HVAC SIZING AND DESIGN PRINCIPLES



ABOUT SOUTHFACE



Southface promotes sustainable homes, workplaces and communities through education, research, advocacy and technical assistance.



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WHO ARE YOU?

- Name
- Organization/company
- How long have you been in the design, construction, contractor or enforcement industry?





LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Identify code requirements regarding sizing, design, and selection of HVAC equipment and ducts
- Explain how the ACCA Manual J, S and D load calculation standards are used to determine appropriate sizing and design of ducts and HVAC equipment
- Describe the role the HVAC system plays in moisture control and the effect excessive moisture has on building durability and occupant comfort and health
- Define sensible and latent heat
- Review a completed load calculation printout for common errors and intentional inputs of incorrect data and identify examples of such errors
- Compare installed HVAC and duct systems to outputs of Manual J, S, and D to verify proper sizing and design
- Describe the consequences of improperly sized HVAC systems



AGENDA

Morning:

- 1. Introduction
- 2. The systems approach
- 3. HVAC Overview

LUNCH

Afternoon:

- How HVAC systems are sized & selected
- Distribution
- Practical applications



Please set phones to silent! We will have breaks!



THE SYSTEMS APPROACH

A house is a system made up of interrelated parts:

- The building envelope
- Heating & cooling
- Ventilation (controlled)
- Water heating & distribution
- Lighting & appliances



www.energystar.gov



THE BUILDING ENVELOPE

Building Thermal Envelope

- Continuous Air Barrier (Pressure Boundary)
- Complete Insulation
 Coverage
 (Thermal Boundary)



Thermal and Pressure Boundaries Make up the Building Envelope



HOUSES ARE SYSTEMS

- How do the following factors affect the performance of the HVAC system?
- Air tightness of building envelope
- Insulation installation
- Lighting & appliancesOthers?







*KY code requires 50% high efficacy lighting



HOUSES ARE SYSTEMS



HVAC effectiveness is affected by other building components!

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QUALITY COUNTS!

Improper HVAC design & installation can severely affect home performance!



- Poor comfort
- High energy consumption & cost
- Unhealthy IAQ
- Equipment & building durability
- Combustion safety



THE FUTURE IS NOW!

Proper design and installation are becoming increasingly important as standards & technology become more advanced



- Codes require envelope & duct sealing measures
- Sophisticated equipment choices require knowledgeable design & installation

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HVAC OVERVIEW

- Purpose
- Function
- Design (sizing)





PURPOSE



The purpose of the HVAC system is to provide the occupants with a comfortable & healthy living environment

- It does more than just control air temperature
- It also provides moisture control
- Controlling relative humidity is important for comfort, IAQ, and building durability



Air Temperature

Comfort

Surrounding

Surface

Temperature

MOISTURE AND COMFORT

Human Thermal Comfort:

- Humans make poor thermometers
- Our sense of hot or cold is based on the rate heat is leaving or entering our bodies
- This is affected by a variety of factors not just ambient air temperature
- Since we regulate our body temperature by perspiration, our comfort level is affected by the moisture level in the air around us



Air Flow

Relative Humidity

MOISTURE AND INDOOR AIR QUALITY

Relative humidity levels have a significant impact on a variety of IAQ issues



Indoor air quality issues occur at high and low relative humidity; optimum range is 40%-60%.

Source: BPI Building Science Principles Reference Guide



VENTILATION – THE "V" IN HVAC





HVAC is not just heating & cooling

- Spot ventilation is used primarily to remove moisture & pollutants at the source
- Whole house ventilation is used to ensure occupants have fresh air provided in a controlled manner
- Air exchanges through leaks are irregular, ineffective, inefficient, and unhealthy!



