

Light Transmittance

The percentage of incident light that passes through the glazing elements. When this percentage increases, the day light amount into the building will increase.

Line of Sight

An imaginary line from the eye to a perceived object or view.

Local Species

Local plants and adapted plants to the local environment.

Lux

The international system unit of illumination, equal to one lumen/m².

Mechanical System

Those systems within a building which include components of mechanical plant or machinery. These systems include, but are not limited to, the HVAC system of a building.

Mechanical Ventilation (Active Ventilation)

Ventilation provided by mechanically powered equipment, such as fans.

Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV)

Air Filter Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV) is an expression of the filtering efficiency of an air filter that has been evaluated using the ASHRAE Standard 52.2 Test Procedure. An air filter's performance is determined by comparing airborne particle counts upstream and downstream of the air filter (or other air cleaning device) under test conditions. A higher MERV rating equates to higher air filtration efficiency.

Mixed Mode Ventilation

A combination of mechanical and natural ventilation.

Monitoring Equipment

Equipment used to measure and record status or conditions related to a building or to verify pre-set conditions and provide control or alarm functions if conditions vary.

Natural Ventilation (Passive Ventilation)

Ventilation provided by thermal, wind or diffusion effects through windows, doors, or other openings in the building.

Negative Pressure

Pressure less than that in adjoining spaces.

Occupancy Sensor

A device that detects the presence or absence of people within an area and causes lighting, equipment, or appliances to be regulated accordingly.

Occupant Lighting Controls

A means of controlling the level of lighting which is easily accessible to a building occupant. Includes on/off switches.

Office

A building in which business, clerical, or professional activities are conducted and having an area of 50 m² at a minimum.

Opaque

All areas of a building envelope which do not transmit light. Fenestration and building service openings, such as vents and grilles, are not opaque.

Open Grid Pavement

Pavement surfaces composed of structural units with void areas that are filled with pervious materials, such as sand or grass turf.

Outdoor Environment

The environment outside of buildings, not enclosed by walls.

Ozone Depletion Potential (ODP)

Expresses contribution to the deterioration of the stratospheric ozone layer.

Parking Area - Enclosed

Area of a building which is used for parking of motor vehicles but is not an open parking area. As it does not meet the criteria for open parking areas and is considered enclosed, mechanical ventilation is required to compensate for the lack of natural ventilation.

Parking Area - Open

Area of a building which is used for parking of motor vehicles and that requires uniformly distributed openings on two or more sides for natural ventilation on every level of parking. The total area of openings to the atmosphere must be at least 20% of the total perimeter wall areas for each level of parking. Although openings on a third side are not required, openings on opposing sides are preferred for cross ventilation.

Parking Ventilation

Ventilation which is required to maintain a satisfactory level of air quality within a vehicle parking facility.

Perimeter Zone

The interior space adjacent to the perimeter walls of a building.

Plumbing System

Permanently installed piping, pumps, valves, tanks, taps, controls and other devices used in distributing water into, within and away from a building.

Positive Pressure

Pressure greater than that in adjoining spaces.

Potable Water

Water that is suitable for human consumption.

Pressure Differential

The difference in pressure between two points of a system, or two different spaces of a building.