

TO: RAC and Mike Vaughn

FROM: T.C. 10.5

DATE: May 1, 2006

SUBJECT: Response to 11/4/05 RAC comments on the first submission of RTAR 1434, "Refrigerated Facilities Doorway Infiltration Air Energy Reduction"

QUESTION 1:

The revised RTAR will need to match the 2005-2006 Society year format, particularly with regard to the Society's strategic plan for research. Estimate duration of project.

RESPONSE 1:

We have used the most recent RTAR format to submit this time, including moving information on the compliance with the Society's strategic plan from the *Justification and Value to ASHRAE* section to the front. We have also added project duration under estimated cost of 18 months.

QUESTION 2:

It is unclear as to whether the new systems (since 1992) are proprietary – if so, this may not be appropriate research for ASHRAE.

RESPONSE 2:

New systems are a mixture of proprietary and generic types. Both need to be tested. There is no test standard for such systems so the main proprietary ones need to be tested independently so that ASHRAE members have reliable unbiased information when making choices between alternatives.

QUESTION 3:

Sounds like the project is based on field monitoring ("authenticate effectiveness ratings in actual applications"). Experimental design will need to be carefully thought out for the infiltration measurements and traffic frequency data to be accurate. This is a very difficult monitoring environment with the potential for confounding effects.

RESPONSE 3:

Yes, the project will have significant field monitoring. Experience from previous projects will be available to bidders so this issue is deemed a low risk.

QUESTION 4:

TC should overcome its indecision on whether the project provides foundation for, or includes, a design guide. Also strengthen the benefits estimates such as potential energy and cost savings. Title should indicate that a design guide is the result of this project. Otherwise, cost appears to be too high based on the information provided.

RESPONSE 4:

We believe that the field measurements are not an easy task and will be quite expensive. But without additional publication of the results in a form that is easier to digest than the final report, the results of this research project will not gain the full impact on the industry that we intend. Perhaps, "Design Guide" is not the proper terminology? Perhaps something along the lines of "Primer" or "Selection Guide" as we hope the results of this research will help refrigerated facility owners and fabricators better select their doorway infiltration protection technology.

**QUESTION 5:**

TC vote should reflect more support for project from TC than 53% particularly when all members can vote by e-mail.

**RESPONSE 5:**

We have cleared up the roster to remove inactive members. While not all members have e-mail, other means have been used to obtain a vote from all.