VENTILATION

- Mechanical ventilation is required by code if the tightness of the home is <5 ACH50
- Ventilation should be sized to comply with table in code

DWELLING UNIT	NU	MBER	OF BE	DRO	OMS
FLOOR AREA	0 - 1	2 - 3	4 - 5	6 - 7	> 7
(square feet) Airflow in CFM					
< 1,500	30	45	60	75	90
1,501 - 3,000	45	60	75	90	105
3,001 - 4,500	60	75	90	105	120
4,501 - 6,000	75	90	105	120	135
6,001 - 7,500	90	105	120	135	150
> 7,500	105	120	135	150	165

TABLE M1507.3.3(1) CONTINUOUS WHOLE-HOUSE MECHANICAL VENTILATION SYSTEM AIRFLOW RATE REQUIREMENTS



TYPES OF WHOLE HOUSE VENTILATION



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There are a variety of whole house ventilation strategies:

- Exhaust only
- Supply only
- Balanced





FUNCTION – HEATING & COOLING

- There are a variety of types of heating and cooling systems
- We will focus on forced air ducted systems
- Furnaces & heat pumps essentially replace heat that is lost across the building envelope
- Air conditioning removes heat & moisture (sensible & latent)







HOW AIR CONDITIONING REMOVES MOISTURE



- Warm humid indoor air is blown across a cold coil
- Water vapor in the air condenses on the coil, collects, then exits the home through the condensate line
- This process takes time
- Oversized systems reach the thermostat set point before moisture is removed from home

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L5jQqmaFKOE https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=14MmsNPtn6U

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SECTION 403.1 - HVAC CONTROLS

Mandatory Requirement

Programmable thermostat required for furnace Heat Pump requires lockout capability to prevent unnecessary strip heat







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HEAT PUMP BALANCE POINT

The temperature at which the heat pump can deliver exactly the same amount of Btu's that the house is losing



TYPES OF COOLING LOAD

Sensible Load



Latent Load



Total = Sensible + Latent

CERTIFIED

Certificate of Product Ratings

AHRI Certified Reference Number: 3251832

Date: 3/9/2011

Product: Split System: Air-Cooled Condensing Unit, Coll with Blower Outdoor Unit Model Number: 24ABB442(A,W)30 Indoor Unit Model Number: CNPH*4221A** Furnace Model Number: 58CV(A,X)070-12 Manufacturer: CARRIER AIR CONDITIONING Trade/Brand name: BASE 14 PURON AC

Manufacturer responsible for the rating of this system combination is CARRIER AIR CONDITIONING

Rated as follows in accordance with AHRI Standard 210/240-2008 for Unitary Air-Conditioning and Air-Source Heat Pump Equipment and subject to verification of rating accuracy by AHRI-sponsored, independent, third party testing:

Cooling Capacity (Btuh):	39500
EER Rating (Cooling):	12.00
SEER Rating (Cooling):	14.00

Indoor/Outdoor **Coil Match!**

* Raings followed by an esteriek (*) indicate a voluntary renate of previously published data, unless accompanied with a WAS, which indicates an involuntary renate

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CERTIFICATE NO .: 129441915646465776

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HVAC AND MOISTURE

It's Not the Heat, It's The Humidity..

Atlanta, GA										
Bin Temperature	70-75	75-80	80-85	85-90	90-95	9	95-100	100-105	105-110	Total
# of Hours of Occurrence	1188	880	620	361	17	72	23	2	0	3246
	37%	27%	19%	11%	5	%	1%	0%	0%	
		83%		17%						
Manual J Design, Load base	d on Tempe	erature			9	2°	99	gr/lb		
ASHRAE Humidity Design, l	oad based on Moisture				8	2°	133	gr/lb		
Approximate Extra Moistur	e Added pe	er 100 CFM (of O.S.A.		3	.9 p	ots/hr	or	93.9	pts/day





HVAC EQUIPMENT SIZING



Source: ACCA Manual J (2011) Used courtesy of ACCA

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Systems are sized in order to best fulfill their function

- Heating is sized at a rate to replace lost BTUs
- AC sized for both sensible & latent
- Climate is important (design temps)

HAZARDS OF IMPROPER SIZING

Improper sizing can create a variety of problems This is especially important for air conditioning!



