Retrofit HVAC

- Reviewing Key Safety Measures for Mobile Home HVAC Work
  Reviewing Key Safety Measures for Mobile Home HVAC Work Understanding PPE Guidelines for Mobile Home Furnace Repair Following OSHA Standards During Mobile Home AC Installations Noting Electrical Hazard Precautions in Mobile Home HVAC Projects Planning Lockout Procedures for Mobile Home Heating Maintenance Checking for Proper Ventilation in Mobile Home HVAC Crawl Spaces Confirming Compliance with HUD Requirements for Mobile Home Ducts Conducting On Site Safety Assessments Before Mobile Home AC Repairs Checking Gas Line Integrity in Mobile Home Heating Systems Identifying Combustion Clearance Issues in Mobile Home Furnaces Monitoring Air Quality Factors During Mobile Home HVAC Upkeep Coordinating Exit Strategies for Emergencies in Mobile Home HVAC Work
- Identifying Warning Signs of Outdated Components
  Identifying Warning Signs of Outdated Components Converting Older Units to High Efficiency Models Examining Duct Layout for Better Distribution Adjusting Equipment Size to Fit Modern Needs Evaluating Newer Options to Replace Electric Heaters Implementing Airflow Balancing Techniques Overcoming Physical Constraints in Legacy Structures Transitioning to Improved Refrigerants for Compliance Strengthening Insulation to Enhance Performance Matching Compatibility of Controls and Existing Wiring Coordinating Expert Consultations for Complex Projects Planning Timelines for Effective System Upgrades
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Importance of Safety in Mobile Home HVAC Work

The significance of electrical safety in mobile home HVAC projects cannot be overstated. As the demand for efficient heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems grows within these unique living environments, so too does the necessity for stringent safety measures. Mobile homes present distinct challenges due to their compact design and often older construction methods, which can lead to increased risks when upgrading or maintaining HVAC systems. Understanding and noting electrical hazard precautions are crucial steps in ensuring both the safety of inhabitants and the longevity of HVAC installations.

Electrical hazards in mobile home HVAC projects primarily stem from outdated wiring systems that may not support modern appliances' power requirements. The confined spaces typical of mobile homes also pose a risk as they can complicate installation processes, potentially leading to improper insulation of wires or inadequate grounding. Such conditions create an environment ripe for electrical fires or shock hazards if not addressed with the utmost care.

Mobile home HVAC systems must comply with local building codes **mobile home hvac near me** attention.

Adopting rigorous electrical safety protocols begins with a comprehensive assessment of the existing electrical infrastructure. This includes checking circuit breakers, fuses, and overall wiring integrity to ensure compatibility with new HVAC units. Engaging licensed electricians who are familiar with mobile home specifications is imperative at this stage; their expertise can preemptively identify potential issues that might be overlooked by less experienced individuals.

Moreover, training personnel involved in these projects on specific electrical hazard precautions is vital. This training should encompass recognizing signs of wear or damage in wiring and components, understanding load capacities to prevent overloads, and implementing lockout/tagout procedures during maintenance to prevent accidental energizing of circuits.

Safety equipment such as insulated tools and personal protective gear should always be used when working on these projects. Additionally, regular inspections post-installation can help detect any emerging problems before they escalate into serious threats.

In conclusion, prioritizing electrical safety in mobile home HVAC projects involves a multifaceted approach: thorough initial assessments by qualified professionals, continuous education on hazard recognition for all involved parties, adherence to established safety protocols during installation and maintenance phases, and ongoing vigilance through regular system checks. By taking these comprehensive steps seriously, we can protect lives while enhancing comfort within mobile homes-a goal that is as essential as it is achievable through diligent attention to detail.

Common Hazards Associated with Mobile Home HVAC Systems —

When it comes to mobile homes, the importance of identifying common electrical hazards cannot be overstated, especially during HVAC projects. Mobile homes present unique challenges due to their construction and electrical systems, which can differ significantly from traditional houses. Understanding these hazards is crucial for ensuring safety and preventing potentially catastrophic incidents.

One of the most prevalent electrical hazards in mobile homes is outdated or faulty wiring. Many mobile homes are equipped with aluminum wiring, which was commonly used in the past but can pose significant risks. Aluminum wiring can oxidize and degrade over time, leading to loose connections that may cause arcing and fires. Additionally, the limited space within mobile home walls can result in cramped wiring conditions that exacerbate these problems. Identifying such issues early on is vital for preventing dangerous situations.

Another hazard often encountered is improper grounding. A lack of proper grounding can lead to voltage fluctuations and increase the risk of electric shock or equipment damage. Mobile homes may have grounding systems that do not meet current standards, particularly if they are older models. Ensuring that all electrical components are properly grounded before undertaking any HVAC project is a fundamental step in safeguarding against electrical mishaps.

Furthermore, overloaded circuits pose a significant threat in mobile home environments. Due to space constraints, circuit distribution might not be as robust as in conventional homes, making them more susceptible to overloading when additional appliances or HVAC systems are installed. This can lead to overheating wires and potential fire hazards if not addressed promptly.

In light of these common hazards, there are several precautions that should be taken when working on mobile home HVAC projects. First and foremost is conducting a thorough inspection of the existing electrical system by a qualified electrician before beginning any work. Detecting issues like degraded wiring or poor grounding early allows for necessary repairs or upgrades to be made safely.

Moreover, integrating dedicated circuits for new HVAC equipment ensures that these systems have adequate power supply without straining existing circuitry. This helps prevent overloads and enhances overall safety. Additionally, using high-quality connectors specifically designed for aluminum wiring where applicable can mitigate risks associated with metal degradation.

Regular maintenance checks following installation further contribute to long-term safety by ensuring all components function correctly over time. Encouraging homeowners to engage professionals for routine inspections reinforces this preventive approach while providing peace of mind regarding their home's electrical integrity.

In conclusion, recognizing common electrical hazards within mobile homes-such as outdated wiring practices or insufficient grounding-and taking appropriate precautions during HVAC installations plays an essential role in enhancing both occupant safety and operational efficiency of heating/cooling systems alike. By approaching each project methodically with attention paid towards mitigating known risks beforehand through inspections/upgrades/maintenance regimens; we foster safer living environments even amidst ever-evolving technological landscapes surrounding us today!

Posted by on

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Essential Safety Gear and Equipment for Technicians

When embarking on mobile home HVAC projects, it's crucial to prioritize safety by noting electrical hazard precautions. The intricate web of wires and components involved in such projects demands a comprehensive understanding of the requisite safety equipment and tools essential for handling electrical components. This essay delves into the critical aspects of ensuring a safe working environment while addressing common electrical hazards associated with mobile home HVAC systems.

Firstly, understanding the nature of electrical hazards is paramount. Mobile homes often present unique challenges due to their compact and sometimes outdated wiring systems. Potential hazards include electric shocks, short circuits, and fire risks, which can arise from improper handling or faulty equipment. To mitigate these dangers, electricians and technicians must equip themselves with appropriate safety gear designed specifically for electrical work.

One of the foundational pieces of safety equipment is insulated gloves. These gloves provide a barrier against electric currents, reducing the risk of shock when working with live wires or components. Wearing gloves that meet industry standards ensures that technicians are protected from accidental contact with energized parts.

Another indispensable tool is a voltage tester or multimeter. These devices allow technicians to verify whether circuits are live before beginning work, thus preventing unexpected shocks. Regular use of voltage testers can help identify potential issues in advance, facilitating safer repair or installation processes.

In addition to personal protective equipment (PPE), grounding tools play a crucial role in maintaining safety standards during HVAC projects. Grounding clamps and rods ensure that any stray currents are safely directed away from individuals and sensitive components. Proper grounding techniques not only protect workers but also safeguard the integrity of the entire system.

Furthermore, circuit breaker lockout kits are essential for ensuring that power sources remain deactivated during maintenance tasks. By locking out circuit breakers, technicians can prevent accidental re-energization that might lead to severe injuries or damage.

Lastly, knowledge and training form an integral part of any effective safety strategy when dealing with electrical components in mobile homes. Continuous education on updated safety protocols and familiarization with new tools enhance technicians' ability to navigate complex electrical systems confidently.

In conclusion, handling electrical components during mobile home HVAC projects necessitates a vigilant approach towards identifying and mitigating potential hazards. By equipping oneself with appropriate safety gear such as insulated gloves and voltage testers, utilizing grounding techniques effectively, employing lockout procedures diligently, and prioritizing ongoing training-technicians can create a safer work environment while delivering efficient results in their projects. Safety should never be compromised; it remains an unwavering pillar upon which successful electrical work must be built.


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Proper Procedures for Handling Refrigerants and Chemicals

When it comes to ensuring the comfort and safety of residents in mobile homes, the proper installation and maintenance of HVAC systems cannot be overstated. These systems are integral not only to the regulation of temperature but also to the overall air quality within the home. However, along with these benefits come responsibilities, especially concerning electrical hazard precautions. It is crucial for both installers and homeowners to be aware of these precautions to mitigate any potential risks.

Mobile homes present unique challenges in HVAC projects due to their distinct construction features and spatial constraints. The primary concern when dealing with HVAC systems in such settings is electrical safety. Unlike traditional homes, mobile homes often have more compact wiring systems that require careful navigation during installation or maintenance tasks. Ignoring this can lead to severe consequences, including electrical fires or electrocution.

The first step in noting electrical hazard precautions is a thorough assessment of the existing electrical setup. Before any installation begins, it's essential to inspect all wiring for wear or damage. Over time, wires may fray or lose insulation, particularly if they have been exposed to moisture or pests-common issues in mobile home environments. Ensuring that all connections are secure and that there is no evidence of overheating will lay a solid foundation for safe HVAC operation.

