

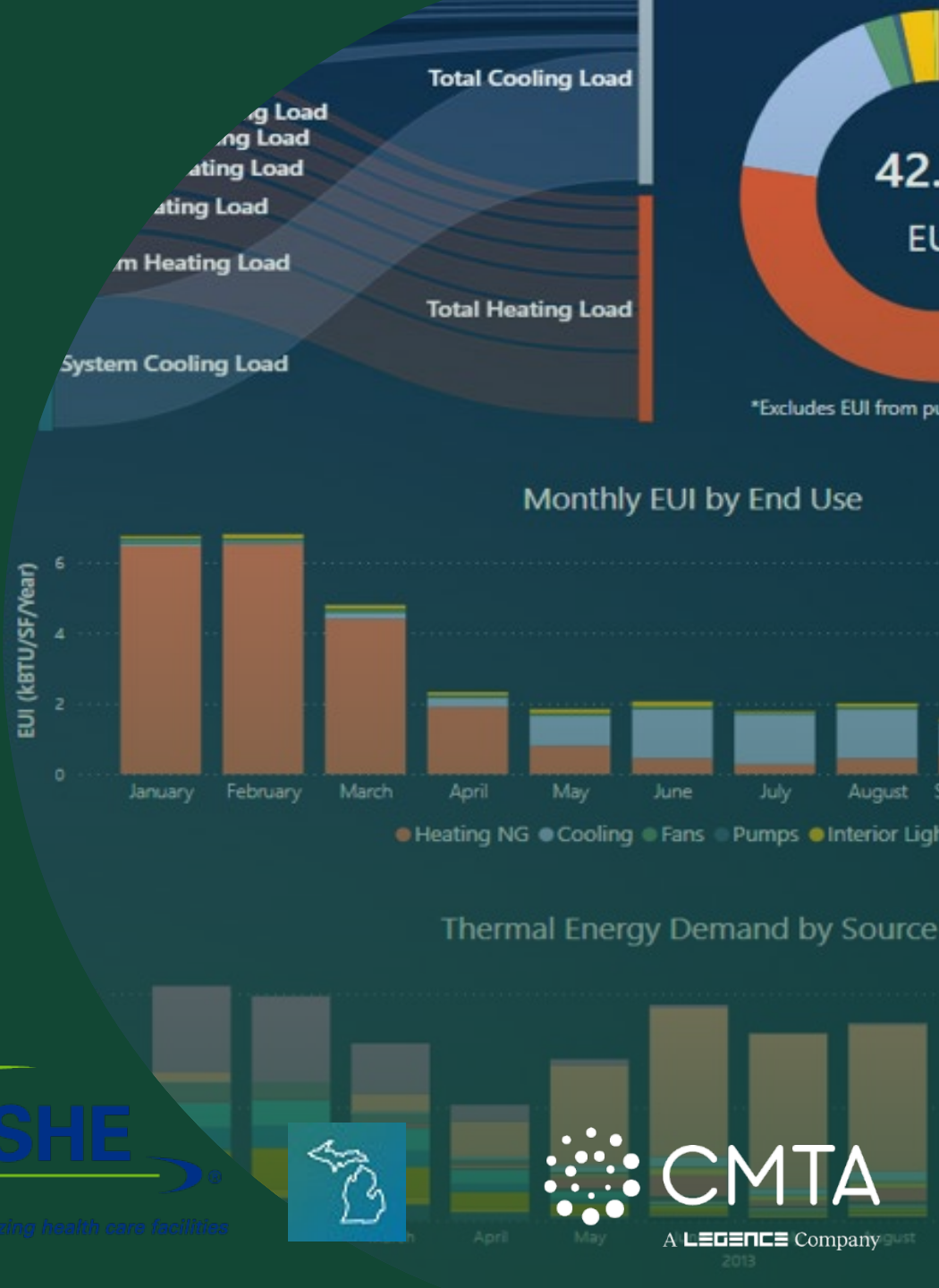
Decoding Dynamic Standards

Practical Applications of ASHRAE Codes in Healthcare

11.3.2025



A LEGENCE Company



Speakers



Douglas Fick PE
CMTA



Jonathan Flannery
ASHE



Pier-George Zanoni PE
MiSHE

Learning Objectives

- Understand the code creation, implementation, and interpretation process from the perspective of the code committee, industry professionals, and officials.
- Develop strategies to effectively interpret dynamic and complex codes and apply their intent in real-world healthcare projects.
- Identify the four ASHRAE codes and their intended interaction.
- Learn how to locate and approach code interpretation queries to ensure compliance and enhance project outcomes.

Agenda

01

Code Creation

02

Code Implementation

03

Code Interpretation

04

Healthcare Codes

Code Creation

Code Creation

New Document

- Technical Committee Identifies a Need
- Proposes a Title Purpose and Scope
- Coordination and Duplication Reviewed





Code Creation

Modification Process

- Project Committee Types
 - Continuous Maintenance
 - Standing Committee
- Public Review
- Organizational Process



Code Creation

Modification Process ASHRAE

- **Opening Meetings**
- **Public Review**
 - **All Comments must be responded**
 - **Good Faith to Resolve all Commenters**
- **Balanced Committees**
- **Reviewed for Harmonization and Duplication**

WE WANT YOU

Code Creation

Modification Process – How to Submit A CMP

<https://osr.ashrae.org>

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL osr.ashrae.org/default.aspx. The page features the ASHRAE logo and tagline "Shaping Tomorrow's Global Built Environment Today" at the top left. A navigation bar includes links for HOME, ONLINE COMMENT DATABASE, CONTINUOUS MAINTENANCE, and CONTACT US. A "SIGN IN / SIGN UP" button is located in the top right corner. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column is titled "Public Review Draft Standards" and contains instructions on how to access comments and submit them. The right column is titled "Continuous Maintenance Documents" and lists several proposals with their titles and descriptions.

Public Review Draft Standards

To access your comments or to reply to a project committee response please log in to your account by clicking on the "My Comments" link in the menu to the left or by clicking on the "Sign In" link in the upper right corner of this page.

Click on COMMENT in the list below to submit comments for the corresponding Public Review Drafts. Click the Standard title in the list below to view its details.

NOTE: Commenters will receive automated e-mails to acknowledge their comments and notification of project committee responses to those comments. To ensure you receive these notifications please add OSRacknowledgement@ashrae.org to your trusted sources.

For assistance please [click here to send us an email](#) and we will respond as soon as possible.

IMPORTANT: The public review period closes at midnight U.S. Eastern Time on the last day of the review period.

Continuous Maintenance Documents

Click on the "Proposal" link in the list below to submit a proposal for the corresponding Continuous Maintenance Document.

- PROPOSE [ASHRAE Guideline 0](#)
The Commissioning Process for New Buildings and New Systems
- PROPOSE [ASHRAE Guideline 1.1](#)
Application of the Commissioning Process to New HVAC&R Systems
- PROPOSE [ASHRAE Guideline 1.4](#)
Preparing Systems Manuals for Facilities
- PROPOSE [ASHRAE Guideline 1.5](#)
Application of the Commissioning Process to Smoke Control Systems
- PROPOSE [ASHRAE Guideline 10](#)
Interactions Affecting the Achievement of Acceptable Indoor Environments
- PROPOSE [ASHRAE Guideline 12](#)
Managing the Risk of Legionellosis Associated With Building Water Systems
- PROPOSE [ASHRAE Guideline 13](#)

Code Creation

Modification Process – How to Submit A CMP

<https://osr.ashrae.org>

The screenshot shows the OSR website dashboard. The browser address bar displays <https://osr.ashrae.org/Default.aspx>. The navigation menu includes [HOME](#), [ONLINE COMMENT DATABASE](#), [CONTINUOUS MAINTENANCE](#), and [BALLOTING](#). The main content area features several sections:

