
Heat recovery ventilators and energy recovery ventilators — Method of test for performance

*Ventilateurs-récupérateurs de chaleur et ventilateurs-récupérateurs
d'énergie — Méthode d'essai des performances*

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Contents

	Page
Foreword	v
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	1
4 Symbols and abbreviated terms	5
5 Airflow test	6
5.1 General conditions.....	6
5.2 Ducted heat recovery ventilators and energy recovery ventilators.....	6
5.3 Unducted heat recovery ventilators and energy recovery ventilators.....	9
6 Tracer gas tests	9
6.1 General conditions.....	9
6.2 Temperature conditions.....	9
6.3 Preconditions.....	9
6.4 Airflow conditions.....	9
6.5 Unit operating voltage and frequency.....	9
6.6 Tracer gas measurement methods.....	9
7 Determination of efficiency	10
7.1 General conditions.....	10
7.2 Temperature and humidity conditions: inlets to ventilator.....	10
7.3 Preconditions.....	10
7.4 Airflow conditions.....	10
7.5 Static pressure conditions: ducted heat and energy recovery ventilators.....	11
7.6 Static pressure conditions: unducted heat and energy recovery ventilators.....	11
7.7 Unit operating voltage and frequency.....	11
7.8 Thermal performance measurement.....	11
8 Performance calculations	11
8.1 Performance calculations: ducted ventilators.....	11
8.2 Performance calculations: unducted ventilators.....	11
8.3 Unit Exhaust Air Transfer Ratio (UEATR).....	11
8.4 Net supply airflow.....	12
8.5 Gross effectiveness.....	13
8.6 Coefficient of energy (COE).....	14
8.7 Effective work (EW).....	15
9 Test results	16
Annex A (normative) Airflow measurement method for both ducted and unducted ventilators	17
Annex B (normative) Decay method for measurement of net supply airflow	19
Annex C (normative) Unit exhaust air transfer ratio measurement methods	21
Annex D (normative) Thermal performance measurement	25
Annex E (informative) Example data collection and reporting sheets	28
Annex F (normative) Required instrument uncertainty	36
Annex G (informative) Construction of plenums for connection to inlets or outlets not designed for connection of ductwork	37
Bibliography	38

Foreword

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The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 86, *Refrigeration and air-conditioning*, Subcommittee SC 6, *Testing and rating of air-conditioners and heat pumps*.

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Heat recovery ventilators and energy recovery ventilators — Method of test for performance

1 Scope

This International Standard prescribes a method of testing the ventilation and energy related performance of heat recovery ventilators (HRVs) and energy recovery ventilators (ERVs) that do not contain any supplemental heating (except for defrost), cooling, humidification or dehumidification components.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 3966:2008, *Measurement of fluid flow in closed conduits — Velocity area method using Pitot static tubes*

ISO 5167-1:2003, *Measurement of fluid flow by means of pressure differential devices inserted in circular cross-section conduits running full — Part 1: General principles and requirements*

ISO 5801:2007, *Industrial fans — Performance testing using standardized airways*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1

outdoor airflow

OA

volume of outside air entering the ventilator

Note 1 to entry: Indicated in [Figure 1](#) as 1.

Note 2 to entry: Also referred to as 'entering supply air'.

3.2

supply airflow

SA

outside air after passing through the ventilator

Note 1 to entry: Indicated in [Figure 1](#) as 2.

Note 2 to entry: Also referred to as 'leaving supply air'.

3.3

return (extract) airflow

RA

indoor air entering the ventilator

Note 1 to entry: Indicated in [Figure 1](#) as 3.

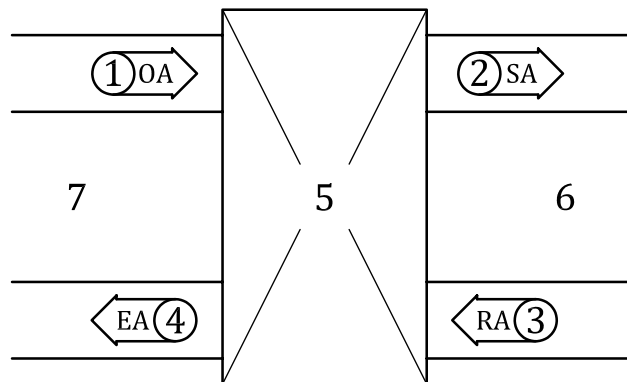
Note 2 to entry: Also referred to as 'entering exhaust air'.

