

Trends in Small Rooftop Systems Presenters: John Murphy, Eric Sturm and Jeanne Harshaw (host)







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Trane Engineers Newsletter Live Series

Trends in Small Rooftop Systems

Abstract

A large number of buildings use small, packaged rooftop units for HVAC. This ENL will discuss several recent regulatory changes and technology advances that affect systems using this class of equipment.

Presenters: Trane engineers John Murphy and Eric Sturm

After viewing attendees will be able to:

- 1. Summarize recent changes to minimum efficiency requirements and regulations from ASHRAE Standard 90.1 and the Department of Energy.
- 2. Explain the various energy efficiency ratings used for small rooftop equipment (EER, SEER, and IEER).
- 3. Understand single-zone VAV control in rooftop units equipped with either modulated or staged/cycled heat.
- 4. Apply small rooftop units in multiple-zone VAV systems.
- 5. Employ energy-saving control strategies, such as demand-controlled ventilation, airside economizing, fan pressure optimization, and supply air temperature reset.

Agenda

- Efficiency regulations, standards, and codes
- Variable-speed compressors
- Modulating heat
- Variable-speed fan control
- Controls
- Summary (energy analysis)





Presenter biographies

Trends in Small Rooftop Systems

John Murphy | applications engineer | Trane

John has been with Trane since 1993. His primary responsibility as an applications engineer is to aid design engineers and Trane sales personnel in the proper design and application of HVAC systems. His main areas of expertise include energy efficiency, dehumidification, dedicated outdoor-air systems, air-to-air energy recovery, psychrometry, airside system control and ventilation. He is also a LEED Accredited Professional.

John is the author of numerous Trane application manuals and Engineers Newsletters, and is a frequent presenter on Trane's Engineers Newsletter Live series. He has authored several articles for the ASHRAE Journal, and was twice awarded "Article of the Year" award. He is an ASHRAE Fellow and has served on the "Moisture Management in Buildings" and "Mechanical Dehumidifiers" technical committees. He was a contributing author of the Advanced Energy Design Guide for K-12 Schools and the Advanced Energy Design Guide for Small Hospitals and Health Care Facilities, a technical reviewer for the ASHRAE Guide for Buildings in Hot and Humid Climates, and a presenter on the 2012 ASHRAE "Dedicated Outdoor Air Systems" webcast.

Eric Sturm | applications engineer | Trane

Eric joined Trane in 2006 after graduating from the University of Wisconsin – Platteville with a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering. Prior to joining the applications engineering team, he worked in the Customer Direct Services (C.D.S.) department as a marketing engineer and product manager for the TRACE[™] 700 load design and energy simulation software application. As a C.D.S. marketing engineer he supported and trained customers globally. In his current role as an applications engineer,

Eric's areas of expertise include acoustics, airside systems, and standards and codes.

He is currently involved with ASHRAE at the local chapter as president-elect and nationally as member of the "Global Climate Change" and "Sound and Vibration" technical committees. In 2015, Eric was named recipient of the Young Engineers in ASHRAE Award of Individual Excellence for service to the La Crosse Area Chapter of ASHRAE.







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Learning objectives

- Summarize recent changes to minimum efficiency requirements and regulations from ASHRAE Standard 90.1 and the Department of Energy.
- Explain the various energy efficiency ratings used for small rooftop equipment (EER, SEER, and IEER).
- Understand single-zone VAV control in rooftop units equipped with either modulated or staged/cycled heat.
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Today's Presenters



Applications Engineer

Applications Engineer





small rooftop systems Advantages

- Packaging eases design, installation, and startup
- Low installed cost
- Maximizes usable floor space inside the building
- Maintenance done outside of the occupied space
- Equipment is easy to replace

small rooftop systems Drawbacks

- Less flexibility
- Equipment located outside (aesthetics, maintenance)
- Space required for ductwork





ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2004 Unitary Air Conditioners, Air-Cooled

		Minimum Efficiency
	Split System	10.0 SEER (before 1/23/2006) 12.0 SEER (as of 1/23/2006)
< 65,000 Btu/nr	Single Package	9.7 SEER (before 1/23/2006) 12.0 SEER (as of 1/23/2006)

