



**Informal Interpretation Report  
Number 7177**



**Date** May 31, 2013

**Edition** 2010

**Section** 403.2.2.1 Duct tightness.

**Question:**

Is it the intent of the Exception in section 403.2.2.1 which states "Duct testing is not mandatory for buildings complying by Section 405 of this code." That compliance using SECTION 405 SIMULATED PERFORMANCE ALTERNATIVE (Performance) that duct testing will never be required since Table 405.5.2 (2) Default Distribution System Efficiencies (DSE) For Proposed Designs. is left as Reserved also TABLE B-1.1.2(1) SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE STANDARD REFERENCE AND PROPOSED DESIGNS lists the Proposed Design DSE as .88? Why is there no data for Table 405.5.2 (2)? Is it the intent that the Performance method only be used when the ducts and air handler are both located in conditioned spaces?

**Answer**

When complying with Section 405, duct testing is not required. This is a trade-off method and assumes leaking ducts in the compliance criteria. Unless the form 405-2010 takes a credit for leak-free duct systems. Then a duct test, or other methods of compliance would be required.

**Commentary:**

None.

---

**Notice:**

The Building Officials Association of Florida, in cooperation with the Florida Building Commission, the Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation, ICC, and industry and professional experts offer this interpretation of the Florida Building Code in the interest of consistency in their application statewide. This interpretation is informal, non-binding and subject to acceptance and approval by the local building official.