

**Interpretation IC 170-2017-1 of
ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2017
Ventilation of Health Care Facilities**

Date Approved: April 3, 2019

Request from: Greg Guzowski, IMEG Corp., 1100 Warrenville Road, Suite 400W, Naperville, IL 60563.

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements in ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2017, Table 7.1, regarding Sterilizer Equipment Room.

Background: Table 7.1 - Sterilizer Equipment Room has the following requirements listed: 'Negative' pressure relationship to adjacent areas, 'NR' for Minimum Outdoor Air, '10' minimum total ACH, 'Yes' for all room air being exhausted directly to outdoors, 'No' for all recirculation by means of room units.

I have an application where an existing Sterilizer Equipment Room meets all requirements noted above. The room is negatively pressurized with 10 ACH of exhaust air all being exhausted directly to the outdoors. Make-up air to the space is via a central air handling unit meeting all filtration and outside air requirements of ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170. In its existing compliant condition, the room is overheating due to sterilizer equipment heat output and additional cooling is required.

Interpretation: For the application described above, it is my interpretation that the installation of a supplemental recirculation cooling HVAC unit can be utilized to meet the equipment heat load of a Sterilizer Equipment Room. I believe that since the existing base mechanical systems fully meet the requirements of the standard and will remain in place, the use of a recirculation unit solely as a means for additional cooling is acceptable.

Question: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer: No.

Comments: A recirculating room unit is not acceptable per Table 7.1.