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**Cognizant TC: TC 4.3, Ventilation Requirements and Infiltration**  
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#### NOTE

Approved addenda, errata, or interpretations for this standard can be downloaded free of charge from the ASHRAE Web site at [www.ashrae.org/technology](http://www.ashrae.org/technology).

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## FOREWORD

Standard 62.2 was first published in 2003 as the first national ventilation and indoor air quality (IAQ) standard developed specifically for low-rise residential buildings via the ANSI process. It has been maintained since then using the ANSI and ASHRAE continuous maintenance procedures. Users of the standard are encouraged to use these procedures to propose changes to the standard. The committee will consider and take formal action on every proposal received. Forms and procedures for submitting change proposals may be found on ASHRAE's Web site at [www.ashrae.org](http://www.ashrae.org). When proposed addenda are available for public review and when approved addenda are published, notices will be published on ASHRAE's Web site. The standard is now published in its entirety every third year and includes all approved addenda and errata. This procedure allows users to have certainty about when the new editions will be published. This 2010 edition incorporates the content of 20 addenda into the 2007 version, which were processed by the committee and approved by ASHRAE and ANSI. For brief descriptions of the addenda to ANSI/ASHRAE 62.2-2007, see Appendix B.

When this standard was published in 2004 and 2007, relatively few changes were made to the original 2003 version. However, since 2003, extensive experience has been gained in the application of this standard, due to its adoption by various building codes and use in numerous building programs. As such, many clarifications and improvements have been identified and incorporated through the approved addenda. However, as discussed below, the standard follows the same overall approach as before, and mechanical ventilation rates have not been changed. One significant addition is the addition of a new normative appendix addressing the application of the standard to existing buildings. This appendix allows some optional pathways for previously occupied buildings, which are intended to overcome barriers to application of the standard in existing buildings.

As in the previous versions of this standard, there are three primary sets of requirements and a number of secondary ones. The three primary sets involve whole-house ventilation, local exhaust, and source control. Whole-house ventilation is intended to dilute the unavoidable contaminant emissions from people, from materials, and from background processes. Local exhaust is intended to remove contaminants from those specific rooms (e.g., kitchens and bathrooms) that, because of their design function, are expected to contain sources of contaminants. Other source control measures are included to deal with those sources that can be reasonably anticipated to be found in a residence. The standard's secondary requirements focus on properties of specific items that are needed to achieve

the main objectives of the standard. Examples of this include sound and flow ratings for fans and labeling requirements.

This standard does not address specific pollutant concentration levels. It also does not address certain potential pollutant sources such as unvented combustion space heaters and contamination from outdoor sources or from episodic occupant-controlled events such as painting, smoking, cleaning, or other high-polluting events. For information on residential ventilation and IAQ beyond the minimum requirements contained in this standard, users may wish to consult the companion guideline, which was also developed by this committee. ASHRAE Guideline 24-2008, Ventilation and Indoor Air Quality in Low-Rise Residential Buildings, provides explanatory and educational material not appropriate for a code-intended standard and addresses IAQ and ventilation issues where consensus could not be achieved for inclusion in the standard. Information previously contained in informative appendices to this standard (Operations and Maintenance and HVAC Systems) was moved to the guideline and will be maintained there in the future.

## 1. PURPOSE

This standard defines the roles of and minimum requirements for mechanical and natural ventilation systems and the building envelope intended to provide acceptable indoor air quality (IAQ) in low-rise residential buildings.

## 2. SCOPE

This standard applies to spaces intended for human occupancy within single-family houses and multi-family structures of three stories or fewer above grade, including manufactured and modular houses. This standard does not apply to transient housing such as hotels, motels, nursing homes, dormitories, or jails.

**2.1** This standard considers chemical, physical, and biological contaminants that can affect air quality. Thermal comfort requirements are not included in this standard (see ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 55-2004, *Thermal Environmental Conditions for Human Occupancy*).

**2.2** While acceptable IAQ is the goal of this standard, it will not necessarily be achieved even if all requirements are met

- because of the diversity of sources and contaminants in indoor air and the range of susceptibility in the population;
- because of the many other factors that may affect occupant perception and acceptance of IAQ, such as air temperature, humidity, noise, lighting, and psychological stress;
- if the ambient air is unacceptable, and this air is brought into the building without first being cleaned (cleaning of ambient outdoor air is not required by this standard);
- if the system(s) are not operated and maintained as designed; or
- when high-polluting events occur.

**2.3** This standard does not address unvented combustion space heaters.