Tendency to oversize AC results in:

- Ineffective moisture removal
- Poor comfort
- IAQ concerns
- Durability issues



Heating:

- Too small poor comfort
- Too big short cycling



SYSTEM AIRFLOW



Proper system airflow rates are essential for effective HVAC performance

- Too fast poor comfort & ineffective moisture removal
- Too slow poor comfort and equipment issues



BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

Variable speed systems:

- Provide effective strategies for consistent performance
- But performance can be compromised by poor duct design, sizing & installation (also filters)
- Proper design & installation is essential for advanced equipment





HVAC SIZING & SELECTION PROCESS

ACCA Manual J & S are the code required methods used to size and select heating & cooling equipment

- Manual J used to determine heating & cooling loads of home
- Manual S used to select equipment based upon Manual J



Air Conditioning Contractors of America

Used courtesy of ACCA



ACCA MANUAL J

- Required by code
- Determines heating and cooling loads (room by room for new construction)
- Necessary for selection, but not intended to be solely used for such



Used courtesy of ACCA



HOW DOES MANUAL J WORK?





LOAD CALCULATION PROCESS

- Select Design Conditions
 - Weather location
 - Indoor conditions
- Fill out Building Description
 - Building Type
 - Construction Materials
 - Construction Tightness



LOAD CALCULATION PROCESS

- Choose System Type
 - Example: Split system AC with gas furnace
 - May be generic or specific systems
- Select Distribution Preferences
 - Duct Materials
 - Registers, register locations



LOAD CALCULATION PROCESS

- Draw the room-by room floor plan
 - As this is completed, the software generates the load calculation
- Select equipment type
 - Choose type of system: split AC with furnace, heat pump, etc.
- Draw ducts
 - Select basic layout (e.g. trunk and branch or radial)
- Generate report



ACCA MANUAL S

- Required by code (2012 IRC)
- Uses load information from Manual J to select equipment



Used courtesy of ACCA



ACCA MANUAL S - SIMPLIFIED

- Heating
 - Between 100% 140% capacity of Manual J
- Cooling
 - Equipment must meet both sensible & latent heat loads
 - No greater than 115% of specified size or next nominal size



Used courtesy of ACCA



ACCA MANUAL S – DIGGING DEEPER

The actual capacity of air conditioning equipment depends upon:

- Outdoor temperature
- Indoor temperature
- Indoor humidity
- System airflow Actual capacity may differ from equipment data plate!



Used courtesy of ACCA

ACCA Manual S is necessary to properly select equipment based upon local conditions!

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DISTRIBUTION

- Duct design (Manual D)
- Installation







ACCA MANUAL D



Used courtesy of ACCA

- Used to design duct system
- Duct layout
- Duct diameters & cfm





FLOW TESTING



- Each room has a specific airflow requirement
- Flow rates should be field verified (best practice)





DUCT SEALING IS CRITICAL!

- Duct sealing & testing are required by code
- Ducts should be sealed regardless of location
- Mastic is the preferred material for sealing



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DUCT LEAKAGE & HOUSE PRESSURE





DUCT LEAKAGE & HOUSE PRESSURE



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DUCT TESTING REQUIREMENTS



- Kentucky code requires leakage testing of ducts (unless located within conditioned space)
- Even if ductwork is exempt from testing, it still must be sealed



DUCT TESTING REQUIREMENTS

Duct leakage must meet one of the following:

- Post-construction duct leakage to outdoors ≤ 8 cfm per 100 ft2
- Post-construction total duct leakage ≤ 12 cfm per 100 ft2
- Rough-in total duct leakage w/AHU ≤ 6 cfm per 100 ft2
- Rough-in total duct leakage without AHU ≤ 4 cfm per 100 ft2





WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

- Theory is nice, but how does this relate to the real world?
- Practical applications





THE REAL WORLD



- Manual J & S are both necessary & required for selection
- However, Manual J is typically the most available document
- Is there a way to make practical decisions with limited information?