- My Comments** (circled in red): Includes links for [Drafts Not Submitted](#) (0), [Reply Drafts Not Submitted](#) (0), [Reply](#), [Deadline](#), and [Looming](#) (0).
- My Proposals**: Includes [Proposals Not Submitted](#) (0) and [Proposals](#) (0).
- My Ballots**: Includes [Not Yet Voted](#) (0) and [Recirculation Ballots](#) (0).
- Committee action items**: Filtered by Committee = **SSPC062.1**, Base Standard/Guideline = **62.1-2016-Standard**, Standards Committee Document = **Addendum ae to Standard 62.1-2016**, Public Review Draft Document = **1 - Full Public Review - 11/16/2018 to 12/16/2018**. A [CHANGE COMMITTEE FILTER](#) button is circled in red.
- My Committee Comments** (circled in red): Includes [Ready for Approval](#) (0) and [Ready to Send](#) (0).
- My Committee Proposals**: Includes [Ready for Approval](#) (1) and [Ready for Response](#) (1).
- My Committee Ballots**: Includes [Recirculation Required](#) (0).
- Public Review Draft Standards** (circled in red): Includes instructions: "To access your comments or to reply to a project committee response please log in to your account by clicking on the 'My Comments' link in the menu to the left or by clicking on the 'Sign In' link in the upper right corner of this page".
- Continuous Maintenance Documents** (circled in red): Includes instructions: "Click on the 'Proposal' link in the list below to submit a proposal for the corresponding Continuous Maintenance Document."

The browser's status bar at the bottom right shows 100% zoom.

Code Creation

Modification Process – How to Submit A CMP

<https://osr.ashrae.org>

The screenshot displays the ASHRAE Online Comment Database interface. At the top, a navigation bar includes links for HOME, ONLINE COMMENT DATABASE (highlighted in green), CONTINUOUS MAINTENANCE, and BALLOTING. Below this, a secondary menu lists MY COMMENTS, MY COMMITTEE COMMENTS, and COMMITTEE COMMENT REPORTS, with the first three items circled in red. The main content area is divided into several sections: 'My Comments' with sub-sections for Drafts Not Submitted, Reply Drafts Submitted, and Looming; 'My Ballots' with sub-sections for Not Yet Voted and Recirculation Ballots; 'My Committee Comments' with sub-sections for Ready for Approval and Ready to Send; 'My Committee Proposals' with sub-sections for Ready for Approval and Ready for Response; and 'My Committee Ballots' with a sub-section for Recirculation Required. A filter section indicates the current filter is for Committee = SSPC062.1, Base Standard/Guideline = 62.1-2016-Standard, Standards Committee Document = Addendum ae to Standard 62.1-2016, Public Review Draft Document = 1 - Full Public Review - 11/16/2018 to 12/16/2018. At the bottom, there are sections for Public Review Draft Standards and Continuous Maintenance Documents. The browser address bar shows the URL https://osr.ashrae.org/Default.aspx.

Code Creation

Modification Process – How to Submit A CMP

<https://osr.ashrae.org>

The screenshot displays the ASHRAE Online Comment Database website. The browser address bar shows the URL <https://osr.ashrae.org/Online-Comment-Database/Committee-Comment-Reports>. The website has a blue navigation bar with the following menu items: HOME, ONLINE COMMENT DATABASE, CONTINUOUS MAINTENANCE, and BALLOTING. Below the navigation bar, the page title is "Committee Comment Reports >". The main content area is titled "Report Search Criteria" and contains four search filters, each with a dropdown menu:

- Committee: Search for a Committee...
- Base Standard/Guideline: Search for a Standard...
- Standards Committee Document: Search for a Standards Committee Document...
- Public Review Draft Document: Search for a Draft Document...

Below the search filters, there is a "Review Period" dropdown menu. At the bottom of the search area, there is a table with the following columns: Report, Detail Report, List Report, Committee, Commenters, Comments, and Document. Below the table, it says "No records to display."

The footer of the website contains the following text: Copyright © All rights reserved ASHRAE, 1791 Tullie Circle NE, Atlanta, GA 30329. There are also links for Privacy Policy, Terms & Conditions, Reprint Permission, Advertising, and Contact Us. The browser zoom level is set to 100%.

Code Creation

Modification Process – How to Submit A CMP

<https://osr.ashrae.org>

Filters

Committee: SSPC062.1

Base Standard/Guideline: 62.1-2016-Stanc

Standards Committee Document: Addendum a to :

Public Review Draft Document: 1 - Full Public R

My Committee Comments

Page size: 20 | Expand All | Collapse All | 3 items in 1 pages

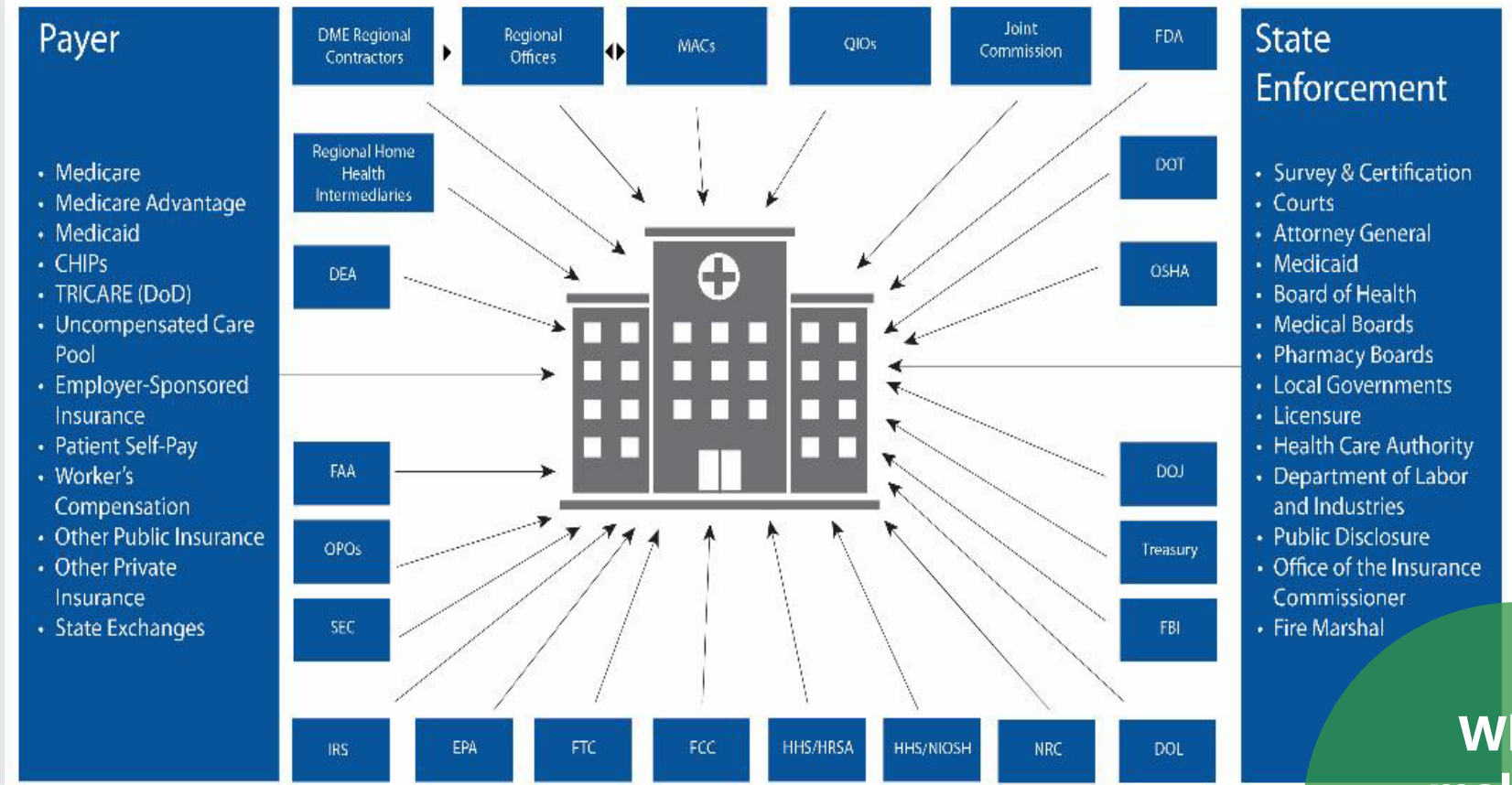
Document	Comment Title	Sect Type	Sect Id	Cmtr Num	Cmt Num
Review Period: 30-Day Public Review Period from September 2, 2016 to October 2, 2016					
Details BSR/ASHRAE Addendum a to ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 62.1-2016, Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air Quality (First Public Review Draft)	Condensate Removal Level	Clause	5.10.4	0001	001
Details BSR/ASHRAE Addendum a to ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 62.1-2016, Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air Quality (First Public Review Draft)	Paragraph Title and Coverage	Clause	5.10.4	0001	002
Details BSR/ASHRAE Addendum a to ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 62.1-2016, Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air Quality (First Public Review Draft)	Improper Reference in Paragraph 5.10.4	Clause	5.10.4	0001	003

