

FILE NO. 4-408 4-407

DATE: November 28, 2001

CODE APPLICATION NOTICE

CODE SECTION: Section 408.2.3.1 407.2.3.1, 2001 ~~1998~~ California Mechanical Code
Section 408.3.2.1 407.3.2.1, 2001 ~~1998~~ California Mechanical Code

Section 408.2 407.2 Filters for Hospitals:

Section 408.2.3.1 407.2.3.1 Subject to the approval of the authority having jurisdiction, noncentral recirculating air-handling systems, i.e., through-the-wall units, may be utilized for single patient rooms of one or more beds. Filtration for these units shall have a minimum arrestance value of 68 percent, based on ASHRAE Standard 52.1-1996. The air ventilation system providing the minimum air changes of outdoor air shall comply with Table 4-B.

Section 408.3 407.3 Filters for Skilled Nursing Facilities, Intermediate Care Facilities and Correctional Treatment Centers:

Section 408.3.2.1 407.3.2.1 Noncentral recirculating air-handling systems, i.e., through-the-wall units, may be utilized for each patient room with one or more beds. Filtration for these units shall have a minimum arrestance value of 68 percent, based on ASHRAE Standard 52.1-1996. The air ventilation system providing the minimum air changes of outdoor air shall comply with Table 4-C.

INTERPRETATION:

Sections 408.2.3.1 407.2.3.1 and 408.3.2.1 407.3.2.1 shall be interpreted to permit the use of noncentral fan-coil units and noncentral heat pumps and air conditioners for heating and/or cooling of patient bedrooms subject to the following conditions:

1. All outdoor air requirements shall be met by a separate central air handling system with the proper filtration and gauges, as required by Tables 4-B and 4-C for the applicable facility type.

Note: Outdoor air, filtered in accordance with Table 4-B or Table 4-C, as applicable, may be introduced into the patient room through the fan-coil.

2. All noncentral air handling units with filter efficiencies as stated in sections 408.2.3.1 407.2.3.1 and 408.3.2.1 407.3.2.1 are permissible only for non-specialized medical-surgical or skilled nursing patient bedrooms and shall not apply to specialized rooms such as isolation rooms (positive or negative pressure) or special purpose rooms.
3. Each individual noncentral air-handling system shall serve only a single patient room of one or more beds.

(Additions or changes indicated by underline; deletions by strikeout)

- 4. Each noncentral recirculating air handler unit shall be 100% recirculating; i.e., the units shall not be used to introduce outdoor air into the room (except as noted in Item 1).
- 5. All fans shall operate continuously.

REASON:

The use of noncentral units is one method of providing individual room ventilation and temperature control. Code language is unclear regarding whether the use of filters with a minimum arrestance value of 68% in noncentral air-handling units is limited only to through-the-wall units.

Section ~~407.2.3.1~~ 408.2.3.1 states: “Subject to the approval of the authority having jurisdiction...” This CAN provides guidance to design professionals who wish to employ this method of design in a manner consistent with the 2001 ~~1996-1997~~ AIA Guidelines, upon which these amendments were based.

ORIGINAL SIGNED	3/3/03
Kurt A. Schaefer	Date

(Additions or changes indicated by underline; deletions by strikeout)