Moreover, understanding the load capacity of the mobile home's electrical system is vital. HVAC systems can demand significant power; thus, it's imperative that they do not overload circuits designed for lighter use. Professionals must calculate the total amperage used by all appliances and ensure that the addition of an HVAC system won't exceed this limit. Installing additional dedicated circuits might be necessary-a task best left to qualified electricians who understand mobile home specifications.

Beyond initial installations, continuous maintenance practices are necessary to uphold safety standards. Regular inspections should be scheduled to check on wire integrity and connection security within the HVAC unit itself as well as its interface with the home's power supply. Filters should be replaced routinely to prevent airflow issues that can cause motors or other components to overheat and potentially spark fires.

Additionally, educating homeowners about basic safety practices can go a long way in preventing accidents. They should know how to identify signs of electrical trouble-such as tripping breakers or flickering lights-and understand when it's time to call a professional rather than attempting DIY fixes which could exacerbate problems.

In conclusion, while installing an efficient HVAC system dramatically enhances living conditions within a mobile home, it demands careful attention towards potential electrical hazards inherent in such projects. By conducting meticulous evaluations during installation and committing to regular maintenance checks thereafter, professionals can safeguard against these risks effectively. Equally important is fostering awareness among residents regarding recognizing warning signs early on so they feel empowered yet protected within their own homes.

Electrical Safety Protocols for Mobile Home HVAC Work

In the realm of mobile home HVAC projects, where technicians work diligently to provide comfort and efficiency, understanding electrical safety is paramount. The unique challenges presented by mobile homes-such as limited space and specific construction materials-necessitate a thorough awareness of electrical hazards and a commitment to precautionary measures.

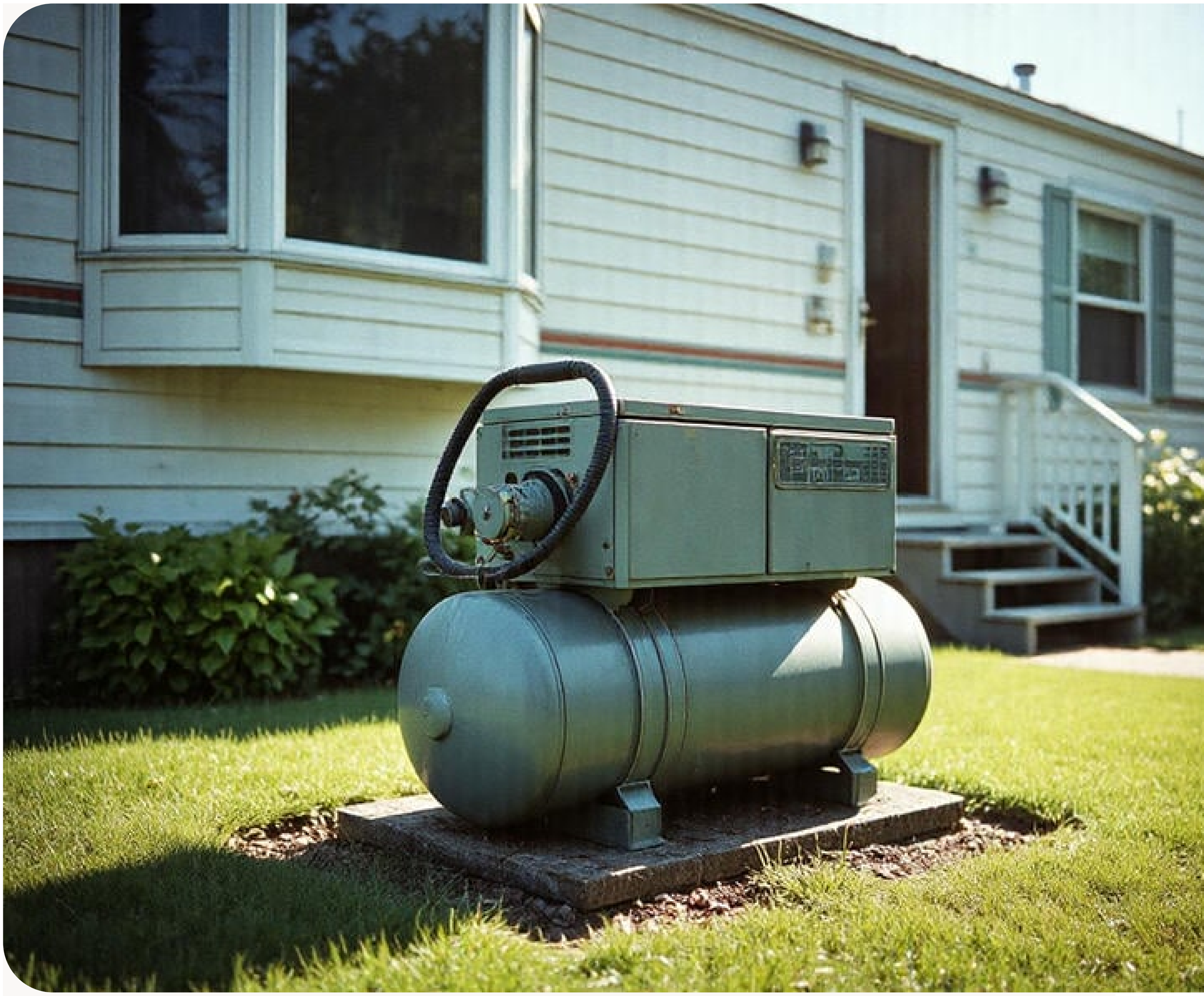
Training and education for technicians in this field must go beyond basic knowledge, delving into the intricacies of electrical systems within these compact living spaces. Technicians must be adept at identifying potential hazards that could arise from outdated wiring or improper installations common in older mobile homes. Recognizing these risks is the first step in ensuring both personal safety and the well-being of occupants.

A crucial aspect of training involves teaching technicians how to evaluate existing systems before beginning any new installation or repair work. This includes checking for live wires, assessing the condition of circuit breakers, and ensuring that grounding is adequate. Properly trained technicians will also understand the importance of using insulated tools and wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves and goggles to safeguard against electric shock.

Furthermore, education programs should emphasize the significance of adhering to industry standards and local codes. These regulations are designed not only to protect technicians but also to prevent future issues that could compromise safety. For instance, understanding load calculations ensures that systems are not overloaded-a common problem that can lead to overheating and fire hazards.

Another key element is fostering an environment of continuous learning where technicians keep abreast of technological advancements in HVAC systems. With innovations such as smart thermostats and more efficient energy solutions becoming prevalent, staying informed enables technicians to implement safer practices while also enhancing system performance.

Ultimately, a robust training program equips technicians with the skills necessary to mitigate risks effectively while working on mobile home HVAC projects. By noting electrical hazard precautions meticulously, they contribute significantly to creating safer living environments for residents. As technologies evolve and standards shift, ongoing education remains critical; it empowers technicians not just with knowledge but with confidence-ensuring every project meets high safety standards without compromise.



Best Practices for Ensuring Structural Integrity During Installation and Maintenance

In the realm of mobile home HVAC projects, ensuring safety is paramount, especially when dealing with electrical systems that power these essential climate control units. The integration of emergency procedures and response plans becomes crucial to safeguard both property and personnel from potential electrical hazards. Noting electrical hazard precautions is not merely a regulatory requirement but a proactive approach to preventing accidents and ensuring swift response in case an incident occurs.

Mobile homes present unique challenges due to their compact design and often limited space for HVAC installations. These constraints necessitate meticulous planning and execution when handling electrical components. The first step in mitigating risks is conducting a thorough risk assessment before initiating any project. This involves identifying potential hazards such as faulty wiring, overloaded circuits, or inadequate grounding that could lead to fire or electrocution.

Once hazards are identified, implementing preventive measures becomes the next critical task. Ensuring all wiring complies with local codes and standards is essential. Additionally, using appropriate circuit breakers and surge protectors can prevent overloads and spikes that might otherwise damage equipment or pose a safety risk.

Moreover, personal protective equipment (PPE) should be mandatory for all technicians working on site. Insulated gloves, safety goggles, and non-conductive footwear provide an additional layer of protection against accidental contact with live wires or other conductive surfaces.

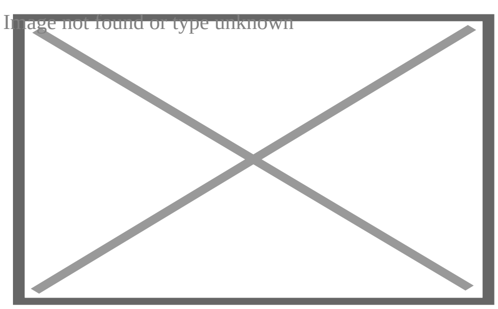
Despite taking precautions, emergencies may still occur; hence having a robust emergency response plan is indispensable. This plan should include clear procedures for shutting down power quickly in case of an emergency to minimize damage and injury risk. All personnel must be trained regularly on these procedures to ensure familiarity and quick action during crises.

Communication plays a pivotal role in effective emergency management. Establishing clear lines of communication ensures that all team members know how to report incidents promptly and accurately. It's also vital that contact information for local emergency services is easily accessible should external assistance be required.

Furthermore, post-incident analysis can provide valuable insights into what went wrong and how similar situations can be avoided in the future. This reflective practice encourages continual improvement of safety protocols and reinforces the importance of adhering strictly to them.

In conclusion, while mobile home HVAC projects involve intricate technical work within constrained environments, emphasizing electrical hazard precautions helps create a safer workspace for everyone involved. By fostering a culture of safety through diligent preparation, ongoing training, and responsive emergency planning, we not only protect assets but also prioritize human life above all else-a fundamental principle in any field involving electrical systems.