MANUAL J DOCUMENTATION



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<u>www.acca.org/standards/</u> <u>approved-software</u>

- There are a variety of ways to perform a Manual J
- Software packages are increasingly being used
- ACCA approved software is listed on ACCA's website
- Some software packages also incorporate Manuals S & D
- Software typically generates a variety of reports



EXAMPLE MANUAL J SCENARIO



	For	Decatur, G	A 3	0329					
	Notes:	R38 ceiling ducts attic	/R wir	R-30 vaults; R ndows U33 S2	13 walls; R-5 c 8	noc	ditioned crawl:		
		Contraction of the local division of the loc		Decision In	6	-			
				Design In	ionnauo)				
	linter Decis	Wea	the	r: Atlanta F	Hartsfield Inti A	۹P.	GA, US Summer Design C	ondition	
	winter Desig	ii conditio	115		-	. "	unimer beargir o	onunion	
Outside db Inside db Design TD			26 70 14	*F *F *F	Outside d Inside db Design TI Daily rany Relative f Moisture	D ge hur diff	nidity erence	92 72 20 M 50 43	THE Santo
	Heating	Summary			Sensi	ibl	e Cooling Equipm	ent Load	Sizing
Structure Ducts Central ver Humidifical	nt (0 cfm) tion	4665 864	85000	Btuh Btuh Btuh Btuh	Structure Ducts Central vi Blower	ent	: (0 cfm)	28752 8207 0 0	Btuh Btuh Btuh Btuh
Equipment	load	5534	2	Btuh	Use mani Rate/swir	ufa	cturer's data multiplier	0.96	1
	Infilt	ation			Equipmen	nts	sensible load	35665	Btuh
Method Constructio	on quality		SS	implified emi-tight	Late	ent	Cooling Equipme	ent Load	Sizing
Area (ft²)		Heating 4842		Cooling 4842	Ducts Central w Equipment	ent i	(0 cfm) atent load	1263 0 6576	Btuh Btuh Btuh
Volume (18 Air change Equiv. AVF	') is/hour = (cfm)	0.19		0.10 54	Equipmer Reg. tota	nt t	otal load apacity at 0.75 SHR	42242 4.0	Btuh ton
Hea	ating Equip	ment Sumr	nar	ry -		C	ooling Equipment	Summa	ry
Make Trade Model AHRI ref	n/a n/a n/a				Make Trade Cond Coil AHRI ref		n/a . n/a n/a n/a n/a		
Efficiency Heating in Heating ou Temperatu Actual air f Air flow fao Static pres Space the	put dput low ctor sure mostat	n/a	000000	n/a Btuh °F cfm cfm/Btuh in H2O	Efficiency Sensible Latent co Total coo Actual air Air flow fa Static pre Load sen	y co oli pin r fic act act ass isit	oling ng J Ww or ure He heat ratio	n/a 0 0 0 0 0 0	Btuh Btuh Btuh cfm cfm/Btuh in H2O



 You are performing a field inspection You are only provided with some type of Manual J documentation (summary, complete printout, etc.) • How can you tell if this is a legitimate Manual J and if the equipment was selected properly?



EXAMPLE MANUAL J SCENARIO



Available information:

- Manual J summary (see example report in course materials)
- Data plates on installed equipment (photos on slides)



DISCLAIMER

- This method is presented solely as a means to perform a very basic quality control check in the field!
- Equipment capacities (sizes) listed on data plates are based upon a specific set of operating conditions, which likely differ from local conditions (outdoor & indoor temperatures and RH)!
- More detailed manufacturer data is necessary to accurately determine the actual capacity of a given cooling system!



EXAMPLE MANUAL J SCENARIO

Sizing Limits				
100% - 140% of total heating load				
100% - 140% of total heating load				
115% of total cooling load*				
115% of total cooling load*				
125% of total cooling load*				
Based on equipment balance point				
100% - 140% of total heating load				

- 1. Locate heating and cooling loads on Manual J
- 2. Determine maximum equipment size by multiplying loads from Manual J by factors derived from Manual S (table)
- 3. Locate equipment capacities (data plates)
- 4. Equipment capacities should meet loads from Manual J, but not exceed the results of calculations from step 2

