
REFERENCE: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 15-2022, Section 7.2.3.3, regarding Effective Dispersal Volume.

BACKGROUND: Section 7.2.3.3 talks about connected spaces via ducted air distribution systems. However, there is some confusion on our part on how to determine worst-case distribution paths when no closure devices are present in the duct work per Section 7.2.3.3.1.

INTERPRETATION: Based on the language provided in Section 7.2.3.3.1 Closures, some or all of the volume of each connected space can be used when no closure devices are installed within the duct work or at the terminal end of ductwork that interconnect these rooms.

QUESTION: Is this Interpretation correct?

ANSWER: Yes

COMMENTS: Section 7.2.3.3 requires designers to consider the worst-case distribution of leaked refrigerant. Section 7.2.3.3.1 is explicitly giving instructions when closures must be considered. The worst-case could be affected by other considerations (e.g., space pressurization, ductwork configuration, leak detection, etc.,) unrelated to the closures.