About Ventilation (architecture)



An ab anbar (water reservoir) with double domes and windcatchers (openings near the top of the towers) in the central desert city of Naeen, Iran. Windcatchers are a form of natural ventilation.[1]

Ventilation is the intentional introduction of outdoor air into a space. Ventilation is mainly used to control indoor air quality by diluting and displacing indoor pollutants; it can also be used to control indoor temperature, humidity, and air motion to benefit thermal comfort, satisfaction with other aspects of the indoor environment, or other objectives.

The intentional introduction of outdoor air is usually categorized as either mechanical ventilation, natural ventilation, or mixed-mode ventilation.[2]

- Mechanical ventilation is the intentional fan-driven flow of outdoor air into and/or out from a building. Mechanical ventilation systems may include supply fans (which push outdoor air into a building), exhaust[3] fans (which draw air out of a building and thereby cause equal ventilation flow into a building), or a combination of both (called balanced ventilation if it neither pressurizes nor depressurizes the inside air,[3] or only slightly depressurizes it). Mechanical ventilation is often provided by equipment that is also used to heat and cool a space.

- Natural ventilation is the intentional passive flow of outdoor air into a building through planned openings (such as louvers, doors, and windows). Natural ventilation does not require mechanical systems to move outdoor air. Instead, it relies entirely on passive physical phenomena, such as wind pressure, or the stack effect. Natural ventilation openings may be fixed, or adjustable. Adjustable openings may be controlled automatically (automated), owned by occupants (operable), or a combination of both. Cross ventilation is a phenomenon of natural ventilation.
- Mixed-mode ventilation systems use both mechanical and natural processes. The mechanical and natural components may be used at the same time, at different times of day, or in different seasons of the year.[4] Since natural ventilation flow depends on environmental conditions, it may not always provide an appropriate amount of ventilation. In this case, mechanical systems may be used to supplement or regulate the naturally driven flow.

Ventilation is typically described as separate from infiltration.

- Infiltration is the circumstantial flow of air from outdoors to indoors through leaks (unplanned openings) in a building envelope. When a building design relies on infiltration to maintain indoor air quality, this flow has been referred to as adventitious ventilation.[5]

The design of buildings that promote occupant health and well-being requires a clear understanding of the ways that ventilation airflow interacts with, dilutes, displaces, or introduces pollutants within the occupied space. Although ventilation is an integral component of maintaining good indoor air quality, it may not be satisfactory alone.[6] A clear understanding of both indoor and outdoor air quality parameters is needed to improve the performance of ventilation in terms of occupant health and energy.[7] In scenarios where outdoor pollution would deteriorate indoor air quality, other treatment devices such as filtration may also be necessary.[8] In kitchen ventilation systems, or for laboratory fume hoods, the design of effective effluent capture can be more important than the bulk amount of ventilation in a space. More generally, the way that an air distribution system causes ventilation to flow into and out of a space impacts the ability of a particular ventilation rate to remove internally generated pollutants. The ability of a system to reduce pollution in space is described as its "ventilation effectiveness". However, the overall impacts of ventilation on indoor air quality can depend on more complex factors such as the sources of pollution, and the ways that activities and airflow interact to affect occupant exposure.

An array of factors related to the design and operation of ventilation systems are regulated by various codes and standards. Standards dealing with the design and operation of ventilation systems to achieve acceptable indoor air quality include the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) Standards 62.1 and 62.2, the International Residential Code, the International Mechanical Code, and the United Kingdom Building Regulations Part F. Other standards that focus on energy conservation also impact the design and operation of ventilation systems, including ASHRAE Standard 90.1, and the International Energy Conservation Code.

When indoor and outdoor conditions are favorable, increasing ventilation beyond the minimum required for indoor air quality can significantly improve both indoor air quality and thermal comfort through ventilative cooling, which also helps reduce the energy demand of buildings.[9][10] During these times, higher ventilation rates, achieved through passive or mechanical means (air-side economizer, ventilative pre-cooling), can be particularly beneficial for enhancing people's physical health.[11] Conversely, when conditions are less favorable, maintaining or improving indoor air quality through ventilation may require increased use of mechanical heating or cooling, leading to higher energy consumption.

Ventilation should be considered for its relationship to "venting" for appliances and combustion equipment such as water heaters, furnaces, boilers, and wood stoves. Most importantly, building ventilation design must be careful to avoid the backdraft of combustion products from "naturally vented" appliances into the occupied space. This issue is of greater importance for buildings with more air-tight envelopes. To avoid the hazard, many modern combustion appliances utilize "direct venting" which draws combustion air directly from outdoors, instead of from the indoor environment.

Design of air flow in rooms

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The air in a room can be supplied and removed in several ways, for example via ceiling ventilation, cross ventilation, floor ventilation or displacement ventilation.[*citation neede*

Ceiling ventilation

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Ceiling ventilation

Cross ventilation

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Cross ventilation
Floor ventilation

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Floor ventilation
Displacement ventilation

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Displacement
ventilation

Furthermore, the air can be circulated in the room using vortexes which can be initiated in various ways:

Tangential flow vortices, initiated horizontally

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Tangential flow
vortices, initiated
horizontally

Tangential flow vortices, initiated vertically

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  Tangential flow
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Ventilation rates for indoor air quality

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The examples and perspective in this article **deal primarily with the United States and do not represent a worldwide view of the subject**. You may improve this article, discuss the issue on the talk page, or create a new article, as appropriate. *(April 2024) (Learn how and when to remove this message)*

The ventilation rate, for commercial, industrial, and institutional (CII) buildings, is normally expressed by the volumetric flow rate of outdoor air, introduced to the building. The typical units used are cubic feet per minute (CFM) in the imperial system, or liters per second (L/s) in the metric system (even though cubic meter per second is the preferred unit for volumetric flow rate in the SI system of units). The ventilation rate can also be expressed on a per person or per unit floor area basis, such as CFM/p or CFM/ft², or as air changes per hour (ACH).

Standards for residential buildings

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For residential buildings, which mostly rely on infiltration for meeting their ventilation needs, a common ventilation rate measure is the air change rate (or air changes per hour): the hourly ventilation rate divided by the volume of the space (*I* or *ACH*; units of 1/h). During the winter, ACH may range from 0.50 to 0.41 in a tightly air-sealed house to 1.11 to 1.47 in a loosely air-sealed house.[12]

ASHRAE now recommends ventilation rates dependent upon floor area, as a revision to the 62-2001 standard, in which the minimum ACH was 0.35, but no less than 15 CFM/person (7.1 L/s/person). As of 2003, the standard has been changed to 3 CFM/100 sq. ft. (15 L/s/100 sq. m.) plus 7.5 CFM/person (3.5 L/s/person).[13]

Standards for commercial buildings

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Ventilation rate procedure

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Ventilation Rate Procedure is rate based on standard and prescribes the rate at which ventilation air must be delivered to space and various means to the condition that air.[14] Air quality is assessed (through CO_2 measurement) and ventilation rates are mathematically derived using constants. Indoor Air Quality Procedure uses one or more guidelines for the specification of acceptable concentrations of certain contaminants in indoor air but does not prescribe ventilation rates or air treatment methods.[14] This addresses both quantitative and subjective evaluations and is based on the Ventilation Rate Procedure. It also accounts for potential contaminants that may have no measured limits, or for which no limits are not set (such as formaldehyde off-gassing from carpet and furniture).

Natural ventilation

[edit]
Main article: Natural ventilation

Natural ventilation harnesses naturally available forces to supply and remove air in an enclosed space. Poor ventilation in rooms is identified to significantly increase the localized moldy smell in specific places of the room including room corners.[11] There are three types of natural ventilation occurring in buildings: wind-driven ventilation, pressure-driven flows, and stack ventilation.[15] The pressures generated by 'the stack effect' rely upon the buoyancy of heated or rising air. Wind-driven ventilation relies upon the force of the prevailing wind to pull and push air through the enclosed space as well as through breaches in the building's envelope.

Almost all historic buildings were ventilated naturally.[16] The technique was generally abandoned in larger US buildings during the late 20th century as the use of air conditioning became more widespread. However, with the advent of advanced Building Performance Simulation (BPS) software, improved Building Automation Systems (BAS), Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) design requirements, and improved window manufacturing techniques; natural ventilation has made a resurgence in commercial buildings both globally and throughout the US.[17]

The benefits of natural ventilation include:

- Improved indoor air quality (IAQ)
- Energy savings
- Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
- Occupant control
- Reduction in occupant illness associated with sick building syndrome
- Increased worker productivity

Techniques and architectural features used to ventilate buildings and structures naturally include, but are not limited to:

- Operable windows
- Clerestory windows and vented skylights
- Lev/convection doors
- Night purge ventilation
- Building orientation
- Wind capture façades

Airborne diseases

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Natural ventilation is a key factor in reducing the spread of airborne illnesses such as tuberculosis, the common cold, influenza, meningitis or COVID-19.[18] Opening doors and windows are good ways to maximize natural ventilation, which would make the risk of airborne contagion much lower than with costly and maintenance-requiring mechanical systems. Old-fashioned clinical areas with high ceilings and large windows provide the greatest protection. Natural ventilation costs little and is maintenance-free, and is particularly suited to limited-resource settings and tropical climates, where the burden of TB and institutional TB transmission is highest. In settings where respiratory isolation is difficult and climate permits, windows and doors should be opened to reduce the risk of airborne contagion. Natural ventilation requires little maintenance and is inexpensive.[19]

Natural ventilation is not practical in much of the infrastructure because of climate. This means that the facilities need to have effective mechanical ventilation systems and or use Ceiling Level UV or FAR UV ventilation systems.

