

**INTERPRETATION IC 62.1-2010-5 OF  
ANSI/ASHRAE STANDARD 62.1-2010  
VENTILATION FOR ACCEPTABLE INDOOR AIR QUALITY**

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**Request from:** Brenden Guffin ([bguffin@psfmech.com](mailto:bguffin@psfmech.com)), PSF Mechanical, Inc., 9322 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98108.

**Reference:** This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 62.1-2010, Section 6 and Table 6-4, regarding Minimum Exhaust Rates for Locker/Dressing Rooms.

**Background:** ASHRAE Standard 62.1, Table 6-4 states that “Locker/dressing rooms” require 0.25 cfm/ft<sup>2</sup> of exhaust air. Beginning with the 2009 International Mechanical Code version and continuing into the 2012 International Mechanical Code version, the exhaust air requirement of 0.25 cfm/ft<sup>2</sup> is applied to Dressing rooms within Retail Occupancies in Chapter 4, Table 403.3.

My interpretation is that the ASHRAE Standard 62.1 Committee members intended the exhaust requirement to apply only to “dressing rooms” which are associated with “locker rooms” such as that which may be found in sports facilities, gymnasiums, fitness centers, employee changing rooms in factories, and the like. It is not intended to apply to “dressing rooms’ which are not associated with locker rooms.

**Interpretation:** Retail dressing rooms are not associated with locker rooms, so the 0.25 cfm/ft<sup>2</sup> exhaust requirement for “Locker/dressing rooms” in Table 6-4 of Standard 62.1 does not apply.

**Question:** Is this interpretation correct?

**Answer:** Yes

**Comments:** Table 6-4 includes entries for Locker Rooms and for Locker/Dressing Rooms. It is not clear how one would distinguish between these two categories. Given that the exhaust rate is twice as high for Locker Rooms as it is for Locker/Dressing Rooms, one can take the Locker/Dressing Room category to be applicable to a space with lower odor intensity. We can also conclude that neither of these categories was aimed at retail “fitting rooms” as there are no lockers associated with typical retail space dressing rooms.

The standard intentionally leaves decisions about appropriate space type selection to the design team with concurrence from any authority having jurisdiction.