Page size: 20 | Expand All | Collapse All | 3 items in 1 pages

100%

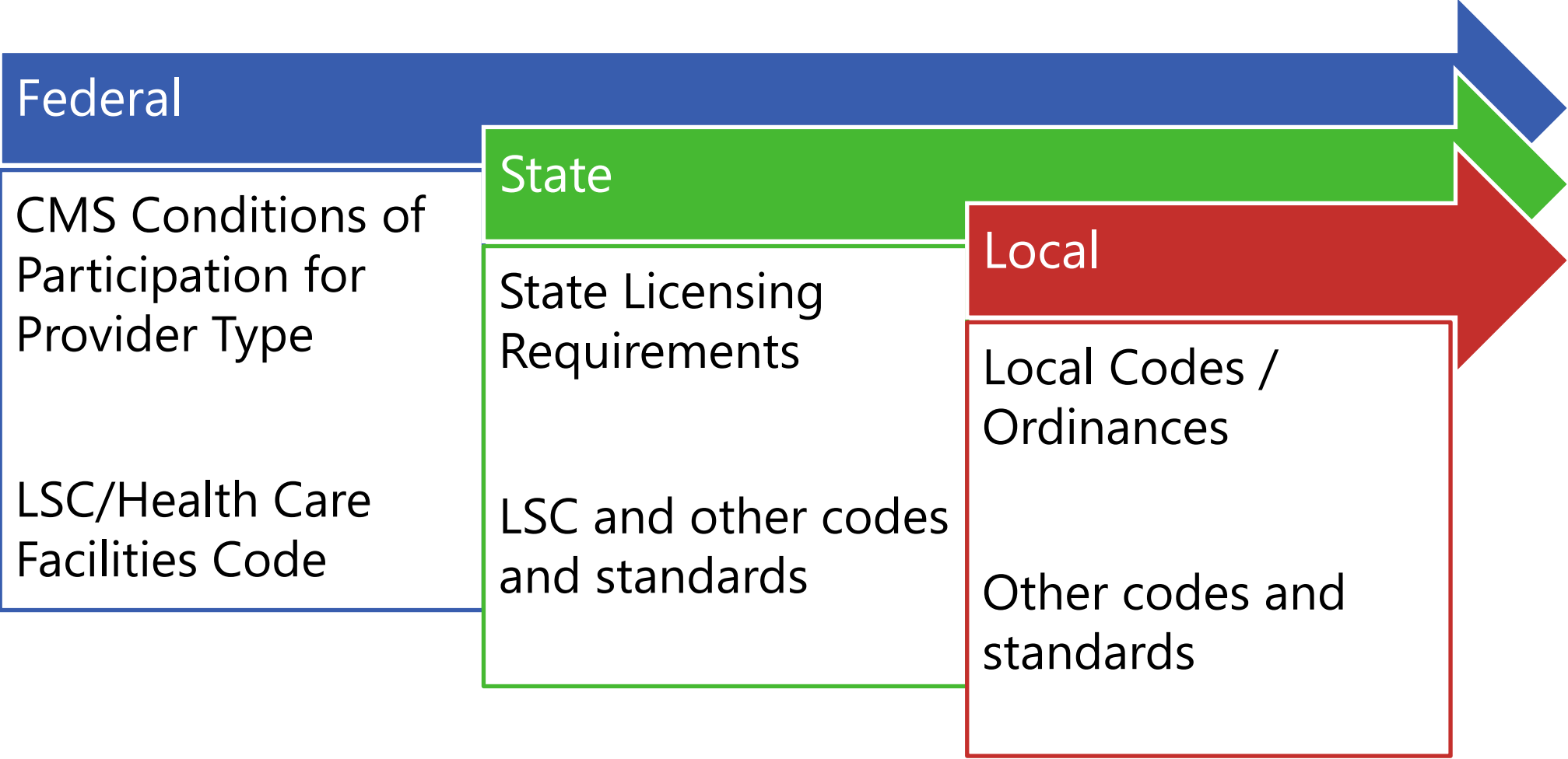
Code Implementation

Who regulates hospitals?

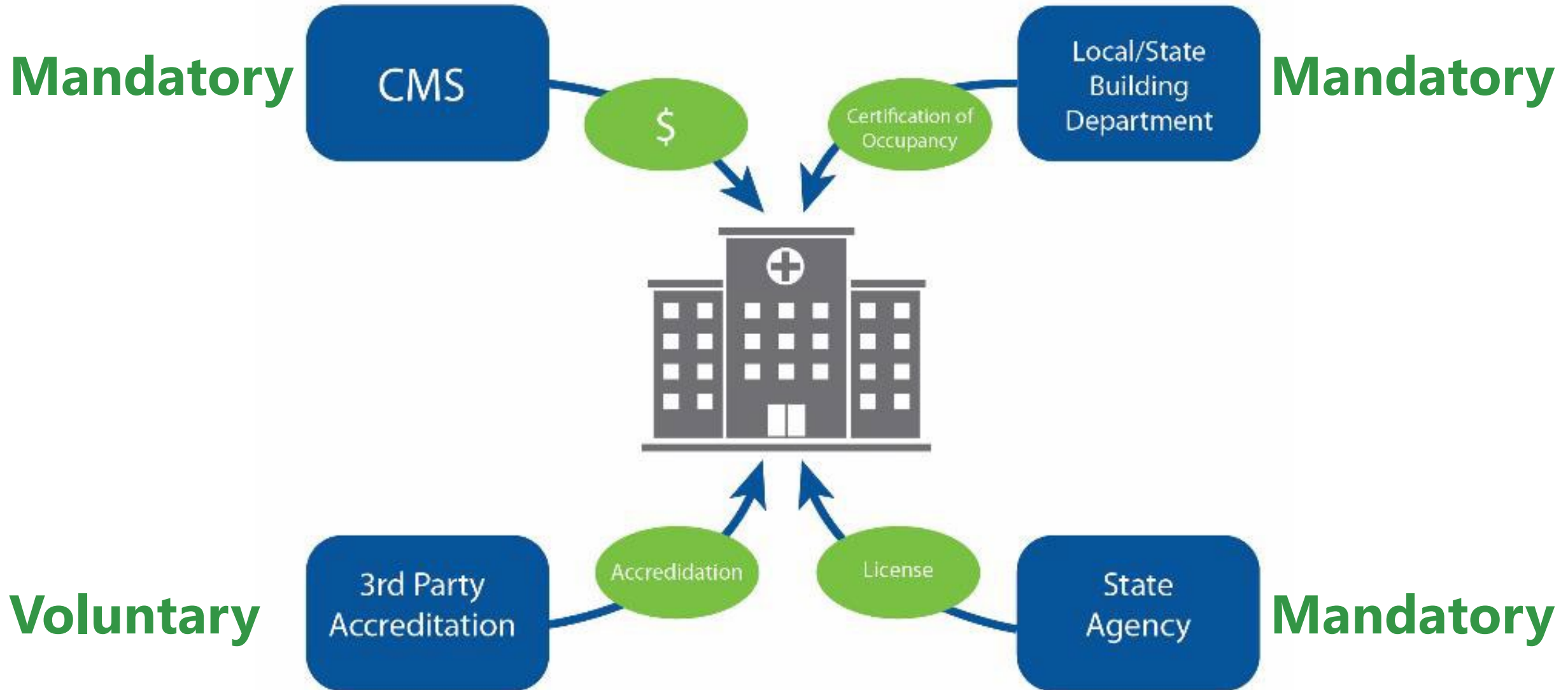


What makes a code/std regulatory?