Size	Sub-Category	Minimum Efficiency
< 65,000 Btu/hr	Split System	10.0 SEER (before 1/23/2006) 12.0 SEER 13.0 SEER (as of 1/23/2006)
	Single Package	9.7 SEER (before 1/23/2006) 12.0 SEER 13.0 SEER (as of 1/23/2006)

New U.S. DO	E Regulatio	5,000 Btu/hr) NS
 Effective 1 Janua Increase minimu Incorporated into 	ary 2017 m cooling efficien 2016 version of <i>i</i>	cy from 13 to 14 SEER ASHRAE 90.1
Size	Sub-Category	Minimum Efficiency
Size	Sub-Category Split System, 3 Phase	Minimum Efficiency 13.0 SEER
Size < 65,000 Btu/hr	Sub-Category Split System, 3 Phase Single Package, 3 Phase	Minimum Efficiency 13.0 SEER 14.0 SEER



and

and

< 135,000 Btu/hr

≥ 135,000 Btu/hr

< 240,000 Btu/hr

ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2010 Unitary Air Conditioners, Air-Cooled			
Size	Heating Type	Minimum Efficiency	
≥ 65,000 Btu/hr	Electric Resistance	11.2 EER and	

Electric Resistance

11.4 IEER

11.2 IEER

11.2 IEER

11.0 IEER

11.0 EER and

11.0 EER and

10.8 EER and

(or none)

All Other

(or none)

All Other

air-cooled rooftop equipment (≥ 65,000 Btu/hr and < 760,000 Btu/hr) **Upcoming U.S. DOE Regulations**

- Effective 1 January 2018
- Switching from minimum full-load cooling efficiency (EER) to a minimum IEER (using ASHRAE 90.1-2013 levels)









Scroll Compressor Capacity Modulation

Compressor Operation

- On/off control
- Hot gas bypass
- Variable speed

Compressor Design

- Digital scroll
- Pocket unloading









Variable Speed Compressors

Advantages

- Use results in better discharge air temperature control (+/- 2°F)
- Lower minimum speed, reduced compressor cycling
- Low speed oil injection reduces compression pocket losses

Drawbacks

- Increased complexity
- Higher cost

Microchannel Coils

Advantages

- Lighter weight
- Lower refrigerant charge
- Single material construction
- Fewer braze points

Drawbacks

- Difficult to repair
- Sensitive to damage









small rooftop systems Heat Source Trends

 Increased use of heat pumps in buildings that generate electricity on site (photovoltaic, wind)













small rooftop systems Humidity and SZVAV Systems

- Avoid oversizing equipment ... especially oversizing supply airflow
- If necessary, some SZVAV rooftop units can be equipped with hot gas reheat also

Modulated vs. Staged Heat for SZVAV

Variable-speed fan control when heating

- Modulated gas
- Modulated electric
- Hot water

Cycled fan control when heating

- Staged gas
- Staged electric
- Heat pump





























Modulated vs. Staged Heat for MZVAV

Variable-speed fan control when heating (modulated heat)

- Supply fan controlled to maintain duct SP at setpoint
- Heater modulated to maintain DAT at setpoint

Cycled fan control when heating (staged heat)

- VAV dampers driven open
- Supply fan operates at maximum speed
- Heater cycles on











ASHRAE Standards 90.1-2007 and -2010 Demand-Controlled Ventilation (DCV)

6.4.3.9 Ventilation Controls for High-Occupancy Areas.

Demand control ventilation (DCV) is required for spaces larger than 500 ft² and with a design occupancy for ventilation of > 40 people per 1000 ft² of floor area and served by systems with one or more of the following:

a. an air-side economizer,

- b. automatic modulating control of the outdoor air damper,
 - or
- c. a design outdoor airflow > 3000 cfm.

Exceptions:

- a. Systems with exhaust air energy recovery complying with Section 6.5.6.1.
- b. Multiple-zone systems without DDC of individual zones communicating with a central control panel.
- c. Systems with a design outdoor airflow < 1200 cfm.
- d. Spaces where the supply airflow rate minus any makeup or outgoing transfer air requirement < 1200 cfm.



