



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 7438**



Date December 15, 2014

Edition 2010

Section 1105.6.3

Question:

Is it the intent of the code to require mechanical ventilation at all times or only during occupied conditions and is the ventilation during normal occupied times for temperature control (see 1105.6.3.2) or for proper indoor air quality (see 1105.6.3.1)?

Answer

No. Please see the attached commentary.

Commentary:

The ventilation requirements in Section 1105 are intended for machinery rooms. For normal operation, (1) no less than 0.5 cfm per square foot of machinery room area or (2) 20 cfm per person are required. The greater of the two shall be provided during occupied conditions.

Normal ventilation is required only when the room is occupied. If the equipment room is not normally occupied, normal ventilation should be interlocked with the room lighting. If the equipment room is constantly occupied, the normal ventilation must be continuous.

Additionally, sufficient ventilation must be provided to limit the machinery room temperature rise to 18°F taking into account the ambient heating effect of all machinery in the room. This may be the more challenging part of the design since the heat created by running the equipment would have to be anticipated when designing the system

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.