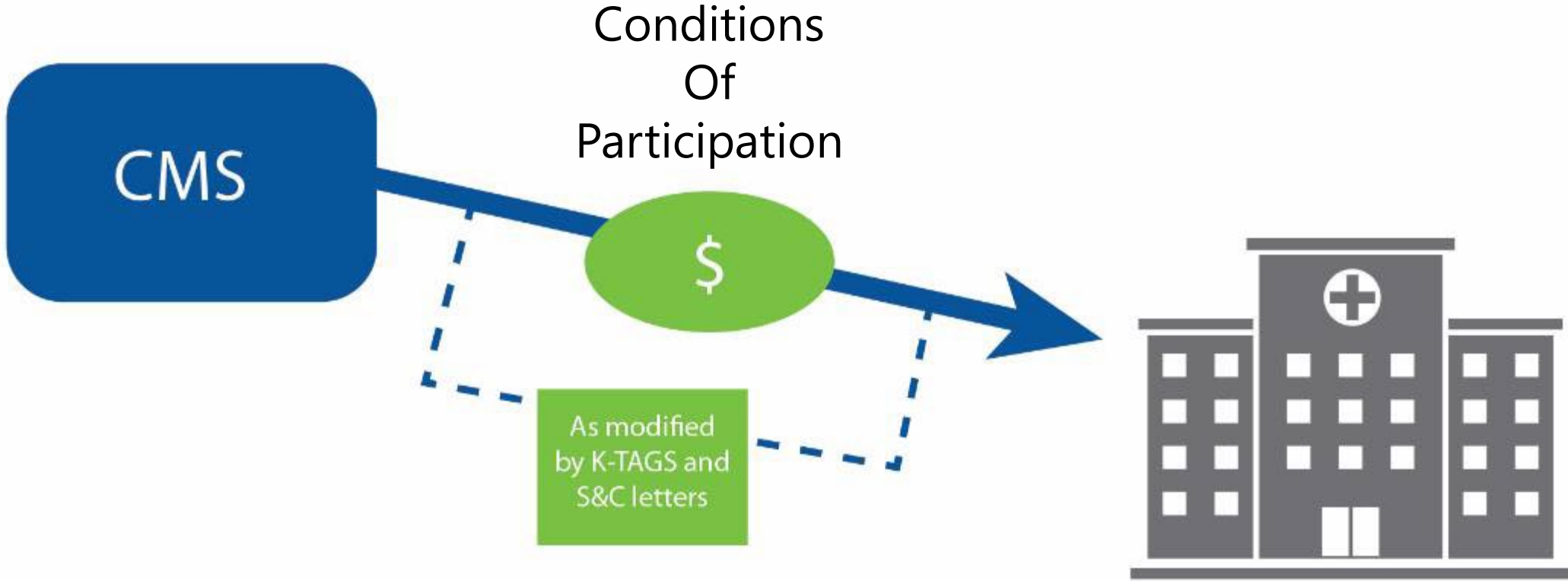
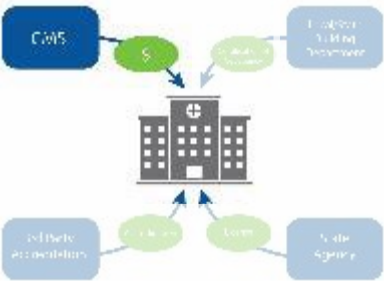
Adoption by a Regulatory Authority