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EXAMPLE MANUAL J – FURNACE



Note: 75,000 x 0.8 = 60,000

- 1. The heating load from the Manual J is 55342 Btuh
- 2. 140% of the heating load is 77,479 Btuh (1.4 × 55342)
- 3. The output capacity of the installed furnace is 61,000 Btuh
- 4. The installed furnace meets the heating load from the Manual J, but is not larger than 140% of this load (55k < **61k** < 77k Btuh)
- 5. The furnace appears to be sized appropriately

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EXAMPLE MANUAL J – AIR CONDITIONING

From Manual J

Sensible Cooling Equipm	ent Loa	d Sizing
Structure	28752	Btuh
Ducts	8207	Btuh
Central vent (0 cfm)	0	Btuh
Blower	0	Btuh
Use manufacturer's data Rate/swing multiplier Equipment sensible load	0.96 35665	Btuh
Structure	5313	Btuh
Ducts	1263	Btuh
Central vent (0 cfm)	0	Btuh
Equipment latent load	6576	Btuh
Equipment total load	42242	Btuh
Req. total capacity at 0.75 SHR	4.0	ton

A/C condensing unit data plate

MOD. NO. 2TWZ904881000A	A VOLTS	200/230
SERIAL NO. 70218K22F	PH 1	HZ 60
MINIMUM CIRCUIT AMPACITY	25.0	AMPS
OVERCURRENT PROTECTIVE DEVICE	USA	- CANADA
MIN FUSE / BREAKER (HACR)	40	40
MAX FUSE / BREAKER (HACR)	40	40
HCFC - 22 17 LBS. 03	OZ. OR	7.80 kg(SI)

Note: "048 " in model no. represents 48,000 Btuh 48k Btu @ 12k Btu/ton = 4 tons

- 1. The total cooling load from the Manual J is 42,242 Btuh & 4.0 tons is specified
- 2. 115% of the cooling load is 48,578 Btuh (1.15 x 42,242)
- 3. The installed air conditioner is ~48,000 Btuh (4 tons) based upon model number
- 4. The unit meets the total cooling load from the Manual J, but does not appear to be larger than 115% of this load
- 5. This is VERY simplified & should only be used to identify major red flags!

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COMMON PROBLEMS WITH MANUAL J INPUTS



- Manual J's are often not correct – both unintentionally & intentionally
- The results of a Manual J are only as meaningful as the input data (GIGO)
- There are several common input errors that are often found



THE USUAL SUSPECTS



- Design temperatures
- Building orientation
- Number of occupants
- Window area & U-value
- Air leakage



OUTDOOR DESIGN CONDITIONS

Library	Henderson	, KY			•	•••
Weather location	[Henders	on City, KY	, US]			••••
	Elevation	[384] ft		Latitude	[37.82]	°N
	Longitude	[87.68] °	N	Time zone	[-6.0]	
	Weather an	nd shielding fact	or		[0.47]	1
Bin data city		Henderson	City, KY	, US		••••
Earth temperature	city	Example ea	rth city			•••
Mean earth temper	ature				[50]	°F
Annual surface ear	th temperatu	ire swing			[25]	°F
Day of minimum ea	arth surface I	emperature			[38]	day

- The location & design temperatures should be accurately entered into the software
- Typically, city is selected from a menu

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OUTDOOR DESIGN CONDITIONS

- Outdoor design temps are listed in a table in Manual J & within approved software databases
- The 99% design conditions should be used
- Technicians often override inputs to adjust results





INDOOR DESIGN CONDITIONS

ACCA specifies 70° for heating and 75° & 50% RH for cooling

		De	sign Information	
		Weather:	Atlanta Hartsfield Intl AP, GA, US	
Winte	er Design C	onditions	Summer Design	n Conditions
Outside db Inside db Design TD		26 70 44 °F F	Outside db Inside db Design TD Daily range Relative humidity Moisture difference	92 °F 72 °F 20 °F 50 % 50 % gr/lb

These numbers are often subjectively adjusted!