3.4 exhaust airflow EA

indoor air after passing through the ventilator

Note 1 to entry: Indicated in [Figure 1](#) as 4.

Note 2 to entry: Also referred to as 'leaving exhaust air'.



Key

- 1 outdoor airflow (OA) (entering)
- 2 supply airflow (SA) (leaving)
- 3 return airflow (RA) (entering)
- 4 exhaust airflow (EA) (leaving)
- 5 ventilator
- 6 indoor side
- 7 outdoor side

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Figure 1 — Schematic numbering of airflows for heat and energy recovery ventilators

3.5 station

location in the test apparatus at which conditions such as temperature, humidity, pressure, or airflow are measured

Note 1 to entry: These locations are identified as “station 1”, “station 2”, “station 3” and “station 4” for each of the airflows indicated in [Figure 1](#).

3.6 coefficient of energy COE

total exchanged energy between the airstreams plus the power value of moving air, divided by the power input

Note 1 to entry: The equation for determining the coefficient of energy is given in [8.6](#).

3.7 rating points

sets of supply and return airflows, static pressures at inlets and outlets, and speed control setting, achieved during the airflow performance measurement, at which thermal performance tests (and exhaust air transfer tests, if applicable) are performed

3.8

effective work

EW

total exchanged energy between the airstreams plus the power value of moving air minus the power input

Note 1 to entry: The equation for determining the effective work is given in [8.7](#).

Note 2 to entry: Effective work is expressed in W.

3.9

power value of moving air

rate of pressure energy and kinetic energy of the air delivered by the ventilator

Note 1 to entry: The equation that determines the power value of moving air is given in [8.6.1](#).

Note 2 to entry: Power value of moving air is expressed in J/s for P_{vma} .

3.10

gross effectiveness

measured effectiveness, not adjusted for leakage, motor heat gain, or heat transfer through the unit casing

Note 1 to entry: The sensible, latent or total gross effectiveness of an HRV or ERV, at equal airflows, is described in [8.5](#).

3.11

maximum rated airflow

the largest supply and return airflows, specified by the manufacturer, at which an airflow test is performed

Note 1 to entry: For ventilators with speed control devices, different maximum rated airflows may be defined for each speed control setting at which the test is performed.

3.12

minimum rated airflow

the smallest supply and return airflows, specified by the manufacturer, at which an airflow test is performed

Note 1 to entry: For ventilators with speed control devices, different minimum rated airflows may be defined for each speed control setting at which the test is performed.

3.13

net supply airflow

portion of the leaving supply airflow that originated as entering supply airflow

Note 1 to entry: The net supply airflow is represented by the variable Q_{SNet} , measured in m³/s.

Note 2 to entry: The equations for determining net supply airflow are given in [8.4.1](#) (ducted units) and [8.4.2](#) (unducted units).

3.14

net supply airflow ratio

ratio determined by dividing net supply airflow by supply airflow

Note 1 to entry: Expressed as a percentage, and described in [8.4.1](#) and [8.4.2](#).

3.15

speed control device

device incorporated into the ventilator which controls the speed of the fan

3.16

standard air

dry air with a density of 1,2 kg/m³

Note 1 to entry: These conditions approximate dry air at 20°C and 101,325 kPa absolute.

3.17

static pressure differential

absolute difference between inlet static pressure and outlet static pressure for each of the two airstreams

EXAMPLE Static pressures measured at $|X_2 - X_1|$, or $|X_4 - X_3|$.

3.18

thermal performance measurement

test procedure which measures the temperature and humidity of the supply air when a ventilator is operating with the outside air and return air at specific psychrometric conditions

3.19

unit exhaust air transfer ratio

UEATR

tracer gas concentration difference between the supply airflow and the outdoor airflow divided by the tracer gas concentration difference between the return airflow and the outdoor airflow, at a specified airflow

Note 1 to entry: The equation for UEATR is given in [8.3](#).

Note 2 to entry: UEATR is expressed as a percentage.