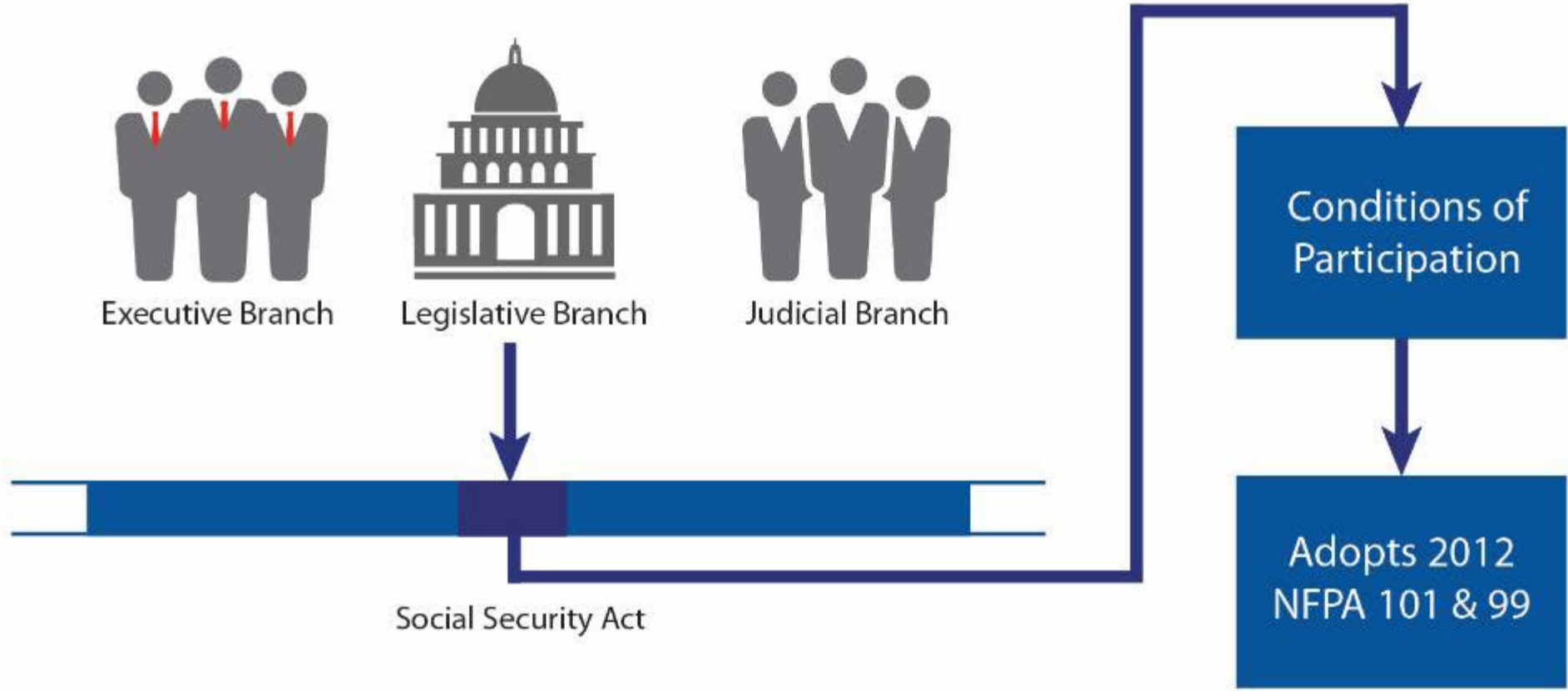
Major Regulators



CMS Relationship

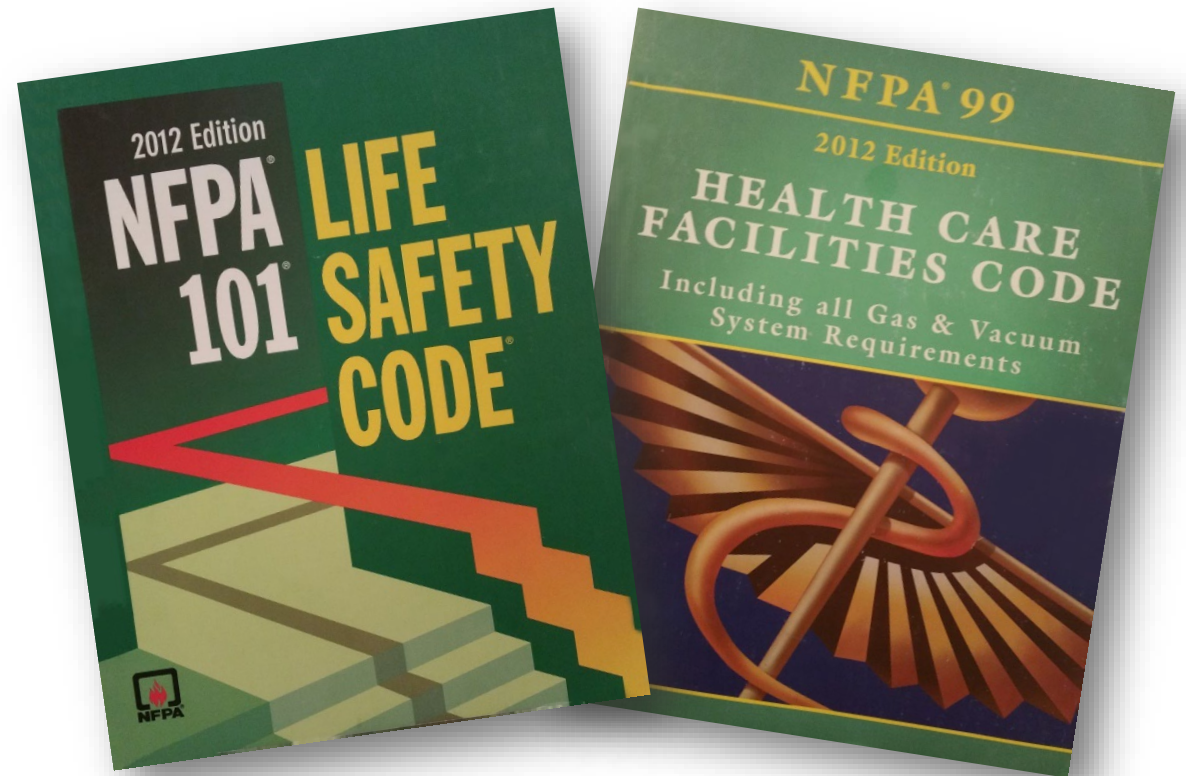


Conditions of Participation



2012 editions of NFPA 99 & 101

- Must comply to bill Medicare/Medicaid
- Impacts 98% of US hospitals
- Does not adopt:
 - Ch 7 - IT
 - Ch 8 - Plumbing
 - Ch 12 - E. M.
 - Ch 13 - Security



Adoption by Reference

Must comply to bill Medicare/Medicaid

Impacts 98% of US hospitals

Does not adopt:

Ch 7 - IT

Ch 8 - Plumbing

Ch 12 - E. M.

Ch 13 - Security

Chapter 9 HVAC Adopted

Section 9.1 Chapter applies to new construction

Section 9.1.2 altered, renovated, or modernized portions of existing systems

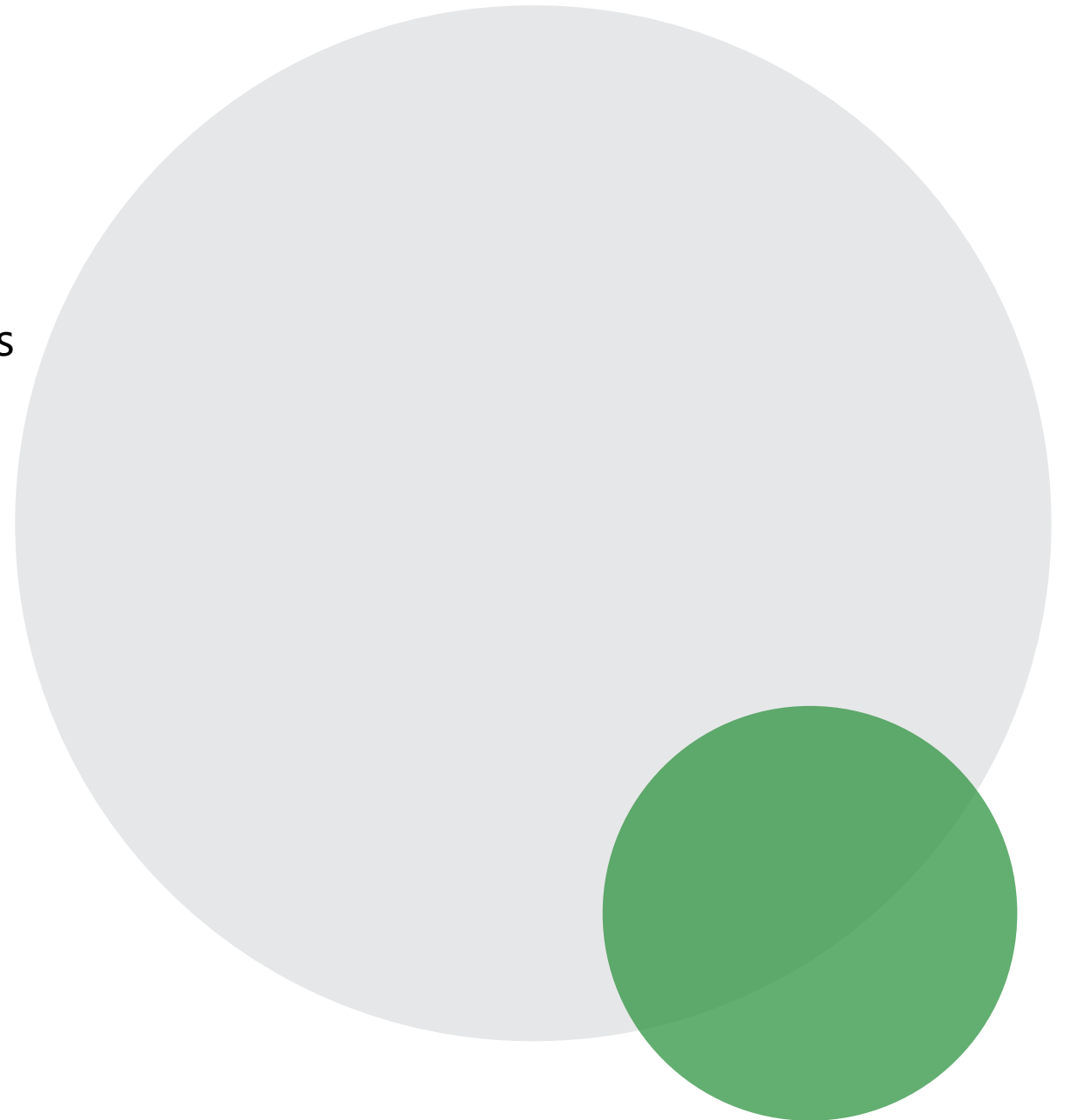
9.3.1.1 References ASHRAE/ASHE 170
2008 Edition

170 is a design standard for new, altered, renovated systems.

