

Glossary

Air Changes per Hour (ACH) - The number of times per hour that the volume of a specific room or building is supplied or removed from that space by mechanical and natural ventilation.

Damper - A plate or gate placed in a duct to control air flow by increasing friction in the duct.

Duct - Specialized housing for air flow.

Fresh Air Intake - An opening through which outside air is drawn into the building. This may be to replace air in the building that has been exhausted by the ventilation system or to provide fresh air for combustion of fuel.

Grille - A facing across a duct opening, often rectangular in shape, containing multiple parallel slots through which air may be delivered or withdrawn from a ventilated space. The grille directs the air flow in a particular direction and prevents the passage of large items.

Plenum Space - An enclosed space inside a building or other structure, used for airflow. Often refers to the space between a dropped ceiling and the structural ceiling or a raised floor and the hard floor. Distinct from the ductwork as a plenum is apart of the structure itself. Cable and Piping within a plenum must be properly rated for fire and smoke indices.