



Building Inspection Division
100 Municipal Cir; Raymore, MO 64083
816.331.7916 phone 816.331.8067 fax

Code Interpretation: 2015-04

Date: 12/2/2015

Code/ Edition: 2012 Uniform Mechanical Code (UMC)

Section(s): UMC Section 608.1

Subject: Automatic Shutoffs in Supply Ducts

Question: Section 608.1 states that, "Air moving systems supplying air in excess of 2,000 cubic feet per minute to enclosed spaces within buildings shall be equipped with an automatic shutoff." I have office areas open throughout a 5,200 square foot tenant space along with enclosed offices (i.e. no enclosing walls) that is conditioned with four furnaces, each has a separate duct supply and return air. Two supply 1,975 cubic feet and the other two 1,075 cubic feet for at total of 6,100 cubic feet per minute to the tenant space. Are smoke detectors required on each furnace supply air duct?

Answer: Yes.

Commentary: The key to the code section is the definition of air-moving systems. This definition states that an air-moving system comprises one or more air-handling units being used to supply air to a common space or are drawing air from a common space. Therefore, since the units are serving a common space and the aggregate cubic feet per minute exceeds 2,000 cubic feet per minute, each unit shall be equipped with smoke detectors as required in Section 608.0. The requirement for automatic shutoff may be omitted if the system meets one of the exceptions.

Jon Woerner
Building Official
jwoerner@raymore.com