ASHRAE Standards 90.1-2013 and -2016 Demand-Controlled Ventilation (DCV)

6.4.3.8 Ventilation Controls for High-Occupancy Areas.

Demand control ventilation (DCV) is required for spaces larger than 500 ft² and with a design occupancy for ventilation of \geq 25 people per 1000 ft² of floor area and served by systems with one or more of the following:

a. an air-side economizer,

- b. automatic modulating control of the outdoor air damper,
 - or

c. a design outdoor airflow > 3000 cfm.

Exceptions:

- 1. Systems with exhaust air energy recovery complying with Section 6.5.6.1.
- 2. Multiple-zone systems without DDC of individual zones communicating with a central control panel.
- 3. Systems with a design outdoor airflow < 750 cfm.
- 4. Spaces where > 75% of the space design outdoor airflow is required for makeup air that is exhausted from the space or transfer air that is required for makeup air that is exhausted from other space(s).
- 5. Correctional cells, daycare sickrooms, science labs, beauty and nail salons, and bowling alley seating.







ASHRAE Standards 90.1-2010, -2013, and -2016 Supply-Air Temperature Reset

6.5.3.4 Supply-Air Temperature Reset Controls. Multiple-zone HVAC systems must include controls that automatically reset the supply-air temperature in response to representative building loads, or to outdoor air temperature. The controls shall reset the supply air temperature at least 25 percent of the difference between the design supply-air temperature and the design room air temperature. Controls that adjust the reset based on zone humidity are allowed. Zones which are expected to experience relatively constant loads, such as electronic equipment rooms, shall be designed for the fully reset supply temperature.

Exceptions:

- a. Climate zones 1a, 2a, and 3a
- b. Systems that prevent re-heating, re-cooling, or mixing of heated and cooled supply air.
- c. Systems in which at least 75 percent of the energy for reheating (on an annual basis) is from site recovered or site solar energy sources.

ASHRAE Standards 90.1-2010 and -2013 Ventilation Optimization

6.5.3.3 Multiple-zone VAV System Ventilation Optimization Control. Multiple-zone VAV systems with DDC of individual zone boxes reporting to a central control panel shall include means to automatically reduce outdoor air intake flow below design rates in response to changes in system ventilation efficiency as defined by Appendix A of ASHRAE Standard 62.1.

Exceptions:

- a. VAV systems with zonal transfer fans that recirculate air from other zones without directly mixing it with outdoor air, dual-duct dual-fan VAV systems, and VAV systems with fan-powered terminal units.
- b. Systems required to have the exhaust air energy recovery complying with Section 6.5.6.1.
- c. Systems where total design exhaust airflow is more than 70% of total design outdoor air intake flow requirements.



ASHRAE Standards 90.1-<u>2013</u> and -<u>2016</u> New DDC Requirements

6.4.3.10 Direct Digital Control (DDC) Requirements. Direct digital control shall be required as follows.

6.4.3.10.1 DDC Applications. DDC shall be provided in the applications and qualifications listed in Table 6.4.3.10.1.

Exception: DDC is not required for systems using the simplified approach to compliance in accordance with Section 6.3.

Building Status	Application	DDC Required If:
New	Air-handling system and all zones served by the system	> three zones and fan system ≥ 10 bhp
Alteration or addition	New air-handling system and all new zones served by the system	 > three zones and fan system ≥ 10 bhp and > 75% of zones are new
Alteration or addition	Zone terminal unit (e.g., VAV box)	existing zones served by the same air-handling system have DDC

DDC requirements of Standard 90.1-2013 (Section 6.4.3.10.2) Impact on Small Rooftop Systems

Control Sequence	90.1-2013 Section	Applies to:
optimal start	6.4.3.3.3	single-zone systemsmultiple-zone systems
"dual maximums" VAV reheat control	6.5.3.2.1	multiple-zone VAV systems
fan-pressure optimization	6.5.3.2.3	multiple-zone VAV systems
ventilation optimization	6.5.3.3	multiple-zone VAV systems

ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2013 and -2016 DDC Requirements (continued)

6.4.3.10.2 DDC Controls. Where DDC is required by Section 6.4.3.10.1, the DDC system shall be capable of all of the following, as required, to provide the control logic required in Section 6.5:

- a. Monitoring zone and system demand for fan pressure, pump pressure, heating, and cooling
- b. Transferring zone and system demand information from zones to air distribution system controllers and from air distribution systems to heating and cooling plant controllers
- c. Automatically detecting those zones and systems that may be excessively driving the reset logic and generate an alarm or other indication to the system operator
- d. Readily allowing operator removal of zone(s) from the reset algorithm

6.4.3.10.3 DDC Display. Where DDC is required by Section 6.4.3.10.1 for new buildings, **the DDC** system shall be capable of trending and graphically displaying input and output points.





