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| ASHRAE Technical FAQ |
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| ID  | 23 |
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| Question  | What is ASHRAE's recommendation on the use of ultraviolet light in air systems for microbial control? |
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| Answer  | ASHRAE does not presently have a policy or recommendation on the use of ultraviolet light in air systems for microbial control. Also refer to the ASHRAE Position Documents on [Indoor Air Quality](https://www.ashrae.org/about/position-documents) and [Airborne Infectious Diseases](https://www.ashrae.org/about/position-documents), as well as [2023 ASHRAE Handbook – Applications](https://www.techstreet.com/ashrae/standards/2023-ashrae-handbook-hvac-applications-i-p?product_id=2225673), [Chapter A62](https://www.techstreet.com/ashrae/searches/38671624), Ultraviolet Air and Surface Treatment and [2020 ASHRAE Handbook – Systems and Equipment](http://www.techstreet.com/ashrae/standards/2016-ashrae-handbook-hvac-systems-and-equipment-i-p-includes-cd-in-i-p-and-si-editions?product_id=1917366), [Chapter S17](https://www.techstreet.com/ashrae/searches/38671724), Ultraviolet Lamp Systems.ASHRAE does publish two method of test standards to evaluated such equipment: [ASHRAE Standard 185.2-2020](https://www.techstreet.com/ashrae/standards/ashrae-185-2-2020?product_id=2185696), *Method of Testing Ultraviolet Lamps for Use in HVAC&R Units or Air Ducts to Inactivate Microorganisms on Irradiated Surfaces and* [ASHRAE Standard 185.1-2020](https://www.techstreet.com/ashrae/standards/ashrae-185-1-2020?product_id=2185612)*, Method of Testing UV-C Lights for Use in Air-Handling Units or Air Ducts to Inactivate Airborne Microorganisms*In addition to these published standards, ASHRAE has published a Position Document on the subject as well.* [Filtration and Air Cleaning](https://www.ashrae.org/about/position-documents)

Refer to the International Ultraviolet Association ([IUVA](http://www.iuva.org/)), Environmental Protection Agency ([U.S. EPA](http://www.epa.gov)) or Research Triangle Institute ([RTI](http://www.rti.org/)) as a further resource for UVC use.ASHRAE publications may be purchased on-line at our website, [www.ashrae.org](file:///%5C%5CAshFile%5Ctechnology%24%5CLocal%20Settings%5CTemp%5CSection%201%5Cwww.ashrae.org) or by calling 1-800-527-4723 in the USA and Canada or 1-404-636-8400 worldwide. |
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| ASHRAE Pubs  | [2023 ASHRAE Handbook – Applications](https://www.techstreet.com/ashrae/standards/2023-ashrae-handbook-hvac-applications-i-p?product_id=2225673), [Chapter A62](https://www.techstreet.com/ashrae/searches/38671624), Ultraviolet Air and Surface Treatment.[2020 ASHRAE Handbook – Systems and Equipment](https://www.techstreet.com/ashrae/standards/2020-ashrae-handbook-hvac-systems-and-equipment-i-p?product_id=2121460), [Chapter S17](https://www.techstreet.com/ashrae/searches/38671724), Ultraviolet Lamp Systems.[IAQ '94 Proceedings](http://www.techstreet.com/cgi-bin/detail?product_id=1703566)-- "Suggested Guidance on Prevention of Microbial Contamination for the next Revision on ASHRAE Standard 62."ASHRAE Position Document on [[Indoor Air Quality](https://www.ashrae.org/about/position-documents)](http://www.ashrae.org/File%20Library/docLib/About%20Us/PositionDocuments/ASHRAE_PD_Indoor_Air_Quality_2011.pdf).ASHRAE Position Document on [[Airborne Infectious Diseases](https://www.ashrae.org/about/position-documents)](http://www.ashrae.org/File%20Library/docLib/About%20Us/PositionDocuments/ASHRAE_PD_Limiting_Indoor_Mold_Growth_2010.pdf) [ASHRAE Standard 185.2-2020](https://www.techstreet.com/ashrae/standards/ashrae-185-2-2020?product_id=2185696)[ASHRAE Standard 185.1-2020](https://www.techstreet.com/ashrae/standards/ashrae-185-1-2020?product_id=2185612)ASHRAE Position Document on [Filtration and Air Cleaning](https://www.ashrae.org/about/position-documents) |
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| Topic References  | Ultraviolet light, microbial control, indoor air quality |
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|  | Cognizant ASHRAE Committees | Refer to Organization |
| 1 | [TC 2.9](http://tc0209.ashraetcs.org/index.html) | [IUVA](http://www.iuva.org/) |
| 2 | [TC 2.4](http://tc0204.ashraetcs.org/index.html) | [U.S. EPA](http://www.epa.gov) |
| 3 | [EHC](http://www.ashrae.org/society-groups/committees/environmental-health-committee-ehc) | [RTI](http://www.rti.org/) |
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