HVAC Systems

Gordon Farquharson July 2017



HVAC -A properly designed HVAC system can:



HVAC cannot clean up contaminated surfaces or protect from poor operator practices







Drains and Traps

- Collect condense from cooling coils
- Provide traps from drain pans
- Ensure traps are full at all times













System Details – Multiple Plant





Sterile/Biologics Systems





How Many Air Changes are Enough?

In addition to meeting these requirements the following need to be considered when **designing facility air supply**:

Exfiltration loss (pressurisation)

Particulate Gain

Heat Gain

Recovery Time



Air Balance



What goes in must come out (we deal with rigid enclosures in HVAC)

AIR IN = AIR OUT

Supply + Infiltration = Return + Exhaust + Exfiltration



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Heat Gain

This is all of the heat energy that is present in the room and includes:

Body heat from personnel	Heat from lighting
Heat from equipment	Heat from air that is recirculated without passing through a cooling coil (e.g., UDAF Hoods)

Assumes an Interior Room



Exfiltration Loss

This is the air that...

Escapes through cracks, passes under doors

Passes through mouseholes

Passes into equipment



Estimation of Leakage

- Designer must estimate the leakage rate
- Designer must allow for any unknown leakage rates
- Doors should be the main leakage path
- Leakage rate through small gaps can be determined from:
 - Q = 0.827 x A x (DP)0.5

Where

- > Q = leakage rate m3/sec
- > A = leakage area m2
- > DP = differential pressure between spaces Pa



Recovery Time

The "recovery" time for a cleanroom is the time required for the particle count level to return to its "at rest" condition after production ceases and personnel leave the room. The "recovery" will follow an exponential curve, so it may take a long time to achieve its "at rest" condition.

Annex 1 Requirement

 The particulate conditions given... for the "at rest" state should be achieved after a short "clean up" period of 15-20 minutes (guidance value) in an unmanned state, after completion of operations.



Annex 1 Airborne Particle Classification Recovery time

Grade	Maximum permitted number of particles/m3 equal to or above:					
	In Operation			At Rest		
	0.5 µm	5 µm	N/A for	0.5 µm	5 µm	
Α	3520	20	UDF After 15 – 20 minute cleanup	3520	20	
В	352,000	2,900		3520	29	
С	3,520,000	29,000		352,000	2900	
D	Not Defined	Not Defined		3,520,000	29,000	



Recovery Time



ISPE Sterile Baseline[®] Guide, Page 146, Figure A3.5



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Classic Cascading Pressure Airlock (as anticipated in our GMPs)



Conversion: 0.05 in H2O = 12.5 Pascals



Typical HVAC cGMP Problems

Control of room pressure fails or drifts

Temp/RH excursions during extreme external weather conditions

Unscheduled failures / downtime

Controls: Building Automation System

Field Devices – calibration drift

Inadequate design capacities current / future

Inappropriate design conditions (too tight & too loose)



HVAC – Ductwork Key Design Issues

Leakage rates

Inspection ports for

- Filters
- Devices
- Cleanouts

Insulation/rust inhibition

Delivered clean to the jobsite

NOTE: Ductwork is not specifically mentioned in cGMPs, but clearly the entire delivery system must be considered as "equipment" to be controlled.





Thank you for your time. Questions?



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