Small Rooftop System Analysis

Locations:

- Boston, Massachusetts (5A)
- St. Louis, Missouri (4A)
- Atlanta, Georgia (3A)

Complies with:

- ASHRAE 62.1-2010
- ASHRAE 90.1-2010

Three comparisons:

- 1. Traditional SZCV
- 2. Traditional SZVAV
- 3. High Performance SZVAV















March 2017

Industry Resources

Trends in Small Rooftop Systems

ANSI/ASHRAE/IESNA Standard 90.1: Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings. Available from www.ashrae.org/bookstore

American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers, Inc. (ASHRAE). *Standard 90.1* User's Manual. Available from <u>www.ashrae.org/bookstore</u>

International Code Council. International Energy Conservation Code (IECC).

Trane Resources (visit http://www.trane.com/bookstore)

Murphy, J., E. Sturm and J. Harshaw. "Delivering Performance from Airside Economizers," *Engineers Newsletter Live* program (2016) APP-CMC058-EN (DVD). (Available on-demand in Trane Continuing Education)

Sturm, E. "Airside Economizers and ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2013." Engineers Newsletter 44-2 (2015).

Murphy, J., E. Sturm and J. Harshaw. "Single-Zone VAV Systems," *Engineers Newsletter Live* program (2013) APP-CMC048-EN (DVD). (Available on-demand in Trane Continuing Education)

Murphy, J., D. Stanke and J. Harshaw. "High-Performance VAV Systems," *Engineers Newsletter Live* program (2011) APP-CMC042-EN (DVD). (Available on-demand in Trane Continuing Education)

Murphy, J. and J. Harshaw. *Rooftop VAV Systems*. Trane Application Manual SYS-APM007-EN. La Crosse: Trane, 2012.

Analysis Software

Trane Air-Conditioning and Economics (TRACE[™] 700). Available at <u>www.trane.com/TRACE</u>



Engineers Newsletter Live - Audience Evaluation

Trends in Small Rooftop Systems

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Was the topic appropriate for the event?	Yes	No			
Rate the content of the program.	Excellent	Good	Needs Improvement		
Rate the length of the program.	Appropriate	Too long	Too short		
Rate the pace of the program.	Appropriate	Too fast	Too slow		
What was most interesting to you?					
What was least interesting to you?					

Are there any other events/topics you would like Trane to offer to provide additional knowledge of their products and services?

Additional questions or comments:



Trane Engineers Newsletter LIVE: Trends in Small Rooftop Systems APP-CMC061-EN QUIZ

- 1. Which industry standard lists minimum equipment efficiency requirements for small rooftop units?
 - a. ASHRAE Standard 55
 - b. ASHRAE Standard 62.1
 - c. ASHRAE Standard 90.1
 - d. AHRI Standard 885
- 2. Minimum efficiency requirements regulated by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) supersede the efficiency requirements listed in ASHRAE Standard 90.1.
 - a. True
 - b. False
- 3. In a single-zone VAV system, when the supply fan speed has been reduced to minimum, and the space cooling load continues to decrease, the supply-air temperature setpoint begins to be reset ______ to avoid overcooling the space.
 - a. upward
 - b. downward
- 4. In a single-zone VAV system, when the supply fan speed is reduced to 50% of full speed, the fan input power is reduced to _____% of full power.
 - a. 12.5%
 - b. 33%
 - c. 50%
 - d. It depends on the duct static pressure setpoint
- 5. Modulating gas heat enables the supply fan to use variable-speed control during the heating mode.
 - a. True
 - b. False
- 6. In a multiple-zone VAV system, when the supply fan speed is reduced to 50% of full speed, it is not able to deliver any lower than 50% of full airflow.
 - a. True
 - b. False
- 7. Recent versions of ASHRAE Standard 90.1 have required demand-controlled ventilation to be used in more types of spaces (with lower occupant densities).
 - a. True
 - b. False