Ventilation is measured in terms of air changes per hour (ACH). As of 2023, the CDC recommends that all spaces have a minimum of 5 ACH.[20] For hospital rooms with airborne contagions the CDC recommends a minimum of 12 ACH.[21] Challenges in facility ventilation are public unawareness,[22][23] ineffective government oversight, poor building codes that are based on comfort levels, poor system operations, poor maintenance, and lack of transparency.[24]

Pressure, both political and economic, to improve energy conservation has led to decreased ventilation rates. Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning rates have dropped since the energy crisis in the 1970s and the banning of cigarette smoke in the 1980s and 1990s.[25][26][*better source needed*]

Mechanical ventilation

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Main article: HVAC

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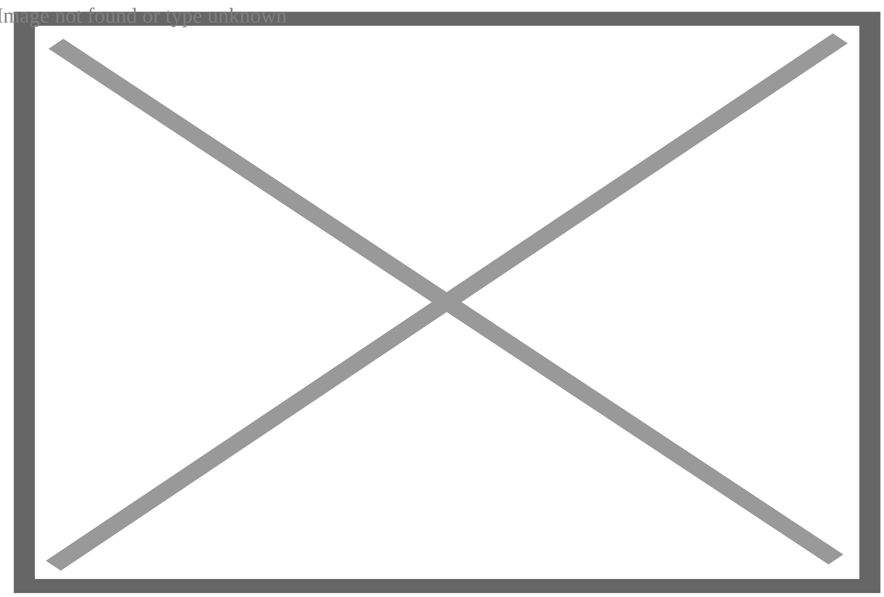

An axial belt-drive exhaust fan serving an underground car park. This exhaust fan's operation is interlocked with the concentration of contaminants emitted by internal combustion engines.

Mechanical ventilation of buildings and structures can be achieved by the use of the following techniques:

- Whole-house ventilation
- Mixing ventilation
- Displacement ventilation
- Dedicated subaerial air supply

Demand-controlled ventilation (DCV)

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Demand-controlled ventilation (**DCV**, also known as Demand Control Ventilation) makes it possible to maintain air quality while conserving energy.[27][28] ASHRAE has determined that "It is consistent with the ventilation rate procedure that demand control be permitted for use to reduce the total outdoor air supply during periods of less occupancy."[29] In a DCV system, CO_2 sensors control the amount of ventilation.[30][31] During peak occupancy, CO_2 levels rise, and the system adjusts to deliver the same amount of outdoor air as would be used by the ventilation-rate procedure.[32] However, when spaces are less occupied, CO_2 levels reduce, and the system reduces ventilation to conserves energy. DCV is a well-established practice,[33] and is required in high occupancy spaces by building energy standards such as ASHRAE 90.1.[34]

Personalized ventilation

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This section needs to be **updated**. Please help update this article to reflect recent events or newly available information. *(September 2024)*

Personalized ventilation is an air distribution strategy that allows individuals to control the amount of ventilation received. The approach delivers fresh air more directly to the breathing zone and aims to improve the air quality of inhaled air. Personalized ventilation provides much higher ventilation effectiveness than conventional mixing ventilation systems by displacing pollution from the breathing zone with far less air volume. Beyond improved air quality benefits, the strategy can also improve occupants' thermal comfort, perceived air quality, and overall satisfaction with the indoor environment. Individuals' preferences for temperature and air movement are not equal, and so traditional approaches to homogeneous environmental control have failed to achieve high occupant satisfaction. Techniques such as personalized ventilation facilitate control of a more diverse thermal environment that can improve thermal satisfaction for most occupants.

Local exhaust ventilation

[edit]
See also: Power tool

Local exhaust ventilation addresses the issue of avoiding the contamination of indoor air by specific high-emission sources by capturing airborne contaminants before they are spread into the environment. This can include water vapor control, lavatory effluent control, solvent vapors from industrial processes, and dust from wood- and metal-working machinery. Air can be exhausted through pressurized hoods or the use of fans and pressurizing a specific area.[35]
A local exhaust system is composed of five basic parts:

1. A hood that captures the contaminant at its source
2. Ducts for transporting the air
3. An air-cleaning device that removes/minimizes the contaminant
4. A fan that moves the air through the system
5. An exhaust stack through which the contaminated air is discharged[35]

In the UK, the use of LEV systems has regulations set out by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) which are referred to as the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (CoSHH). Under CoSHH, legislation is set to protect users of LEV systems by ensuring that all equipment is tested at least every fourteen months to ensure the LEV systems are performing adequately. All parts of the system must be visually inspected and thoroughly tested and where any parts are found to be defective, the inspector must issue a red label to identify the defective part and the issue.

The owner of the LEV system must then have the defective parts repaired or replaced before the system can be used.

Smart ventilation

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Smart ventilation is a process of continually adjusting the ventilation system in time, and optionally by location, to provide the desired IAQ benefits while minimizing energy consumption, utility bills, and other non-IAQ costs (such as thermal discomfort or noise). A smart ventilation system adjusts ventilation rates in time or by location in a building to be responsive to one or more of the following: occupancy, outdoor thermal and air quality conditions, electricity grid needs, direct sensing of contaminants, operation of other air moving and air cleaning systems. In addition, smart ventilation systems can provide information to building owners, occupants, and managers on operational energy consumption and indoor air quality as well as a signal when systems need maintenance or repair. Being responsive to occupancy means that a smart ventilation system can adjust ventilation depending on demand such as reducing ventilation if the building is unoccupied. Smart ventilation can time-shift ventilation to periods when a) indoor-outdoor temperature differences are smaller (and away from peak outdoor temperatures and humidity), b) when indoor-outdoor temperatures are appropriate for ventilative cooling, or c) when outdoor air quality is acceptable. Being responsive to electricity grid needs means providing flexibility to electricity demand (including direct signals from utilities) and integration with electric grid control strategies. Smart ventilation systems can have sensors to detect airflow, systems pressures, or fan energy use in such a way that systems failures can be detected and repaired, as well as when system components need maintenance, such as filter replacement.[36]

Ventilation and combustion

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Combustion (in a fireplace, gas heater, candle, oil lamp, etc.) consumes oxygen while producing carbon dioxide and other unhealthy gases and smoke, requiring ventilation air. An open chimney promotes infiltration (i.e. natural ventilation) because of the negative pressure change induced by the buoyant, warmer air leaving through the chimney. The warm air is typically replaced by heavier, cold air.

Ventilation in a structure is also needed for removing water vapor produced by respiration, burning, and cooking, and for removing odors. If water vapor is permitted to accumulate, it may damage the structure, insulation, or finishes. [*citation needed*] When operating, an air conditioner usually removes excess moisture from the air. A dehumidifier may also be appropriate for removing airborne moisture.

Calculation for acceptable ventilation rate

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Ventilation guidelines are based on the minimum ventilation rate required to maintain acceptable levels of effluents. Carbon dioxide is used as a reference point, as it is the gas of highest emission at a relatively constant value of 0.005 L/s. The mass balance equation is:

$Q = G/(C_i ? C_a)$

- Q = ventilation rate (L/s)
- G = CO_2 generation rate
- C_i = acceptable indoor CO_2 concentration
- C_a = ambient CO_2 concentration[37]

Smoking and ventilation

[edit]

ASHRAE standard 62 states that air removed from an area with environmental tobacco smoke shall not be recirculated into ETS-free air. A space with ETS requires more ventilation to achieve similar perceived air quality to that of a non-smoking environment.

The amount of ventilation in an ETS area is equal to the amount of an ETS-free area plus the amount V, where:

$V = DSD \times VA \times A/60E$

- V = recommended extra flow rate in CFM (L/s)
- DSD = design smoking density (estimated number of cigarettes smoked per hour per unit area)
- VA = volume of ventilation air per cigarette for the room being designed (ft^3/cig)
- E = contaminant removal effectiveness[38]

History

[edit]

