



RESNET Certification Change (Ventilation System Controls)

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Starting on January 1, 2008, any **new home starts** for Wisconsin **ENERGY STAR** Homes (WESH) or any home being evaluated for the EAct tax credit, must comply with the new RESNET ventilation control requirements.

All WESH and EAct tax credit certification **procedures** (ratings) are specified by the RESNET organization and are spelled out in Chapter 3 of their Technical Standards. Since WECC is a RESNET certified provider, they are obligated to comply with all sections of the 2006 Mortgage Industry National Home Energy Rating Systems Standards.

Since reduced infiltration provides significant reductions in **estimated energy consumption**, it's important we continue to get credit for tight construction in the software calculations. ENERGY STAR and EAct compliance both benefit from this infiltration credit and it has been the single biggest factor in achieving compliance especially for EAct. **The limit on this infiltration credit depends on the ventilation system compliance** with all applicable requirements.

A 'ventilation system' has the following definition:

“A fan designed to exchange the air in the house with outside air, sized to provide whole-house service per **ASHRAE 62.2**, and controlled automatically (i.e., not requiring human intervention to turn on and off). The presence of a **remote mounted on/off switch** or dedicated circuit breaker labeled “whole house ventilation” (or equivalent) shall not disqualify a system from meeting the requirement of automatic control.

REQUIRED ACTION: Where a local exhaust fan* is used for both spot and whole-house ventilation service, a locally-mounted wall switch by itself will no longer comply. An additional remote-mounted on/off switch will need to be added to **this type of system**. The most practical solution would be to wire this remote switch in ‘parallel’ with the wall switch in the room containing this fan. It does not have to be any more complicated than this.



EXAMPLE: You choose to use a **bath fan** for both whole-house **and** spot ventilation. You select a bath fan sized to meet or exceed the required whole-house ventilation rate of **ASHRAE 62.2 Table 4.1a**.

- a. You install a wall switch of your choice in the room with this fan.
- b. You install a second (remote-mounted) **on-off** switch (wired in parallel) somewhere outside of that room. It can be mounted anywhere as there is no definition for remote-mounted in the standard.

The 'intent' is that this remote-mounted switch will be considered the **whole house** ventilation control, with the locally-mounted switch being the **spot ventilation** control. This **whole house** remote mounted switch must be appropriately labeled as the whole house control.

**Any remote mounted whole-house ventilation system with central control would not be affected by this change but must meet the air flow requirements of ASHRAE 62.2 Table 4.1.*

BUILDERS: Please contact your Consultant, program staff at WECC, or Joe Nagan for help with this certification change as it applies to **all WESH** and **EPAct** activity.

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