Code Interpretation

Code Interpretation

- Design standard vs Operational requirements
- Literal meaning vs official interpretation
- Air Pressure Differentials
- Unoccupied AIR rooms
- Diffuser Array over Surgical table
- AHJ compliance in Operational Issues - Use of Guideline 43



Code Interpretation

Standards Process

ASHRAE 170 VS Guideline 43

Guideline 43 adoption vs application

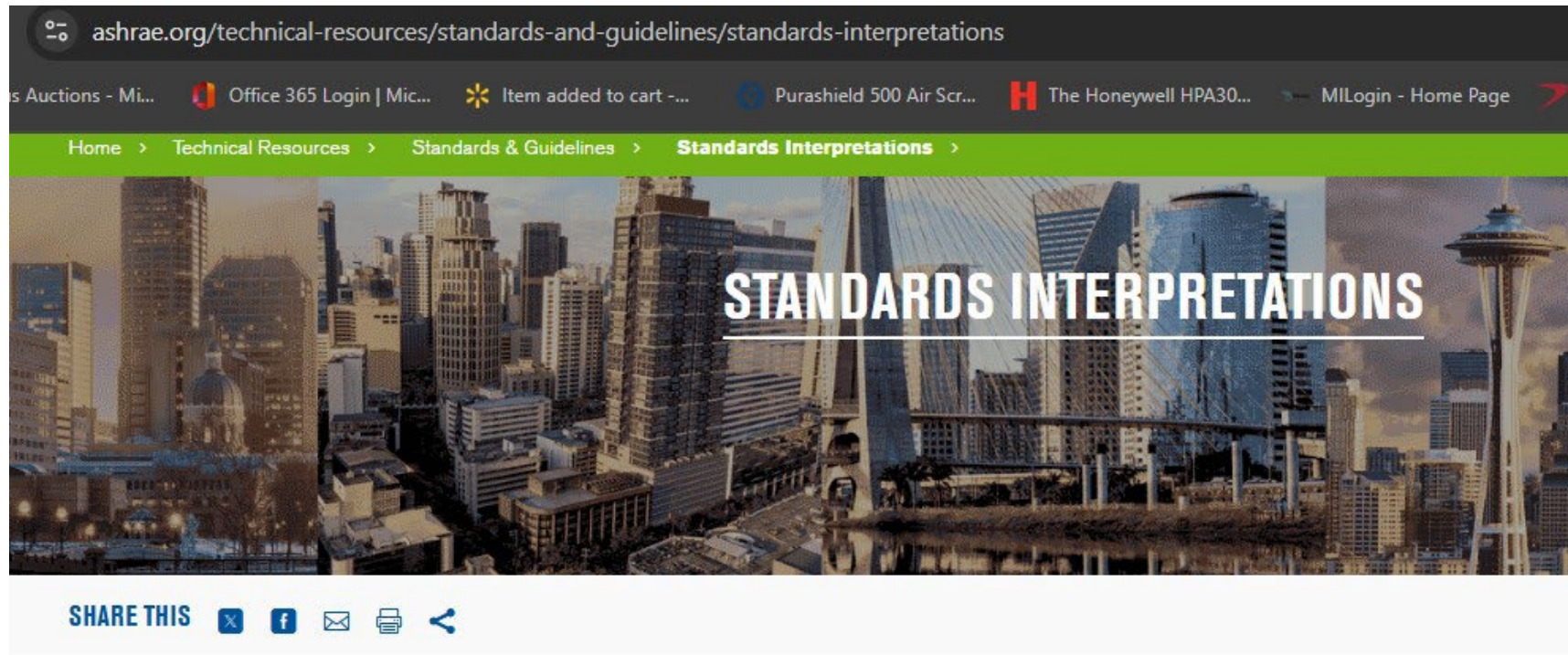
Addition of Ventilation Management Plan in FGI

Clinical Need Must Be Met

Patient Comfort

Code Interpretation

Requesting ASHRAE Code Interpretations <https://www.ashrae.org/technical-resources/standards-and-guidelines/standards-interpretations>



A request for interpretation may be either 'official' or 'unofficial' (personal). An official interpretation is defined as a written explanation of the meaning of a specific provision of a standard or guideline, as determined by an existing cognizant Project Committee (PC) or an Interpretation Committee (IC), in response to a written request. An unofficial or personal interpretation is a written explanation of the meaning of a specific provision of a standard or guideline, as determined by the Manager of Technical Services, the past or current Chair of the cognizant PC, or the Manager of Standards (MOS), in response to a written request.

[More Information on Requesting an Interpretation](#)

[Request Interpretation of an ASHRAE Standard or Guideline](#)

Code Interpretation

Requesting ASHRAE Code Interpretations Cont'd 2

REQUESTS FOR INTERPRETATION

A request for interpretation may be either 'official' or 'unofficial' (personal). An official interpretation is defined as a written explanation of the meaning of a specific provision of a standard or guideline, as determined by an existing cognizant Project Committee (PC) or an Interpretation Committee (IC), in response to a written request. An unofficial interpretation is defined as a written explanation of the meaning of a specific provision of a standard or guideline, as determined by the ASHRAE Technology Department Staff, in response to a written request.

  [Procedures for Requesting an Interpretation - \(February 2023\) \(PDF\)](#)

ASHRAE will not normally respond to a follow-up request for official interpretation to confirm a previous unofficial interpretation. A typical response time for an unofficial interpretation is 30 days, while the official interpretation might require 6-12 months for response. Responses to requests for official interpretations must be approved by the cognizant committee, which normally meets twice a year in conjunction with the ASHRAE Society meetings.

Requests for official interpretation must meet the requirements of Section 10 of the Standards Committee Reference Manual. See procedures below.

The official interpretations are available on the ASHRAE Standards [website here](#).

An interpretation shall not be used to change the content of a standard or guideline. Requests that are in fact not requests for interpretation but rather proposals for changes to published standards or guidelines will be referred to the cognizant PC if one exists.

 [Request Interpretation of ASHRAE Standard or Guideline](#)

Code Interpretation

Requesting ASHRAE Code Interpretations Cont'd 3

10.3.1 Receipt of Requests.

After a request is received, the MOS shall notify the requester of the interpretation procedures, the typical response times, and that ASHRAE will not normally respond to a follow up request for official interpretation to confirm a previous unofficial interpretation. The requester will then be given opportunity to request either an **unofficial or official** interpretation.

ASHRAE Interpretation Request Form

When you submit this form, it will not automatically collect your details like name and email address unless you provide it yourself.

* Required

1. Requestor Name *


2. Email address *

3. Standard *

- ASHRAE Standard 15/15.2
- ASHRAE Standard 62.1
- ASHRAE Standard 90.1
- ASHRAE Standard 135
- ASHRAE Standard 170
- Other Standard/Guideline

[Submit](#)

Never give out your password. [Report abuse](#)

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Code Interpretation

Requesting ASHRAE Code Interpretations: Official vs Unofficial

A request for interpretation may be either 'official' or 'unofficial' (personal). An official interpretation is defined as a written explanation of the meaning of a specific provision of a standard or guideline, as determined by an existing cognizant Project Committee (PC) or an Interpretation Committee (IC), in response to a written request. An unofficial interpretation is defined as a written explanation of the meaning of a specific provision of a standard or guideline, as determined by the ASHRAE Technology Department Staff, in response to a written request.

Code Interpretation

ANSI ASHE ASHRAE 170 Ventilation for Healthcare – Can this standard be enforced as an operational standard?

AHJ Answer: It Depends.

The code is first and foremost a design standard for new construction and renovation.

But when the code specifies for example, a minimum ACH for a given room type, the system must be designed and operated to meet this minimum requirement. When an AHJ adopts a minimum Air flow requirement, the expectation is that it will be operated at or above the minimum. If on the day of the AHJ inspection, the room is below minimum ACH, the facility could be cited – and most likely will - regardless of how well it is argued, Exception: extreme condition outside of normal design parameters or unexpected failure of HVAC component which has been identified and in process of being corrected. AHJ may still cite but the normal process for resolving issue may remove/correct citation.

Code Interpretation

What happens when a code is written and it doesn't exactly say what it means?

- AHJs may take code language at face value and enforce what the code says, even though, common sense might provide a different, more correct interpretation.
- CMS has been known to enforce literal code language even when there is a written official interpretation from the code organization (e.g. NFPA or ASHRAE)
- The above scenario emphasizes the need to continue to refine the codes in later editions to eliminate the likelihood of misinterpretation.
- Having a knowledgeable and understanding AHJ that one can discuss code issues will greatly improve proper code interpretations.
- Note: AHJs will read code handbooks and appendix language but typically can not use these for supporting their citations. But we have seen many examples where appendix is enforced by AHJ (e.g. smoke detectors too close to air diffuser). ASHRAE 170 example:

Air-Pressure Relationships

Observation:

Observed in Building Tour. The air pressure in the clean side of sterile processing was negative to the corridor. The air pressure in the clean and sterile storage room (approximately 3/4 sterile items) was negative to the corridor.

