INTERPRETATION IC 135-2016-17 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE STANDARD 135-2016 BACnet® -
A Data Communication Protocol for Building
Automation and Control Networks

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Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 135-2016, Clause 12.56 and Tables 12.71 and 12.72, regarding Required vs Optional properties of the Network Port object type.

Background: In Table 12.71 the properties of the Network Port object are listed, many of which are defined with a conformance code of O (optional). While for other object types it is clear that these properties are optional, the Network Port object type is different as its definition continues with more tables indicating which properties are required when the Network_Type property is a particular value.

Table 12.72's caption reads: "Required Properties of the Network Port Object Type Based on Network_Type when Protocol_Level is BACNET_APPLICATION." and the second column, titled "Additional Required Propertes" lists properties for each Network_Type.

The language associated with Table 12.72 is ambiguous as to whether the conformance code for the properties is conditional on the Network_Type or not. It appears to change the conformance code from O (optional) to R (required) for those properties listed in the table.

Interpretation: The conformance code for properties listed as O in Table 12.71 and then documented as required in Table 12.72 remains O (optional) regardless of the description in Table 12.72.

Question: Is this Interpretation correct?

Answer: Yes.