

**INTERPRETATION IC 15-2010-1 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE STANDARD 15-2010
SAFETY STANDARD FOR REFRIGERATION SYSTEMS**

Date Approved: 24-Jun-2012

Request from: David L. Smith, PE (DLSmithPE@aol.com), Building Infrastructure Design Services, LLC, 19031 Rock Maple Drive, Hagerstown, MD 21742.

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 15-2010, Section 7.3.1, regarding volume calculations and “permanent openings”.

Background: The definition of term permanent openings is a major consideration in the application of Section 7.3.1 of the standard.

Interpretation: It is our interpretation that NOT only doorways without doors, or "cased openings", but undercut doors, and/or transfer grilles (if large enough) located near the floor could meet the requirement of this portion of the standard.

Also, there is NO indication of the how to determine the required size of the permanent openings of any type. Any guidance the committee could provide in this area would be most helpful.

Question: Is this Interpretation correct?

Answer: No.

Comment: The code is currently written in performance text and allows the designer to determine what constitutes suitably interconnected spaces. There are many factors to consider, and the code currently leaves this to the designer and the AHJ rather than specifying prescriptive considerations or rules.