Solution:

Implement monitoring process (automated)

See ASHRAE formal interpretations re air pressure relationships in Surgical suite including sterile processing

ASHRAE Std 170 Official Code Interpretation

Sterile Core Air Pressure Relationship Cont'd

Interpretation: Since the sterile core area is considered the most clean space, air should flow from the sterile core area into each operating room and then into the corridors.

Question: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer: No.

Comments: The standard does indicate that the ventilation system shall provide air movement that is generally from clean to less-clean areas. However, the standard also indicates specific areas with a pressurization that is intended to ensure this for a particular space use. (2017 ASHRAE 170 Section 7.4.1 requires that operating rooms "...shall be maintained at a positive pressure with respect to all adjoining spaces at all times.")

ASHRAE Official Code Interpretations – AIIR unoccupied example

Date Approved: February 1, 2022

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements in ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2021, Section 7.2.1 and Table 7.1, regarding exhaust air requirements when Airborne Infectious Isolation (All) room not used for airborne infection isolation.

Background: It is not clear in the description of ventilation requirements for All rooms if the air in the space can be returned to an air handler when the room is not actively being used for airborne infection isolation. Note (u) from Table 7.1 indicates that the rooms may have the ACH rate reduced from 12 to 4 while maintaining a negative pressure with respect to adjacent areas when not used for airborne infection isolation, but it does not clarify if during these times air can be returned to an air handling system in lieu of being completely exhausted to the outdoors. No exceptions/exemptions are provided indicating that when the room is not used for airborne infectious isolation the room air can be returned to an air handling system in lieu of all room air must me exhausted directly to the outdoors.

Interpretation: If an Airborne Infectious Isolation (All) room is not used for airborne infection isolation all room air must still be exhausted directly to the outdoors, but the total air change rate can be reduced from 12 ACH to 4 ACH as long as the negative pressure relationship to adjacent areas remains unchanged.

Question: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer: Yes

ASHRAE Official Code Interp – Sterilizer Eqpmt Rm Supplemental Recirc example

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, Ste 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.

AHJ comment: in 2021 ASHRAE Table 8.1 Specialized Outpatient Spaces was changed to allow recirculating room units in the sterilizer equipment room. As an AHJ in a state that adopted 2017 ASHRAE 170, I would allow a designer to follow the 2021 Table 7.1 in this instance since it represents an improvement/correction from previous version. CMS and other AHJs may not directly adopt ASHRAE 170, but it is now referenced in FGI. Check codes applicable in your State.

ASHRAE 170 Interpretation re diffuser array over surgical table that can be positioned 90 degrees from primary position – Will an AHJ accept this interpretation? Answer: It Depends. Are they required by law to accept the formal ASHRAE interpretations?

ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2021 Ventilation of Health Care Facilities

Date Approved: April 22, 2025

Request from: Scott Mueller, Shepley Bulfinch, 99 Chauncey Street, 4th Floor, Boston MA 02111.

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements in ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2021, Section 7.4.1b, regarding ORs and Class 3 Imaging Rooms supply diffuser array.

Background: Seeking clarification on the requirement for the supply diffuser array in a class 3 imaging room / hybrid operating room where the surgical table rotates 90 degrees during some procedures.

When the surgical table rotates up to 90 degrees from its primary position and in degree increments between the primary position and 90 degrees, how does ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170 interpret the 12" requirement? Does the requirement apply to all possible table positions, or just the primary surgical table position? My interpretation is that the requirement applies to the table in its primary position, not all possible positions.

Interpretation: When the surgical table rotates up to 90 degrees from its primary position and in degree increments between the primary position and 90 degrees, the 12-inch requirement in Section 7.4.1b applies to the table in its primary position, not all possible positions.

Question: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer: Yes

Comments: The position(footprint) for a surgical table defined during the design is used to determine the coverage area of the primary supply diffuser array.

Code Interpretation:

Will AHJ allow use of later version of ASHRAE 170?

Answer: **Some will.**

- Unlike NFPA, where it would often be disastrous to pick out sections of the new code to follow without following the new code in entirety, the ventilation standard is different, so an AHJ may actually allow designers to use selected portions of a later version.
- This would particularly be true when the code change is a clarification of the previous version or where there is new technology which makes moving to the newer code justifiable.
- Sometimes the older code version simply does not address a new service or new modality such as hybrid operating rooms or dialysis dens in long term care.
- Sometimes the newer tables are just more convenient to use (e.g. now filter efficiencies are in the same table as the air changes, etc).

**Rule of Thumb:
Air flow must
always be from
clean to less
clean
See: ASHRAE170
section 7.1**

Often air flow between decontam and central sterile processing clean room is wrong.

Operating rooms must always be positive in pressure relationship to all adjacent areas.

What about other rooms...?

- **Corridor outside OR (less than OR and less than clean room)**
- **Operating Rm pressure + + +**
(pos to all adjacent areas)
- **Sterile supply room + +**
- **Central Sterile Processing clean rm +**
- **Decontam room - -**
(neg to all adjacent areas)



Roof Air Intake 3 ft Above roof?

Q: Measure from surface of roof to midpoint or bottom of intake? **Answer: 3 ft above bottom** (ASHRAE Table 6-1)

2026 pre-publication FGI Code – footnote 2 of Table 2.2-1:
Exam/Treatment, Procedure, and Operating Room Classification

2 Other design requirements that apply to these room types include, but are not limited to, **ventilation**, lighting, electrical receptacle, call system, medical gas and vacuum systems, and sound transmission requirements. **See Part 3 (ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170: *Ventilation of Health Care Facilities*)** for ventilation requirements for these rooms.

AHJ comment:
FGI referencing ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE 170 helps to maintain consistency between codes.

Code Interpretation

Guideline 43 anyone?

**Another successful renovation ...
Until the AHJ shows up.**

A little obvious issue since they forgot to cover up the biohazard symbol

Since this project was a “change in use” the requirements for new construction apply.