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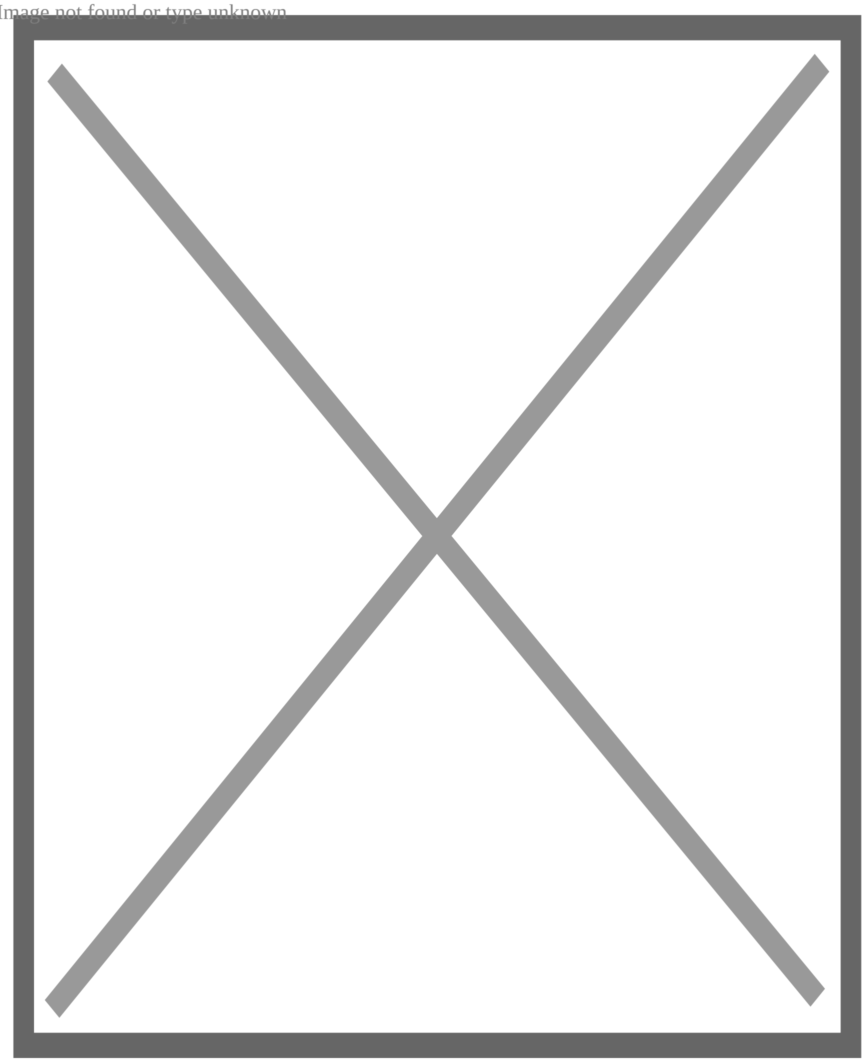


This ancient Roman house uses a variety of passive cooling and passive ventilation techniques. Heavy masonry walls, small exterior windows, and a narrow walled garden oriented N-S shade the house, preventing heat gain. The house opens onto a central atrium with an impluvium (open to the sky); the evaporative cooling of the water causes a cross-draft from atrium to garden.

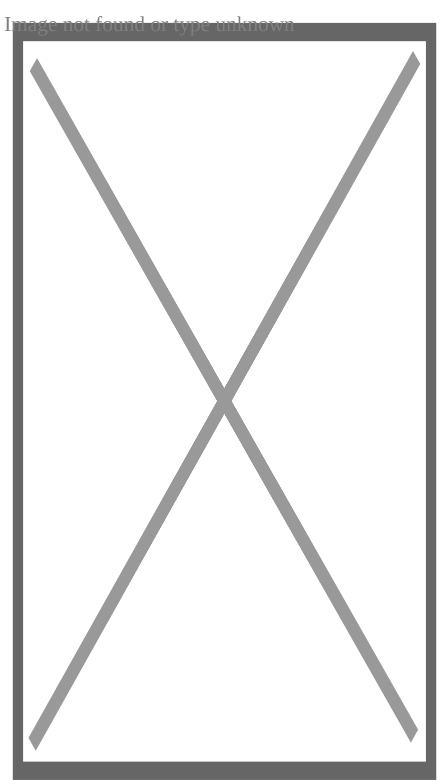
Primitive ventilation systems were found at the PloÃƒÆ’Ã†â€™Ãƒâ€ Ã¢â‚¬â„¢ÃƒÆ’Ã¢â‚¬Â ÃƒÂ¢Ã¢â€šÂ¬Ã¢â€žÂ¢ÃƒÆ’Ã†â€™ÃƒÂ¢Ã¢â€š archeological site (belonging to the VinÃƒÆ’Ã†â€™Ãƒâ€ Ã¢â‚¬â„¢ÃƒÆ’Ã¢â‚¬Â ÃƒÂ¢Ã¢â€šÂ¬Ã¢â€žÂ¢ÃƒÆ’Ã†â€™ÃƒÂ¢Ã¢â€š culture) in Serbia and were built into early copper smelting furnaces. The furnace, built on the outside of the workshop, featured earthen pipe-like air vents with hundreds of tiny holes in them and a prototype chimney to ensure air goes into the furnace to feed the fire and smoke comes out safely.[39]

Passive ventilation and passive cooling systems were widely written about around the Mediterranean by Classical times. Both sources of heat and sources of cooling (such as fountains and subterranean heat reservoirs) were used to drive air circulation, and buildings were designed to encourage or exclude drafts, according to climate and function. Public bathhouses were often particularly sophisticated in their heating and cooling. Icehouses are some millennia old, and were part of a well-developed ice industry by classical times.

The development of forced ventilation was spurred by the common belief in the late 18th and early 19th century in the miasma theory of disease, where stagnant 'airs' were thought to spread illness. An early method of ventilation was the use of a ventilating fire near an air vent which would forcibly cause the air in the building to circulate. English engineer John Theophilus Desaguliers provided an early example of this when he installed ventilating fires in the air tubes on the roof of the House of Commons. Starting with the Covent Garden Theatre, gas burning chandeliers on the ceiling were often specially designed to perform a ventilating role.

Mechanical systems

[edit]
Further information: Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning § Mechanical or forced ventilation



The Central Tower of the Palace of Westminster. This octagonal spire was for ventilation purposes, in the more complex system imposed by Reid on Barry, in which it was to draw air out of the Palace. The design was for the aesthetic disguise of its function.[40][41]

A more sophisticated system involving the use of mechanical equipment to circulate the air was developed in the mid-19th century. A basic system of bellows was put in place to ventilate Newgate Prison and outlying buildings, by the engineer Stephen Hales in the mid-1700s. The problem with these early devices was that they required constant human labor to operate. David Boswell Reid was called to testify before a Parliamentary committee on proposed architectural designs for the new House of Commons, after the old one burned down in a fire in 1834.[40] In January 1840 Reid was appointed by the committee for the House of Lords dealing with the construction of the replacement for the Houses of Parliament. The post was in the capacity of ventilation engineer, in effect; and with its creation there began a long series of quarrels between Reid and Charles Barry, the architect.[42]

Reid advocated the installation of a very advanced ventilation system in the new House. His design had air being drawn into an underground chamber, where it would undergo either heating or cooling. It would then ascend into the chamber through thousands of small holes drilled into the floor, and would be extracted through the ceiling by a special ventilation fire within a great stack.[43]

Reid's reputation was made by his work in Westminster. He was commissioned for an air quality survey in 1837 by the Leeds and Selby Railway in their tunnel.[44] The steam vessels built for the Niger expedition of 1841 were fitted with ventilation systems based on Reid's Westminster model.[45] Air was dried, filtered and passed over charcoal.[46][47] Reid's ventilation method was also applied more fully to St. George's Hall, Liverpool, where the architect, Harvey Lonsdale Elmes, requested that Reid should be involved in ventilation design.[48] Reid considered this the only building in which his system was completely carried out.[49]

Fans

[edit]

With the advent of practical steam power, ceiling fans could finally be used for ventilation. Reid installed four steam-powered fans in the ceiling of St George's Hospital in Liverpool, so that the pressure produced by the fans would force the incoming air upward and through vents in the ceiling. Reid's pioneering work provides the basis for ventilation systems to this day.[43] He was remembered as "Dr. Reid the ventilator" in the twenty-first century in discussions of energy efficiency, by Lord Wade of Chorlton.[50]

History and development of ventilation rate standards

[edit]

Ventilating a space with fresh air aims to avoid "bad air". The study of what constitutes bad air dates back to the 1600s when the scientist Mayow studied asphyxia of animals in confined bottles.[51] The poisonous component of air was later identified as carbon dioxide (CO_2), by Lavoisier in the very late 1700s, starting a debate as to the nature of "bad air" which humans perceive to be stuffy or unpleasant. Early hypotheses included excess concentrations of CO_2 and oxygen depletion. However, by the late 1800s, scientists thought biological contamination, not oxygen or CO_2, was the primary component of unacceptable indoor air. However, it was noted as early as 1872 that CO_2 concentration closely correlates to perceived air quality.

The first estimate of minimum ventilation rates was developed by Tredgold in 1836.[52] This was followed by subsequent studies on the topic by Billings [53] in 1886 and Flugge in 1905. The recommendations of Billings and Flugge were incorporated into numerous building codes from 1900–the 1920s and published as an industry standard by ASHVE (the predecessor to ASHRAE) in 1914.[51]

The study continued into the varied effects of thermal comfort, oxygen, carbon dioxide, and biological contaminants. The research was conducted with human subjects in controlled test chambers. Two studies, published between 1909 and 1911, showed that carbon dioxide was not the offending component. Subjects remained satisfied in chambers with high levels of CO_2, so long as the chamber remained cool.[51] (Subsequently, it has been determined that CO_2 is, in fact, harmful at concentrations over 50,000ppm[54])

ASHVE began a robust research effort in 1919. By 1935, ASHVE-funded research conducted by Lemberg, Brandt, and Morse – again using human subjects in test chambers – suggested the primary component of "bad air" was an odor, perceived by the human olfactory nerves.[55] Human response to odor was found to be logarithmic to contaminant concentrations, and related to temperature. At lower, more comfortable temperatures, lower ventilation rates were satisfactory. A 1936 human test chamber study by Yaglou, Riley, and Coggins culminated much of this effort, considering odor, room volume, occupant age, cooling equipment effects, and recirculated air implications, which guided ventilation rates.[56] The Yaglou research has been validated, and adopted into industry standards, beginning with the ASA code in 1946. From this research base, ASHRAE (having replaced ASHVE) developed space-by-space recommendations, and published them as ASHRAE Standard 62-1975:

Ventilation for acceptable indoor air quality.

