



## CI v2.0: Clarifications

### CI v2.0 EAc1.3 Option A: Optimize Energy Performance, HVAC

**Issued June 17, 2011**

**Issue Summary:** The intent of this document is to clarify the application of the E-Benchmark approach to smaller projects by defining the appropriate “project scope” necessary to achieve the credit, as well as to clarify the area to which appropriate zoning and controls necessary must be installed and how that applies to private offices.

**Equipment Efficiency:** The credit language states: “Install HVAC systems which comply with the efficiency requirements outlined in the ... E-Benchmark prescriptive criteria for mechanical equipment efficiency requirements, sections 2.4, (less ASHRAE Standard 55), 2.5, and 2.6.” The CI Reference Guide Language states that, for smaller projects, the project scope must be “adequate to apply the criteria”.

**Question:** What qualifies the project scope as adequate for the intent of this credit?

**Section 2.4** refers to the sizing of the heating, cooling, and distribution systems, analysis of the HVAC equipment at part-load conditions, and a description of the features that will facilitate efficient operation during part-load conditions.

**Section 2.5** establishes prescriptive efficiency criteria for packaged DX equipment, chillers and boilers.

**Section 2.6** establishes a requirement for variable speed fans for VAV systems with fan horsepower greater than 10 hp.

The following scenarios are intended to clarify the necessary project scope to achieve EA c1.3, Option A, Equipment Efficiency:

- The project can comply with the requirements of the credit as long as all HVAC equipment installed as part of the scope of work satisfies the relevant E-Benchmark requirements AND the project scope of work includes either of the following:
  - Air handlers with Variable Speed Controls complying with the requirements of Section 2.6 that supply at least 60% of the total supply air volume used within the project scope
  - OR
  - Mechanical equipment that complies with the prescriptive efficiency requirements of Section 2.5, and provides at least 60% of the cooling or heating capacity for the project scope.

\* Note: the 60% basis correlates to the CI requirement that there must be tenant improvements made for 60% of the project scope in order to pursue a LEED-CI Rating.



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- The project can comply with the requirements of the credit if the project team can show that the relevant criteria have been met for all HVAC systems serving the area within the project scope, whether or not the HVAC systems are installed as part of the tenant scope of work.

**Appropriate Zoning and Controls:** The credit language states: “Zone tenant fit-out of space to meet the following requirements ... Private offices and specialty occupancies (conference rooms, kitchens, etc.) must have active controls capable of sensing space use and modulating HVAC system in response to space demand”. The CI Reference Guide Language states that “requirements need only apply to the extent of the project scope”.

**Questions:** Does “project scope” refer to all spaces that are within the LEED project boundary, regardless of whether they are included in the Scope of Work for the project? Must each private office have its own controls, or can private offices be grouped together?

The following scenarios are intended to clarify the necessary project scope to achieve EA c1.3, Option A, Appropriate Zoning and Controls:

- The project can comply with the requirements of the credit as long as all spaces that are within the “Project Scope” (the area within the LEED project boundary) satisfy the requirements, regardless of whether they are included in the Scope of Work for the project.
- Each private office must have its own active controls. Grouping of offices using a single control is not allowed.