

**INTERPRETATION IC 135-2020-3 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE STANDARD 135-2020 BACnet® -
A Data Communication Protocol for Building
Automation and Control Networks**

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Request from: Chris Howard, Schneider Electric, 800 Federal Street, Andover, Massachusetts, USA

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 135-2020, Clauses 9.3.9 and 9.3.10, regarding implied restriction against MS/TP slaves using Extended (aka COBS encoded) frames.

Background: Clause 9.3.10 defines Frame Type 33: BACnet Extended Data Not Expecting Reply as: "This COBS-encoded frame is used by master nodes..."

The definition clearly excludes MS/TP slave nodes from sending Type 33 frames but there is no clear reasoning behind this exclusion and there is nothing in the standard that prohibits slave nodes from receiving extended data frames.

Interpretation: The inclusion of the term 'master' in Clause 9.3.10 is an oversight, perhaps carried over from the language in Clause 9.3.9 (BACnet Extended Data Expecting Reply). Slave nodes are permitted to use Frame Type 33.

Question: Is this Interpretation correct?

Answer: Yes