As more architecture incorporated mechanical ventilation, the cost of outdoor air ventilation came under some scrutiny. In 1973, in response to the 1973 oil crisis and conservation concerns, ASHRAE Standards 62-73 and 62–81) reduced required ventilation from 10 CFM (4.76 L/s) per person to 5 CFM (2.37 L/s) per person. In cold, warm, humid, or dusty climates, it is preferable to minimize ventilation with outdoor air to conserve energy, cost, or filtration. This critique (e.g. Tiller[57]) led ASHRAE to reduce outdoor ventilation rates in 1981, particularly in non-smoking areas. However subsequent research by Fanger,[58] W. Cain, and Janssen validated the Yaglou model. The reduced ventilation rates were found to be a contributing factor to sick building syndrome.[59]

The 1989 ASHRAE standard (Standard 62–89) states that appropriate ventilation guidelines are 20 CFM (9.2 L/s) per person in an office building, and 15 CFM (7.1 L/s) per person for schools, while 2004 Standard 62.1-2004 has lower recommendations again (see tables below). ANSI/ASHRAE (Standard 62–89) speculated that "comfort (odor) criteria are likely to be satisfied if the ventilation rate is set so that 1,000 ppm CO_2 is not exceeded"[60] while OSHA has set a limit of 5000 ppm over 8 hours.[61]

Historical ventilation rates

Author or source	Year	Ventilation rate (IP)	Ventilation rate (SI)	Basis or rationale
Tredgold	1836	4 CFM per person	2 L/s per person	Basic metabolic needs, breathing rate, and candle burning
Billings	1895	30 CFM per person	15 L/s per person	Indoor air hygiene, preventing spread of disease
Flugge	1905	30 CFM per person	15 L/s per person	Excessive temperature or unpleasant odor
ASHVE	1914	30 CFM per person	15 L/s per person	Based on Billings, Flugge and contemporaries
Early US Codes	1925	30 CFM per person	15 L/s per person	Same as above
Yaglou	1936	15 CFM per person	7.5 L/s per person	Odor control, outdoor air as a fraction of total air
ASA	1946	15 CFM per person	7.5 L/s per person	Based on Yahlou and contemporaries
ASHRAE	1975	15 CFM per person	7.5 L/s per person	Same as above

ASHRAE	1981	10 CFM per person	5 L/s per person	For non-smoking areas, reduced.
ASHRAE	1989	15 CFM per person	7.5 L/s per person	Based on Fanger, W. Cain, and Janssen

ASHRAE continues to publish space-by-space ventilation rate recommendations, which are decided by a consensus committee of industry experts. The modern descendants of ASHRAE standard 62-1975 are ASHRAE Standard 62.1, for non-residential spaces, and ASHRAE 62.2 for residences.

In 2004, the calculation method was revised to include both an occupant-based contamination component and an area–based contamination component.[62] These two components are additive, to arrive at an overall ventilation rate. The change was made to recognize that densely populated areas were sometimes overventilated (leading to higher energy and cost) using a per-person methodology.

Occupant Based Ventilation Rates,[62] ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 62.1-2004

IP Units	SI Units	Category	Examples
0 cfm/person	0 L/s/person	Spaces where ventilation requirements are primarily associated with building elements, not occupants.	Storage Rooms, Warehouses
5 cfm/person	2.5 L/s/person	Spaces occupied by adults, engaged in low levels of activity	Office space
7.5 cfm/person	3.5 L/s/person	Spaces where occupants are engaged in higher levels of activity, but not strenuous, or activities generating more contaminants	Retail spaces, lobbies
10 cfm/person	5 L/s/person	Spaces where occupants are engaged in more strenuous activity, but not exercise, or activities generating more contaminants	Classrooms, school settings
20 cfm/person	10 L/s/person	Spaces where occupants are engaged in exercise, or activities generating many contaminants	dance floors, exercise rooms

Area-based ventilation rates,[62] ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 62.1-2004

IP Units	SI Units	Category	Examples
0.06 cfm/ft^2	0.30 L/s/m^2	Spaces where space contamination is normal, or similar to an office environment	Conference rooms, lobbies
0.12 cfm/ft^2	0.60 L/s/m^2	Spaces where space contamination is significantly higher than an office environment	Classrooms, museums

0.18 cfm/ft^2	0.90 L/s/m^2	Spaces where space contamination is even higher than the previous category	Laboratories, art classrooms
0.30 cfm/ft^2	1.5 L/s/m^2	Specific spaces in sports or entertainment where contaminants are released	Sports, entertainment
0.48 cfm/ft^2	2.4 L/s/m^2	Reserved for indoor swimming areas, where chemical concentrations are high	Indoor swimming areas

The addition of occupant- and area-based ventilation rates found in the tables above often results in significantly reduced rates compared to the former standard. This is compensated in other sections of the standard which require that this minimum amount of air is delivered to the breathing zone of the individual occupant at all times. The total outdoor air intake of the ventilation system (in multiple-zone variable air volume (VAV) systems) might therefore be similar to the airflow required by the 1989 standard.
From 1999 to 2010, there was considerable development of the application protocol for ventilation rates. These advancements address occupant- and process-based ventilation rates, room ventilation effectiveness, and system ventilation effectiveness[63]

Problems

[edit]

- In hot, humid climates, unconditioned ventilation air can daily deliver approximately 260 milliliters of water for each cubic meters per hour (m^3/h) of outdoor air (or one pound of water each day for each cubic feet per minute of outdoor air per day), annual average.[*citation needed*] This is a great deal of moisture and can create serious indoor moisture and mold problems. For example, given a 150 m^2 building with an airflow of 180 m^3/h this could result in about 47 liters of water accumulated per day.
- Ventilation efficiency is determined by design and layout, and is dependent upon the placement and proximity of diffusers and return air outlets. If they are located closely together, supply air may mix with stale air, decreasing the efficiency of the HVAC system, and creating air quality problems.
- System imbalances occur when components of the HVAC system are improperly adjusted or installed and can create pressure differences (too much-circulating air creating a draft or too little circulating air creating stagnancy).
- Cross-contamination occurs when pressure differences arise, forcing potentially contaminated air from one zone to an uncontaminated zone. This often involves undesired odors or VOCs.
- Re-entry of exhaust air occurs when exhaust outlets and fresh air intakes are either too close, prevailing winds change exhaust patterns or infiltration between intake and exhaust air flows.

- Entrainment of contaminated outdoor air through intake flows will result in indoor air contamination. There are a variety of contaminated air sources, ranging from industrial effluent to VOCs put off by nearby construction work.[64] A recent study revealed that in urban European buildings equipped with ventilation systems lacking outdoor air filtration, the exposure to outdoor-originating pollutants indoors resulted in more Disability-Adjusted Life Years (DALYs) than exposure to indoor-emitted pollutants.[65]

See also

[edit]

- Architectural engineering
- Biological safety
- Cleanroom
- Environmental tobacco smoke
- Fume hood
- Head-end power
- Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning
- Heat recovery ventilation
- Mechanical engineering
- Room air distribution
- Sick building syndrome
- Siheyuan
- Solar chimney
- Tulou
- Windcatcher

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  - EBC Annex 9 Minimum Ventilation Rates
  - EBC Annex 18 Demand Controlled Ventilation Systems
  - EBC Annex 26 Energy Efficient Ventilation of Large Enclosures
  - EBC Annex 27 Evaluation and Demonstration of Domestic Ventilation Systems
  - EBC Annex 35 Control Strategies for Hybrid Ventilation in New and Retrofitted Office Buildings (HYBVENT)
  - EBC Annex 62 Ventilative Cooling

International Society of Indoor Air Quality and Climate

[edit]

- Indoor Air Journal
- Indoor Air Conference Proceedings

American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE)

[edit]

- ASHRAE Standard 62.1 – Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air Quality
- ASHRAE Standard 62.2 – Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air Quality in Residential Buildings

Fundamental concepts	◦ Air changes per hour ◦ Bake-out ◦ Building envelope ◦ Convection ◦ Dilution ◦ Domestic energy consumption ◦ Enthalpy ◦ Fluid dynamics ◦ Gas compressor ◦ Heat pump and refrigeration cycle ◦ Heat transfer ◦ Humidity ◦ Infiltration ◦ Latent heat ◦ Noise control ◦ Outgassing ◦ Particulates ◦ Psychrometrics ◦ Sensible heat ◦ Stack effect ◦ Thermal comfort ◦ Thermal destratification ◦ Thermal mass ◦ Thermodynamics ◦ Vapour pressure of water

Technology

- Absorption-compression heat pump
- Absorption refrigerator
- Air barrier
- Air conditioning
- Antifreeze
- Automobile air conditioning
- Autonomous building
- Building insulation materials
- Central heating
- Central solar heating
- Chilled beam
- Chilled water
- Constant air volume (CAV)
- Coolant
- Cross ventilation
- Dedicated outdoor air system (DOAS)
- Deep water source cooling
- Demand controlled ventilation (DCV)
- Displacement ventilation
- District cooling
- District heating
- Electric heating
- Energy recovery ventilation (ERV)
- Firestop
- Forced-air
- Forced-air gas
- Free cooling
- Heat recovery ventilation (HRV)
- Hybrid heat
- Hydronics
- Ice storage air conditioning
- Kitchen ventilation
- Mixed-mode ventilation
- Microgeneration
- Passive cooling
- Passive daytime radiative cooling
- Passive house
- Passive ventilation
- Radiant heating and cooling
- Radiant cooling
- Radiant heating
- Radon mitigation
- Refrigeration
- Renewable heat
- Room air distribution
- Solar air heat
- Solar combisystem
- Solar cooling