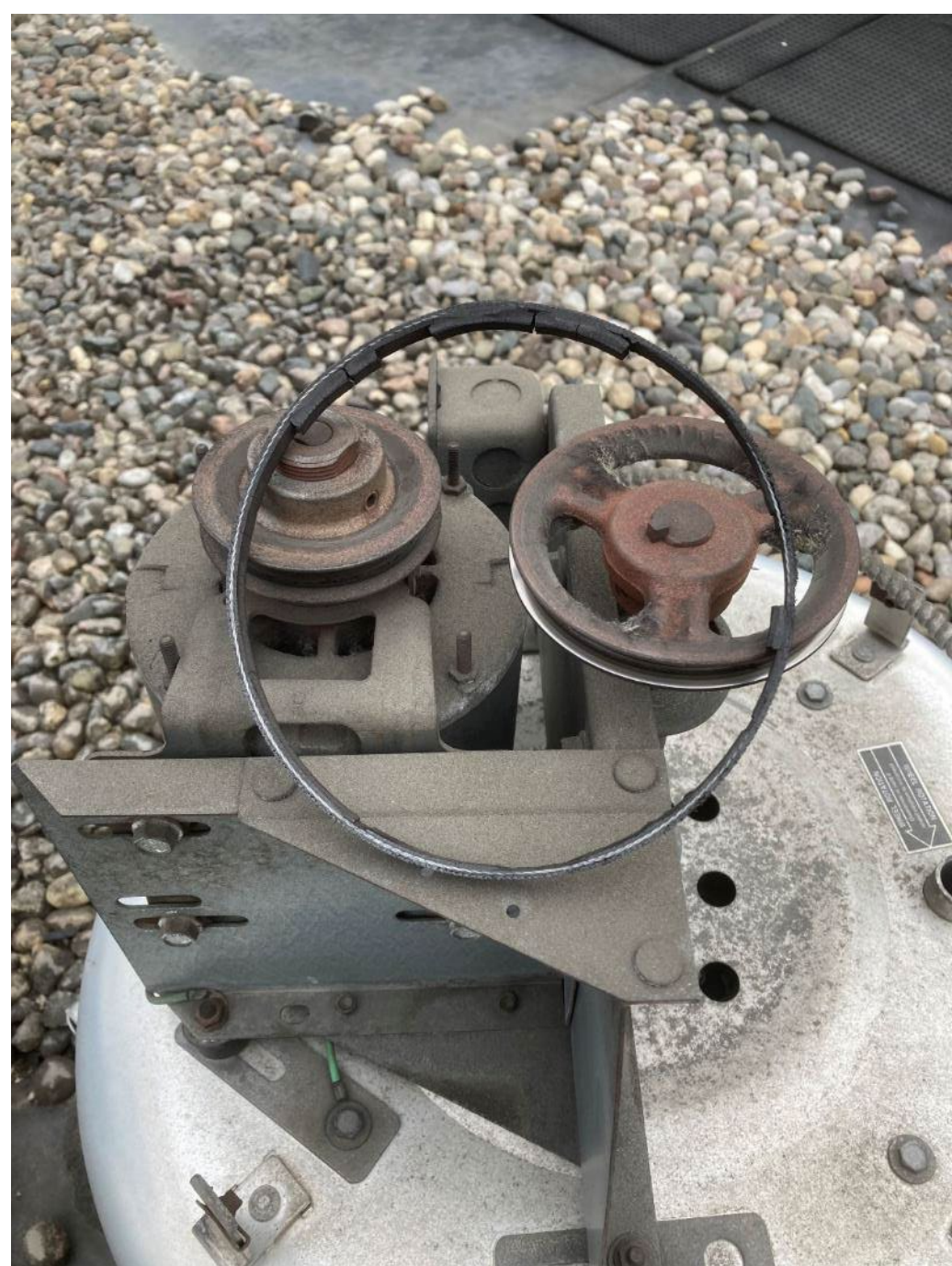


**Checking for Positive Pressure
at Door Undercut**

After testing for negative pressure of soiled utility room, inspector visited roof to check exhaust fans

Why facilities should follow Guideline 43

AHJ citation for improper ventilation AND deficient equipment maintenance program



HVAC Maintenance

Filters blown out – wet or overloaded.

Surveyor will check for documentation of HVAC PM including filter changes.

And now may ask if the facility is following Guideline 43.



Time to Change Pre-filters?



Code Interpretation

AHJ Enforcement for Proper Fitting Air Filters

ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE 170-2021 Section 6.4 Filtration

6.4.1 Filter-Bank Blank-Off Panels. Filter-bank blank-off panels shall be permanently attached to the filter-bank frame, constructed of rigid materials, and have sealing surfaces equal to or greater than the filter media installed within the filter-bank frame.

6.4.2 Filter Frames. Filter frames shall be durable and proportioned to provide an airtight fit with the enclosing ductwork. All joints between filter segments and enclosing ductwork shall have gaskets or seals to provide a positive seal against air leakage.

AHJs inspecting for compliance with these sections will often find issues. This code section is often overlooked, and apply to all filters (both pre-filter and final). Note: Air handling manufacturers are getting better with addressing these ASHRAE170 requirements.

Air filters do not fit tightly – allow bypass

- Recommend use of foam... on door be sure to achieve full seal
- Often filler strips in filter bank don't fit if new filters are slightly different size
- More critical of an issue with final filters as opposed to pre-filters
- Also helps keep coils clean



Effective Use of Foam to Prevent Bypass of Dirt around Filters

**Dirty air bypassing
filter media is
collecting on coils**



Best Practice: Foam seal on edge of filter bank to prevent air bypass. (ASHRAE 170 section 6.4.2 re gaskets/seals)



But ASHRAE 170 section 6.4.1 requires filter bank blank-off panels to be permanently attached. Is this a violation?

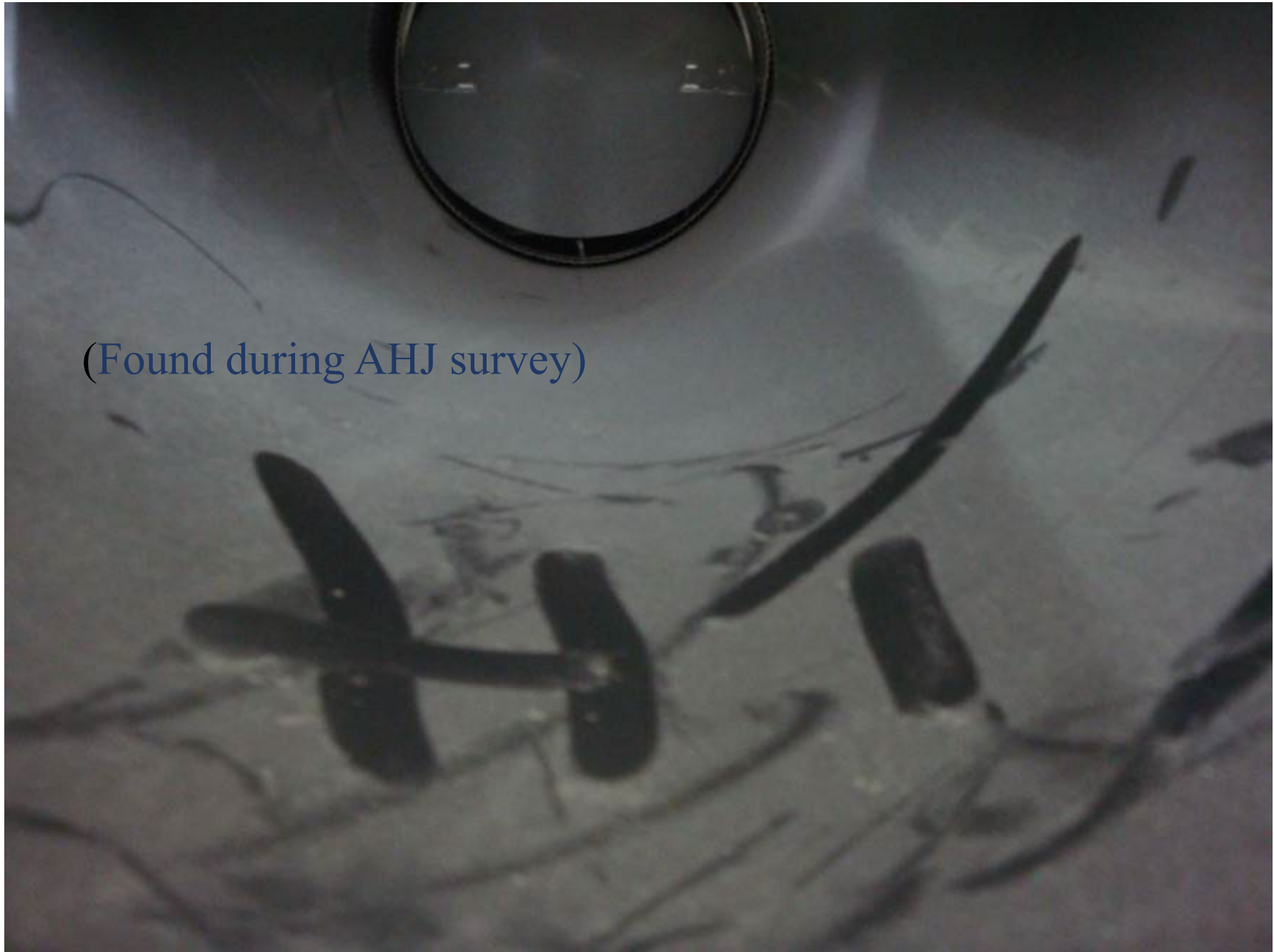
Keep all HVAC ducts covered during construction

So, what code reference does the AHJ use to cite this?
ASHRAE, ICRA, CDC guideline, or A tag?





Open ventilation duct during construction—
Be Sure to Check Daily to ID any Breaches



(Found during AHJ survey)

Health Care Codes

QUESTIONS

– SEEDED QUESTIONS FOR THE AUDIANCE

