INTERPRETATION IC 135-2004-10 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE STANDARD 135-2004 BACnet® -
A Data Communication Protocol for Building
Automation and Control Networks

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Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 135-2004, Section 6.6.1, Routing Tables, and Section 6.6.3.6, Router-Busy-To-Network.

Background: Section 6.6.3.6 specifies how a “busy” router may broadcast a Router-Busy-To-Network message in order to temporarily curtail network traffic to that router. Other routers that receive that message are required to update their routing tables to indicate that the networks served by the busy router are temporarily unreachable. While a router is busy, it will transmit a Reject-Message-To-Network message with reject reason 2 if it receives a message that it cannot handle. There appears to be no clear statement in Standard 135-2004 about what another router should do if it receives a message that should be forwarded to a network that is temporarily unreachable, but Section 10.2.2.4.3 of ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 135.1-2003 contains a test that requires that a Reject-Message-To-Network with reject reason 2 be transmitted in that situation.

Interpretation: If a router receives a message that is destined for a particular network that is marked as temporarily unreachable in the routing table, then the router must respond by transmitting a Reject-Message-To-Network message with reject reason 2.

Question: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer: Yes.

Comments: (none)