

**INTERPRETATION IC 185.1-2015-1 OF  
ANSI/ASHRAE STANDARD 185.1-2015**  
*Method of Testing UV-C Lights for Use in Air-Handling Units or  
Air Ducts to Inactivate Airborne Microorganisms*

Approval Date: December 29, 2015

**Request from:** Kathleen Owen, RTI International, 3040 Cornwallis Rd., Research Triangle Park, NC 27709.

**Reference:** This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 185.1-2015, Section 6.1.1 (Test Organisms), regarding the second specified organism, *Aspergillus sydowii* (ATCC<sup>®</sup> 96916).

**Background:** In 1996, a replacement culture of ATCC<sup>®</sup> 96916 was submitted to ATCC, and the organism was re-characterized at that time. This resulted in a change of identification for ATCC<sup>®</sup> 96916 from *Aspergillus sydowii* to *Aspergillus flavus*. *Aspergillus flavus* is considered pathogenic at a level that is not safe to work with for the high concentration aerosol generation portion of this test. However, an obvious non-pathogenic surrogate with a very similar name, but different ATCC number exists, *Aspergillus sydowii* (ATCC<sup>®</sup> 36542). Thus RTI assumes that this is the intended organism.

**Interpretation:** For compliant testing under ASHRAE Standard 185.1, the two test organisms should be *Mycobacterium parafortuitum* (ATCC<sup>®</sup> 19686) and *Aspergillus sydowii* (ATCC<sup>®</sup> 36542).

**Question:** Is this interpretation correct?

**Answer:** Yes

**Comments:** This request for interpretation made us aware of an error in the standard as published. Either the organism name (*Aspergillus sydowii*) was incorrect or the referenced ATCC<sup>®</sup> number (ATCC<sup>®</sup> 96916) was incorrect. To correct this error, the organism name remains the same and the ATCC<sup>®</sup> number will be changed as errata to ATCC<sup>®</sup> 36542.