



Setting the Standards for
Home Energy Efficiency

Interpretation on Infiltration & Mechanical Ventilation for MF Homes

Designation: ANSI/RESNET 301-2014-11

Approved: June 14, 2017 by SDC 300, Testing, Calculation and Labeling for Home Energy Ratings

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Applies to: ANSI/RESNET 301-2014 Table 4.2.2(1) and the RESNET Guidelines for Multifamily Ratings

Interpretation:

This interpretation addresses the question of whether the “infiltration credit” described in ASHRAE 62.2-2013 is applicable to ERI calculations for multifamily dwelling units in the context of ANSI/RESNET/ICC Std 301-2014.

The infiltration credit for whole-house mechanical ventilation shall not be applied to multifamily dwelling units – neither the Rated Home nor the Energy Rating Reference Home. All references by ANSI/RESNET/ICC Std 301-2014 to equation 4.6 in ASHRAE 62.2-2013 shall be understood to mean that $Q_{inf} = 0$ for multifamily dwelling units.

This interpretation includes multifamily (MF) buildings that are covered by ANSI/RESNET 301-2014 and those covered by the RESNET Guidelines for Multifamily Ratings.

Rationale:

This is consistent with the language of ASHRAE 62.2-2013 including all the cumulative Errata published 23 February 2015. In particular, the corrections to sections 4.1.2 and 8.2.1 specify that for any calculation under section 4.1.2, “Infiltration Credit” is expressly excluded for multifamily dwelling units.

It is not currently clear whether the HERS Reference Home should be taking advantage of the infiltration credit for MF homes, and there is currently inconsistency in the market with regards to how accredited tools are handling this. In some cases it can lead to HERS Index discrepancies of several points. This interpretation seeks to make this consistent and clear.