

BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing
AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, POABC

File No: 12-0063

INTERPRETATION

Page 1 of 1

Interpretation Date: October 20, 2015

Building Code Edition: BC Building Code 2012

Subject: Bathroom fan installed independently of a HRV

Keywords: Bathroom fan, HRV, RSI

Building Code Reference(s): 9.36.2.6.

Question:

Which tables, Tables 9.36.2.6.A. or B., should be used to determine the minimum required RSI values if bathroom fans are installed independently of a HRV?

Interpretation:

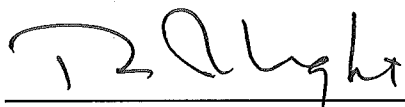
Table 9.36.2.6.B.

Table 9.36.2.6.A and B list the minimum effective thermal resistance (RSI) of above-ground opaque building assemblies based on whether a heat recovery ventilator (HRV) is installed.

Appendix A-9.36.2.6.(1) explains that "the insulation values in Table 9.36.2.6.A. are based on mechanical ventilation solutions without HRV, while those in Table 9.36.2.6.B. are based on a HRV that operates for at least 8 hours a day throughout the year at the minimum required ventilation capacity. The operation of the HRV affords a reduction in the RSI values for some assemblies, most notably for walls and rim joists."

9.32.3.6.(1)(b) requires an exhaust fan in every bathroom unless the bathroom is served by the principal ventilation system exhaust fan. It does not prohibit the owner from installing extra bathroom fans in addition to the principal ventilation system exhaust fan.

If a house has a HRV and additional bathroom fans are installed to exhaust excessive moisture and steam, Table 9.36.2.6.B should be used to determine the minimum RSI.



R. J. Light, Committee Chair

The views expressed are the consensus of the joint committee with members representing AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, and POABC, which form the BC Building Code Interpretation Committee. The purpose of the committee is to encourage uniform province wide interpretation of the BC Building Code. These views should not be considered as the official interpretation of legislated requirements based on the BC Building Code, as final responsibility for an interpretation rests with the local *Authority Having Jurisdiction*. The views of the joint committee should not be construed as legal advice.