Bulletin #13: Automatic Receptacle Control

Date: August 11, 2016
Effective Date: September 1, 2016
Amended:
To: All Staff
From: Jonathan Walsh
Chief Building Official

Subject: Automatic Receptacle Control C405.7.1

With the induction of the 1992 Energy Policy Act, the Department of Energy was required to review each new standard of the ASHRAE 90.1 standard. Additionally all states were required to adopt energy codes that are substantially equivalent to the standard. The current standard calls for an improvement in the conservation of energy from the previous code cycle. The ASHRAE standard now requires the reduction of power at the local receptacle in an attempt to reduce the plug loads during down time and after now hours. Therefore per the Florida Building Code – Energy Conservation and in response to an issued Declaratory Statement (DS 2016-033) the following shall be enforced.

C405.7.1 Applicability
This section applies to all building power distribution systems. The provisions for electrical distribution for all sections of this code are subject to the design conditions in ASHRAE Standard 90.1.

ASHRAE 90.1 – 2010 following sections state:

8.1.1 Scope.
This section applies to all building power distribution systems and only to equipment described below.

8.2.1 Power distribution systems in all projects shall comply with the requirements of section 8.1, General; section 8.4, Mandatory Provisions; and section 8.7 Submittals.

8.4.2 Automatic Receptacle Control
At least 50% of all 125 volt 15- and 20-ampere receptacles, including those installed in modular partitions, installed in the following spaces:
   a) Private office
   b) Open offices
   c) Computer classrooms

   Shall be controlled by automatic control device that shall use:
   a) A scheduled basis with time-of-day operated programmable control device for no more than 25,000 sqft and no more than one floor per device, or
   b) An occupant sensor that turns receptacles off within 30 minutes of room being vacated, or
   c) A signal from another control or alarm that signals the room is unoccupied.

Exceptions:
   a) Receptacles for equipment for 24-hour operation
   b) Spaces where automatic shutoff would endanger life safety or security

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