

**INTERPRETATION IC 135-2020-1 OF  
ANSI/ASHRAE STANDARD 135-2020 BACnet® -  
A Data Communication Protocol for Building  
Automation and Control Networks**

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**Request from:** Carl Neilson, BACnet International, 61 Seagirt Road, Sooke, BC, V9Z 1A3.

**Reference:** This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 135-2020, Clause K.6.7 regarding NM-FDR-A BIBB.

**Background:** The NM-FDR-A BIBB requires that devices initiate Distribute-Broadcast-To-Network messages.

With the allowance that I-Am and I-Have messages may be unicast to the originator of the corresponding Who-Is / Who-Has request, there is no requirement in the standard that devices generate any BACnet application or network layer broadcasts.

**Interpretation:** Devices which claim NM-FDR-A and which do not generate broadcast application or network layer messages are not required to generate Distribute-Broadcast-To-Network messages.

**Question:** Is this Interpretation correct?

**Answer:** Yes

**Comments:** Now that I-Am and I-Have messages are no longer required to be broadcast, it is possible to build devices that do not initiate broadcasts therefore the entry in Clause K.6.7 is now outdated.