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE STANDARD 135-2020 BACnet® -
A Data Communication Protocol for Building
Automation and Control Networks**

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Request from: Michael Osborne, BTB Consulting, 130 Kingham Place, Victoria, BC, Canada V9B 1L8.

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 135-2020, Clause K.5.6, requiring a device to support limited duration requests and Clause 16.1.1.3.1 which allows a device to reject limited duration requests if the device does not contain a clock.

Background: Clause K.5.6 states “Support for requests of a **limited duration is required**, and support for requests of an indefinite duration is optional.”

Clause 16.1.1.3.1 states:

16.1.1.3.1 Error Type

This parameter consists of two component parameters: (1) the 'Error Class' and (2) the 'Error Code'. See Clause 18. The 'Error Class' and 'Error Code' to be returned for specific situations are as follows:

<u>Situation</u>	<u>Error Class</u>	<u>Error Code</u>
The password is invalid or absent when one is required.	SECURITY	PASSWORD_FAILURE
The device does not have a clock and the 'Time Duration' parameter is not set to "indefinite".	SERVICES	OPTIONAL_FUNCTIONALITY_NOT_SUPPORTED
If the request is valid and the 'Enable/Disable' parameter is the deprecated value DISABLE	SERVICES	SERVICE_REQUEST_DENIED

Interpretation: As specified 16.1.1.3.1, a device, without a clock, must reject a request that contains the Time Duration parameter.

Question: Is this Interpretation correct?

Answer: No

Comments: The “situation” language in this case is incorrect. Timeouts, including durations as in this case, are not based on wall clock time.