

**INTERPRETATION IC 135-2004-15 OF  
ANSI/ASHRAE STANDARD 135-2004 BACnet® -  
A Data Communication Protocol for Building  
Automation and Control Networks**

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**Request from:** James F. Butler ([jimbutler@cimetrics.com](mailto:jimbutler@cimetrics.com)) Cimetrics, Inc., 125 Summer St., Ste. 2100, Boston, MA 02110

**Reference:** This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 135-2004, Annex J – BACnet/IP, specifically Section J.2.6.1, Register-Foreign-Device: Format.

**Background:** My recollection is that a draft of Annex J (BACnet/IP) contained text that allowed foreign devices to register for an indefinite period by sending a Register-Foreign-Device message to a BBMD with the Time-to-Live parameter value of zero. Indefinite (permanent) foreign device registration is not mentioned in the version of Annex J that was officially published, but some tests in ASHRAE Standard 135.1-2003 (such as Section 14.6.2) rely on indefinite foreign device registration. I believe that SSPC 135 intentionally removed indefinite foreign device registration from Annex J before publication, and that the tests in ASHRAE Standard 135.1 that rely on indefinite foreign device registration should be changed accordingly.

**Interpretation:** There is no provision for indefinite (permanent) foreign device registration in the BACnet Standard 135-2004.

**Question:** Is this interpretation correct?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Comments:** The incorrect tests will be removed from Standard 135.1.