

**Q:** How does the new ASHRAE Standard 62.2 affect the recommended ventilation guideline in the TECTITE software?

**A:** The latest editions of our TECTITE Software (Version 3.1 and higher) incorporate the new ASHRAE Standard 62.2 “Ventilation and Acceptable Indoor Air Quality in Low-Rise Residential Buildings.” The most significant change in the new Standard 62.2 is the requirement for whole building mechanical ventilation in all low-rise residential buildings (exceptions are made for very moderate climates). This whole building requirement is based on estimated occupancy and the building floor area (7.5 CFM per person plus 1 CFM per 100 square feet of floor area).

The new 62.2 Standard does provide partial ventilation credit for infiltration, which means that the required mechanical ventilation rate can be reduced and even eliminated in leaky houses. However, because the new 62.2 Standard provides only partial ventilation credit for infiltration (compared to full credit under the previous 62-1989 Standard), the new Standard will require a house to be much leakier if infiltration alone is being used to meet the ventilation requirement. This feature of the 62.2 Standard will strongly encourage mechanical ventilation systems to be installed in many houses and will tend to discourage the reliance on infiltration alone as a ventilation strategy.

For example:

For a 1,500 square foot - 1 ½ story house with 5 occupants located in Minneapolis, MN

- Under previous Standard 62-1989, the whole building ventilation requirement for this house could be met (by infiltration alone) with a house airtightness level of 1,350 CFM50.
- Under New Standard 62.2, this house with the same airtightness level of 1,350 CFM50 would be required to add 30 CFM of continuous whole building mechanical ventilation.<sup>1</sup>
- Under New Standard 62.2, the whole building ventilation requirement for this house could be met (by infiltration alone) with a house airtightness level of 2,420 CFM50.

For a 1,500 square foot - 1 ½ story house with 5 occupants located in Charlotte, NC

- Under previous Standard 62-1989, the whole building ventilation requirement for this house could be met (by infiltration alone) with a house airtightness level of 1,765 CFM50.
- Under New Standard 62.2, this house with the same airtightness level of 1,765 CFM50 would be required to add 30 CFM of continuous whole building mechanical ventilation.<sup>1</sup>
- Under New Standard 62.2, the whole building ventilation requirement for this house could be met (by infiltration alone) with a house airtightness level of 3,175 CFM50.

TECTITE displays the calculated mechanical ventilation requirements on the test results screen, and in both the customer and detailed reports. The TECTITE program CD can be purchased for \$175, or you can upgrade at no charge if you have already purchased an earlier version of the TECTITE program. Contact us for more information at 612-827-1117.

<sup>1</sup> Intermittent fans can also be used, but they would have to deliver air at a higher rate during their run time. Standard 62.2 also contains specific requirements for kitchen and bathroom ventilation fans – these fans can be incorporated into the whole building ventilation strategy.