SECTION 302 DESIGN CONDITIONS

302.1 Interior design conditions. The interior design temperatures used for heating and cooling load calculations shall be a maximum of 72°F (22°C) for heating and minimum of 75°F (24°C) for cooling.





ORIENTATION



- The heating & cooling loads on a house are dependent on the orientation, especially for windows
- Compare the orientation listed on Manual J documentation to the actual orientation of the home



NUMBER OF OCCUPANTS



- Occupants represent internal gains
- ACCA specifies to use the number of bedrooms plus one
- For example, a three bedroom house should have four occupants entered into the Manual J



Q: How many Btuh does Manual J assume for each person?



CONSTRUCTION COMPONENTS

- Manual J requires detailed entry of construction data (R-value, U-value, etc.)
- If available, compare the listed components to what is actually in the house
- Pay particular attention to window areas and specifications

Construction descriptions	Or	Area ft [*]	U-value Btuh/ft3-°F	Insul R ft ⁼ .ºF/Btuh
Walls				
12C-0bw: Frm wall, brk 4" ext, 1/2" wood shth, r-13 cav ins, 1/2"	n	545	0.091	13.0
gypsum board int fnsh, 2"x4" wood frm, 16" o.c. stud	ne	17	0.091	13.0
	е	613	0.091	13.0
	S	513	0.091	13.0
	W	486	0.091	13.0
	all	2174	0.091	13.0
15A-4s3oc-4: Bg wall, light dry soil, empty core, concrete block wall,	n	63	0.102	4.0
r-4 ins, 8" thk	n	305	0.093	4.0
	е	232	0.102	4.0
	е	350	0.093	4.0
	s	132	0.102	4.0
	S	205	0.093	4.0
	W	638	0.093	4.0
	all	1924	0.093	4.0
Partitions (none)				
Windows		1000	120 00000	100
U30 S24: U30 S24; NFRC rated (SHGC=0.24); 50% blinds 45°, light; 50% outdoor insect screen; 2 ft overhang (1.5 ft window ht, 1 ft sep.); 6.8 ft head ht	n	18	0.300	0
U33 S31: U33 S31; NFRC rated (SHGC=0.31); 50% blinds 45°, light; 50% outdoor insect screen; 2 ft overhang (3 ft window ht, 1 ft sep.); 6.8 ft head ht	n	9	0.330	0
U32 S29: U32 S29; NFRC rated (SHGC=0.29); 50% blinds 45°, light;	е	41	0.320	0
50% outdoor insect screen; 2 ft overhang (3.3 ft window ht, 1 ft sep.);	s	41	0.320	0
6.8 ft head ht	all	83	0 320	0





AIR LEAKAGE

- Software typically has generic tightness categories that are selected from a menu
 - Tight
 - Semi-tight
 - Average
 - Semi-loose

(substantial)

-

50 Pa

7615 cfm

608 in²

600.1

0.650

• Loose



The materials used in construction cooling and heating loads. Enter the correct load factors and thus cost estimates. Please select appropriate b	on of the property have a significant effect on the ing correct values will help the software determine produce accurate equipment sizing and running puilding materials for the following	N. C.	
Building type	Single Level	÷	
Building materials	Basement - Unfinsished Insulated	-	•••
Load preferences	Conditioned Space	-	
Tightness	Average		-
Number of above grade stories	1		-
Number of fireplaces	0		
A REAL PROPERTY AND			

- More detailed options allow input of the actual infiltration (blower door)
- Using the actual (tested) infiltration will result in a more accurate Manual J



March C

- Compare duct layout and diameters to Manual D
- If Manual D not available, look for red flags
- Crimps, length, inadequate supports, etc.























- Compare installed duct insulation with code requirements
- R-8 required for attics & exterior
- R-6 for other locations





SUMMARY

- Proper HVAC design and installation is not only code required, but important for quality construction
- As technology improves, this is becoming even more crucial
- Design and installation issues can lead to all sorts of problems



SUMMARY

- Man J, S, and D are established protocols that should be performed
- Although things can be complicated, there are practical methods to verify installed components and identify red flags
- Field inspection methods should be used in an appropriate context



QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?



