

**INTERPRETATION IC 135-2016-1 OF  
ANSI/ASHRAE STANDARD 135-2016 BACnet® -  
A Data Communication Protocol for Building  
Automation and Control Networks**

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**Request from:** Carl Neilson, Delta Controls, 17850 56<sup>th</sup> Ave., Surrey, BC V3S1C7.

**Reference:** This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 135-2016, Clause 12.56, regarding the Network Port object.

**Background:** The description of the Network Port object type is conflicted with respect to whether or not the Network\_Number, Network\_Number\_Quality and APDU\_Length properties are required.

In Table 12-71, “Properties of the Network Port Object Type” these properties are marked with the conformance code R (required).

In Table 12-74, “Properties of the Network Port Object Type Only Used when Protocol\_Level is BACNET\_APPLICATION” these properties are listed, thus implying that the properties are optional (not present in Network Port object whose Protocol\_Level is not BACNET\_APPLICATION).

In Figure 12-20, “Example Network Port Hierarchy Chain Showing Property Inheritance” these properties are only present in the Network Port object with a Protocol\_Level of BACNET\_APPLICATION.

These properties were required in the original Network Port object description (Protocol\_Revision 17) and there was no conflict in the language.

The changes made to the Network Port object description in addendum 135-2012bf added in the conflicting table and figures and as such it appears that the intent was to make these properties optional in the manner described by Table 12-74 and Figure 12-20.

**Interpretation:** The Network\_Number, Network\_Number\_Quality and APDU\_Length properties are required in Network Port objects with a Protocol\_Level of BACNET\_APPLICATION, and are not present in Network Port objects with a Protocol\_Level other than BACNET\_APPLICATION.

**Question:** Is this Interpretation correct?

**Answer:** Yes