- Air conditioner inverter
- Air door
- Air filter
- Air handler
- Air ionizer
- Air-mixing plenum
- Air purifier
- Air source heat pump
- Attic fan
- Automatic balancing valve
- Back boiler
- Barrier pipe
- Blast damper
- Boiler
- Centrifugal fan
- Ceramic heater
- Chiller
- Condensate pump
- Condenser
- Condensing boiler
- Convection heater
- Compressor
- Cooling tower
- Damper
- Dehumidifier
- Duct
- Economizer
- Electrostatic precipitator
- Evaporative cooler
- Evaporator
- Exhaust hood
- Expansion tank
- Fan
- Fan coil unit
- Fan filter unit
- Fan heater
- Fire damper
- Fireplace
- Fireplace insert
- Freeze stat
- Flue
- Freon
- Fume hood
- Furnace
- Gas compressor
- Gas heater
- Gasoline heater

Measurement and control

- Air flow meter
- Aquastat
- BACnet
- Blower door
- Building automation
- Carbon dioxide sensor
- Clean air delivery rate (CADR)
- Control valve
- Gas detector
- Home energy monitor
- Humidistat
- HVAC control system
- Infrared thermometer
- Intelligent buildings
- LonWorks
- Minimum efficiency reporting value (MERV)
- Normal temperature and pressure (NTP)
- OpenTherm
- Programmable communicating thermostat
- Programmable thermostat
- Psychrometrics
- Room temperature
- Smart thermostat
- Standard temperature and pressure (STP)
- Thermographic camera
- Thermostat
- Thermostatic radiator valve

Professions, trades, and services

- Architectural acoustics
- Architectural engineering
- Architectural technologist
- Building services engineering
- Building information modeling (BIM)
- Deep energy retrofit
- Duct cleaning
- Duct leakage testing
- Environmental engineering
- Hydronic balancing
- Kitchen exhaust cleaning
- Mechanical engineering
- Mechanical, electrical, and plumbing
- Mold growth, assessment, and remediation
- Refrigerant reclamation
- Testing, adjusting, balancing

Industry organizations

- AHRI
- AMCA
- ASHRAE
- ASTM International
- BRE
- BSRIA
- CIBSE
- Institute of Refrigeration
- IIR
- LEED
- SMACNA
- UMC

Health and safety

- Indoor air quality (IAQ)
- Passive smoking
- Sick building syndrome (SBS)
- Volatile organic compound (VOC)

See also

- ASHRAE Handbook
- Building science
- Fireproofing
- Glossary of HVAC terms
- Warm Spaces
- World Refrigeration Day
- Template:Home automation
- Template:Solar energy

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About Fan coil unit

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Find sources: "Fan coil unit" – news · newspapers · books · scholar · JSTOR *(August 2014)*

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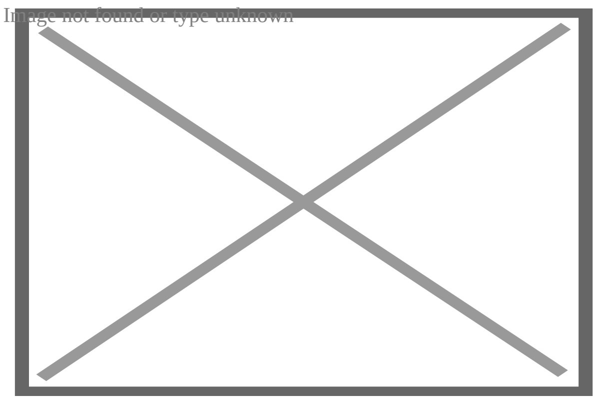
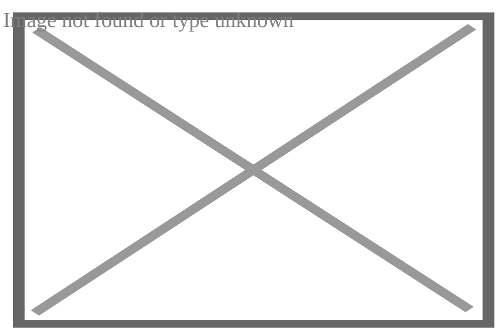
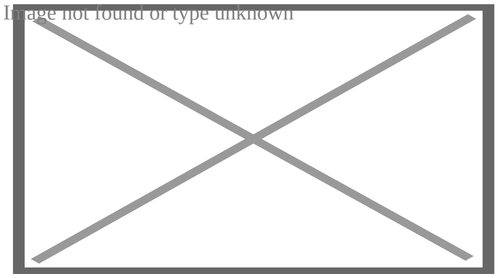


Refrigerant based Fan-Coil Unit. Other variants utilize a chilled, or heated water loop for space cooling, or heating, respectively.





A **fan coil unit** (**FCU**), also known as a **Vertical Fan Coil Unit** (**VFCU**), is a device consisting of a heat exchanger (coil) and a fan. FCUs are commonly used in HVAC systems of residential, commercial, and industrial buildings that use ducted split air conditioning or central plant cooling. FCUs are typically connected to ductwork and a thermostat to regulate the temperature of one or more spaces and to assist the main air handling unit for each space if used with chillers. The thermostat controls the fan speed and/or the flow of water or refrigerant to the heat exchanger using a control valve.

Due to their simplicity, flexibility, and easy maintenance, fan coil units can be more economical to install than ducted 100% fresh air systems (VAV) or central heating systems with air handling units or chilled beams. FCUs come in various configurations, including horizontal (ceiling-mounted) and vertical (floor-mounted), and can be used in a wide range of applications, from small residential units to large commercial and industrial buildings.

Noise output from FCUs, like any other form of air conditioning, depends on the design of the unit and the building materials surrounding it. Some FCUs offer noise levels as low as NR25 or NC25.

The output from an FCU can be established by looking at the temperature of the air entering the unit and the temperature of the air leaving the unit, coupled with the volume of air being moved through the unit. This is a simplistic statement, and there is further reading on sensible heat ratios and the specific heat capacity of air, both of which have an effect on thermal performance.

Design and operation

[edit]

Fan Coil Unit covers a range of products and will mean different things to users, specifiers, and installers in different countries and regions, particularly in relation to product size and output capability.

Fan Coil Unit falls principally into two main types: blow through and draw through. As the names suggest, in the first type the fans are fitted behind the heat exchanger, and in the other type the fans are fitted in front the coil such that they draw air through it. Draw through units are considered thermally superior, as ordinarily they make better use of the heat exchanger. However they are more expensive, as they require a chassis to hold the fans whereas a blow-through unit typically consists of a set of fans bolted straight to a coil.

A fan coil unit may be concealed or exposed within the room or area that it serves.

An exposed fan coil unit may be wall-mounted, freestanding or ceiling mounted, and will typically include an appropriate enclosure to protect and conceal the fan coil unit itself, with return air grille and supply air diffuser set into that enclosure to distribute the air.

A concealed fan coil unit will typically be installed within an accessible ceiling void or services zone. The return air grille and supply air diffuser, typically set flush into the ceiling, will be ducted to and from the fan coil unit and thus allows a great degree of flexibility for locating the grilles to suit the ceiling layout and/or the partition layout within a space. It is quite common for the return air not to be ducted and to use the ceiling void as a return air plenum.

The coil receives hot or cold water from a central plant, and removes heat from or adds heat to the air through heat transfer. Traditionally fan coil units can contain their own internal thermostat, or can be wired to operate with a remote thermostat. However, and as is common in most modern buildings with a Building Energy Management System (BEMS), the control of the fan coil unit will be by a local digital controller or outstation (along with associated room temperature sensor and control valve actuators) linked to the BEMS via a communication network, and therefore adjustable and controllable from a central point, such as a supervisors head end computer.

Fan coil units circulate hot or cold water through a coil in order to condition a space. The unit gets its hot or cold water from a central plant, or mechanical room containing equipment for removing heat from the central building's closed-loop. The equipment used can consist of machines used to remove heat such as a chiller or a cooling tower and equipment for adding heat to the building's water such as a boiler or a commercial water heater.

Hydronic fan coil units can be generally divided into two types: Two-pipe fan coil units or four-pipe fan coil units. Two-pipe fan coil units have one supply and one return pipe. The supply pipe supplies either cold or hot water to the unit depending on the time of year. Four-pipe fan coil units have two supply pipes and two return pipes. This allows either hot or cold water to enter the unit at any given time. Since it is often necessary to heat and cool different areas of a building at the same time, due to differences in internal heat loss or heat gains, the four-pipe fan coil unit is most commonly used.

Fan coil units may be connected to piping networks using various topology designs, such as "direct return", "reverse return", or "series decoupled". See ASHRAE Handbook "2008 Systems & Equipment", Chapter 12.

Depending upon the selected chilled water temperatures and the relative humidity of the space, it's likely that the cooling coil will dehumidify the entering air stream, and as a by product of this process, it will at times produce a condensate which will need to be carried to drain. The fan coil unit will contain a purpose designed drip tray with drain connection for this purpose. The simplest means to drain the condensate from multiple fan coil units will be by a network of pipework laid to falls to a suitable point. Alternatively a condensate pump may be employed where space for such gravity pipework is limited.

The fan motors within a fan coil unit are responsible for regulating the desired heating and cooling output of the unit. Different manufacturers employ various methods for controlling the motor speed. Some utilize an AC transformer, adjusting the taps to modulate the power supplied to the fan motor. This adjustment is typically performed during the commissioning stage of building construction and remains fixed for the lifespan of the unit.

Alternatively, certain manufacturers employ custom-wound Permanent Split Capacitor (PSC) motors with speed taps in the windings. These taps are set to the desired speed levels for the specific design of the fan coil unit. To enable local control, a simple speed selector switch (Off-High-Medium-Low) is provided for the occupants of the room. This switch is often integrated into the room thermostat and can be manually set or automatically controlled by a digital room thermostat.

