



# City of Raymore

Building Inspection Division  
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**Code Interpretation:** 2012 UMC Interpretation 01

**Date:** Updated 1/8/2014

**Code/ Edition:** 2012 Uniform Mechanical Code (UMC)

**Section(s):** Table 403.7

**Subject:** Minimum Exhaust Rates

**Question:** Can an exhaust fan's operation in a bathroom interlock with a light switch in a mercantile occupancy? Does it have to run continuously while the building is occupied (use of timer or interlock with roof top unit)?

**Answer:** Yes and No

**Commentary:** Section 402.3 of the 2012 UMC requires that ventilation systems shall operate so that all rooms and spaces are continuously provided with the required ventilation rate while occupied. Table 403.7 provides the minimum exhaust rates for toilet rooms. Public toilet rooms require a minimum 50 CFM (cubic feet per minute) per water closet or urinal and 70 CFM for periods of heavy use such as a theatre, school and sport facility. This would suggest that a continuous exhaust would be required. Private toilet rooms that are intended to be occupied by one person at a time require a minimum of 25 CFM for continuous operation and 50 CFM minimum if a continuous is not provided. Therefore, a private toilet room intended for one person could be controlled by a light switch if a minimum 50 CFM is provided.

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