

**Interpretation IC 170-2013-1 of
ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2013
Ventilation of Health Care Facilities**

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Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements in ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2013, Section 6 and Table 6.7.2, regarding “Operating room, procedures rooms (all class A, B, and C surgeries)” requirements for primary supply diffusers and additional supply diffusers.

Background: Table 6.7.2 states that primary supply diffusers in these spaces are to be Group E, nonaspirating and any additional supply diffusers must be Group E.

Interpretation: The term “primary” referring to the Group E, nonaspirating diffusers requires that greater than 50% of the required supply air must be from Group E, nonaspirating diffusers and the additional air flow required can be provided through other Group E diffusers.

Question: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer: No.

Comments: The term "Primary" diffuser is only referring to the diffusers located directly over the Patient and Surgical team per Paragraph 7.4.1. The area of the primary supply diffuser array shall extend a minimum of 12 in. (305 mm) beyond the footprint of the surgical table on each side. It is not a reference to how much or what percentage of air is delivered by the non-aspirating diffusers.