For automatic fan speed and temperature control, Building Energy Management Systems are employed. The fan motors commonly used in these units are typically AC Shaded Pole or Permanent Split Capacitor motors. Recent advancements include the use of brushless DC designs with electronic commutation. Compared to units equipped with asynchronous 3-speed motors, fan coil units utilizing brushless motors can reduce power consumption by up to 70%.[1]

Fan coil units linked to ducted split air conditioning units use refrigerant in the cooling coil instead of chilled coolant and linked to a large condenser unit instead of a chiller. They might also be linked to liquid-cooled condenser units which use an intermediate coolant to cool the condenser using cooling towers.

DC/EC motor powered units

[edit]

These motors are sometimes called DC motors, sometimes EC motors and occasionally DC/EC motors. DC stands for direct current and EC stands for electronically commutated.

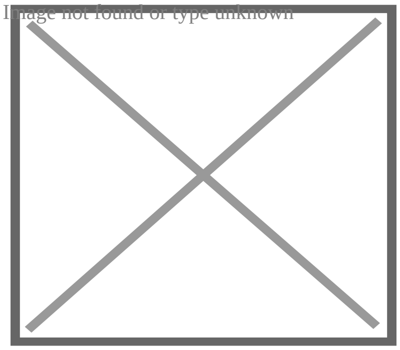
DC motors allow the speed of the fans within a fan coil unit to be controlled by means of a 0-10 Volt input control signal to the motor/s, the transformers and speed switches associated with AC fan coils are not required. Up to a signal voltage of 2.5 Volts (which may vary with different fan/motor manufacturers) the fan will be in a stopped condition but as the signal voltage is increased, the fan will seamlessly increase in speed until the maximum is reached at a signal Voltage of 10 Volts. fan coils will generally operate between approximately 4 Volts and 7.5 Volts because below 4 Volts the air volumes are ineffective and above 7.5 Volts the fan coil is likely to be too noisy for most commercial applications.

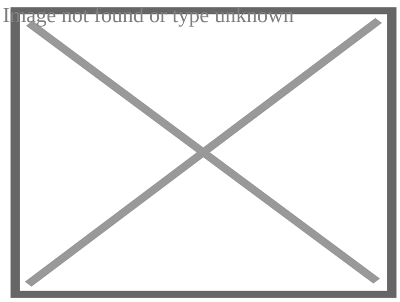
The 0-10 Volt signal voltage can be set via a simple potentiometer and left or the 0-10 Volt signal voltage can be delivered to the fan motors by the terminal controller on each of the Fan Coil Units. The former is very simple and cheap but the latter opens up the opportunity to continuously alter the fan speed depending on various external conditions/influences. These conditions/criteria could be the 'real time' demand for either heating or cooling, occupancy levels, window switches, time clocks or any number of other inputs from either the unit itself, the Building Management System or both.

The reason that these DC Fan Coil Units are, despite their apparent relative complexity, becoming more popular is their improved energy efficiency levels compared to their AC motor-driven counterparts of only a few years ago. A straight swap, AC to DC, will reduce electrical consumption by 50% but applying Demand and Occupancy dependent fan speed control can take the savings to as much as 80%. In areas of the world where there are legally enforceable energy efficiency requirements for fan coils (such as the UK), DC Fan Coil Units are rapidly becoming the only choice.

Areas of use

[edit]





In high-rise buildings, fan coils may be vertically stacked, located one above the other from floor to floor and all interconnected by the same piping loop.

Fan coil units are an excellent delivery mechanism for hydronic chiller boiler systems in large residential and light commercial applications. In these applications the fan coil units are mounted in bathroom ceilings and can be used to provide unlimited comfort zones - with the ability to turn off unused areas of the structure to save energy.

Installation

[edit]

In high-rise residential construction, typically each fan coil unit requires a rectangular through-penetration in the concrete slab on top of which it sits. Usually, there are either 2 or 4 pipes made of ABS, steel or copper that go through the floor. The pipes are usually insulated with refrigeration insulation, such as acrylonitrile butadiene/polyvinyl chloride (AB/PVC) flexible foam (Rubatex or Armaflex brands) on all pipes, or at least on the chilled water lines to prevent condensate from forming.

Unit ventilator

[edit]

A unit ventilator is a fan coil unit that is used mainly in classrooms, hotels, apartments and condominium applications. A unit ventilator can be a wall mounted or ceiling hung cabinet, and is designed to use a fan to blow outside air across a coil, thus conditioning and ventilating the space which it is serving.

European market

[edit]

The Fan Coil is composed of one quarter of 2-pipe-units and three quarters of 4-pipe-units, and the most sold products are "with casing" (35%), "without casing" (28%), "cassette" (18%) and "ducted" (16%).[2]

The market by region was split in 2010 as follows:

Region	Sales Volume in units[2]	Share
Benelux	33 725	2.6%
France	168 028	13.2%
Germany	63 256	5.0%
Greece	33 292	2.6%
Italy	409 830	32.1%
Poland	32 987	2.6%
Portugal	22 957	1.8%
Russia, Ukraine and CIS countries	87 054	6.8%
Scandinavia and Baltic countries	39 124	3.1%
Spain	91 575	7.2%
Turkey	70 682	5.5%
UK and Ireland	69 169	5.4%
Eastern Europe	153 847	12.1%

See also

[edit]
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Wikimedia Commons has media related to ***Fan coil units***.

- Thermal insulation
- HVAC
- Construction
- Intumescent
- Firestop

References

[edit]

1. **^** *"Fan Coil Unit". Heinen & Hopman. Retrieved 2023-08-30.*
2. ^ ***a b*** *"Home". Eurovent Market Intelligence.*

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Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning

Fundamental concepts

- Air changes per hour
- Bake-out
- Building envelope
- Convection
- Dilution
- Domestic energy consumption
- Enthalpy
- Fluid dynamics
- Gas compressor
- Heat pump and refrigeration cycle
- Heat transfer
- Humidity
- Infiltration
- Latent heat
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- Thermal mass
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- Solar combisystem
- Solar cooling

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- Air door
- Air filter
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- Gas compressor
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- Gasoline heater

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Professions, trades, and services	○ Architectural acoustics ○ Architectural engineering ○ Architectural technologist ○ Building services engineering ○ Building information modeling (BIM) ○ Deep energy retrofit ○ Duct cleaning ○ Duct leakage testing ○ Environmental engineering ○ Hydronic balancing ○ Kitchen exhaust cleaning ○ Mechanical engineering ○ Mechanical, electrical, and plumbing ○ Mold growth, assessment, and remediation ○ Refrigerant reclamation ○ Testing, adjusting, balancing

Industry organizations	○ AHRI ○ AMCA ○ ASHRAE ○ ASTM International ○ BRE ○ BSRIA ○ CIBSE ○ Institute of Refrigeration ○ IIR ○ LEED ○ SMACNA ○ UMC
Health and safety	○ Indoor air quality (IAQ) ○ Passive smoking ○ Sick building syndrome (SBS) ○ Volatile organic compound (VOC)
See also	○ ASHRAE Handbook ○ Building science ○ Fireproofing ○ Glossary of HVAC terms ○ Warm Spaces ○ World Refrigeration Day ○ Template:Home automation ○ Template:Solar energy

About Durham Supply Inc

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Things To Do in Tulsa County

Photo

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Tulsa Zoo

4.5 (10482)

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Oxley Nature Center

4.8 (563)

Photo

Gathering Place

4.8 (12116)

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The Outsiders House Museum

4.7 (885)

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OkieTundra

4.5 (84)

Photo

Golden Driller Statue

4.6 (1935)

Driving Directions in Tulsa County

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Driving Directions From The Outsiders House Museum to Durham Supply Inc

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Reviews for Durham Supply Inc

Durham Supply Inc

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B Mann

(5)

I was in need of some items for a double wide that I am remodeling and this place is the only place in town that had what I needed (I didn't even try the other rude place)while I was there I learned the other place that was in Tulsa that also sold mobile home supplies went out of business (no wonder the last time I was in there they were VERY RUDE and high priced) I like the way Dunham does business they answered all my questions and got me the supplies I needed, very friendly, I will be back to purchase the rest of my items when the time comes.

Durham Supply Inc

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Ty Spears

(5)

Bought a door/storm door combo. Turns out it was the wrong size. They swapped it out, quick and easy no problems. Very helpful in explaining the size differences from standard door sizes.

Durham Supply Inc

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Dennis Champion

(5)

Durham supply and Royal supply seems to find the most helpful and friendly people to work in their stores, we are based out of Kansas City out here for a few remodels and these guys treated us like we've gone there for years.

Durham Supply Inc

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Ethel Schiller

(5)

This place is really neat, if they don't have it they can order it from another of their stores and have it there overnight in most cases. Even hard to find items for a trailer! I definitely recommend this place to everyone! O and the prices is awesome too!

Noting Electrical Hazard Precautions in Mobile Home HVAC Projects**View GBP**

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the key electrical hazards to be aware of when working on a mobile home HVAC system?

Key electrical hazards include exposure to live wires, risk of electric shock, potential for short circuits, and improper grounding. Ensuring all power sources are turned off before work begins and using proper protective equipment can mitigate these risks.

How can I ensure that the power is completely disconnected before starting an HVAC project in a mobile home?

To ensure complete disconnection, turn off the circuit breaker linked to the HVAC system at the main electrical panel. Use a voltage tester on the systems wiring to confirm there is no electricity flowing before proceeding with any work.

What safety precautions should be taken if water or moisture is present near electrical components during an HVAC installation or repair?

If water or moisture is present, immediately stop work and dry the area thoroughly. Ensure all connections are properly sealed and insulated against moisture. Consider consulting a professional electrician if significant water exposure is suspected.

Are there specific tools recommended for safely handling electrical components in mobile home HVAC systems?

Yes, use insulated tools specifically designed for electrical work. Voltage testers, insulated screwdrivers, wire strippers with insulated handles, and rubber-soled shoes can help prevent accidental shocks while handling electrical components.

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