3.20

ventilator

self contained unit that includes fans to move air through the heat/energy exchanger

3.21

energy recovery ventilator

ERV

ventilator which is designed to transfer both heat and moisture between two isolated airstreams

3.22

fresh air mass flow rate

q_{m2}

leaving supply mass airflow rate at station 2

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3.23

heat recovery ventilator

HRV

ventilator which is designed to transfer only heat between two isolated airstreams

3.24

unducted ventilator

heat recovery ventilator or energy recovery ventilator which is not intended for connection of ducts to any of the airflow inlets or outlets except for model specific exterior termination systems as defined in [3.27](#)

3.25

ducted ventilator

heat recovery ventilator or energy recovery ventilator which is intended for connection of ducts to one or more of the airflow inlets or outlets and intended to address a range of static pressure differentials from the duct(s)

3.26

duct

insulated or uninsulated closed passage for air that is installed as part of the ventilation system in lengths determined by the needs of application, and is separate, prior to installation from exterior terminations such as weather hoods

3.27**model-specific exterior termination system**

weather hoods, fittings and through-wall penetrations designed by the ventilator manufacturer specifically for installation with a specific model of ventilator, that comprise the complete passageway connecting the ventilators outside air inlet and/or exhaust air outlet to the ventilator

3.28**net supply mass flow rate**

$qm_{2,net}$

portion of the leaving supply mass airflow rate at station 2 that originated as entering supply mass flow rate at station 1, accounting for *UEATR*

Note 1 to entry: Per the equation in [8.6.1](#) and [8.6.2](#).

4 Symbols and abbreviated terms

Symbol	Definition	Units
C_i	Initial tracer gas concentration in the test chamber (average of all measurement points)	
C_o	Tracer gas concentration in outdoor air (OA)	
C_{OA}	Tracer gas concentration at outdoor air inlet (station 1)	
C_p	Specific heat at supply airflow	kJ/kg K
C_{RA}	Tracer gas concentration at return air inlet (station 3)	
C_{SA}	Tracer gas concentration at supply air outlet (station 2)	
C_t	Tracer gas concentration in the test chamber after t hours (average of all measurement points)	
h_1	Enthalpy of the air at station 1	kJ/kg of dry air
h_2	Enthalpy of the air at station 2	kJ/kg of dry air
qm_2	Fresh air mass flow rate	kg/s
$qm_{2,net}$	Net supply mass flow rate	kg/s
NSAR	Net supply airflow ratio	%
P_{aux}	Input power to any other electrical components in the ventilator	W
P_{em}	Input power to all electric motors in the ventilator	W
P_{in}	Input power to ventilator	W
P_{vma}	Power value of moving air	J/s
Q	Gross airflow	m ³ /s
Q_1	Average of the three calculated overall airflow rates with the unit under test in operation as described in B.2.1.1 and B.2.1.2	m ³ /s
Q_2	Average of the three calculated natural airflow rates of the test chamber with the ventilator removed as described in B.2.2.1 and B.2.2.2	m ³ /s
Q_i	Airflow rate calculated using the data from a test 'i' as described in B.2.1.1 , B.2.1.2 , B.2.2.1 and B.2.2.2	m ³ /s
Q_{SA}	Supply airflow	m ³ /s
Q_{SAnet}	Net supply airflow	m ³ /s
ps_n	External static pressures at the inlet(s) or outlet(s)	Pa
t	Length of time elapsed since the start of test unit operation	s
T_1	Temperature of the outdoor airflow at station 1	K
T_2	Temperature of the supply airflow at station 2	K

Symbol	Definition	Units
UEATR	Unit exhaust air transfer ratio	%
V	Air volume in the test chamber	m ³
v_s	Specific volume of the supply air	m ³ /kg
x	Dry-bulb temperature (for sensible effectiveness); or absolute humidity ratio (for latent effectiveness); or total enthalpy (for total effectiveness).	°C kg water/kg dry air J/kg
ε	Effectiveness	

5 Airflow test

5.1 General conditions

All tested equipment within the scope of this International Standard shall have the airflows determined in accordance with the following provisions:

5.1.1 Temperature conditions

When measuring airflow, the laboratory ambient conditions shall be 20 ± 15 °C and 30 to 95 % RH. Laboratory ambient temperature during the test shall be recorded and reported.

5.1.2 Speed control setting

The ventilator shall be tested using the manufacturer specified speed control settings. Speed control settings shall not be adjusted during the test.

5.1.3 Unit operating voltage and frequency

The power supply voltage at the operating unit shall be within ± 2 % of the rated voltage. The power supply frequency at the operating unit shall be within ± 1 % of the rated frequency.

5.2 Ducted heat recovery ventilators and energy recovery ventilators

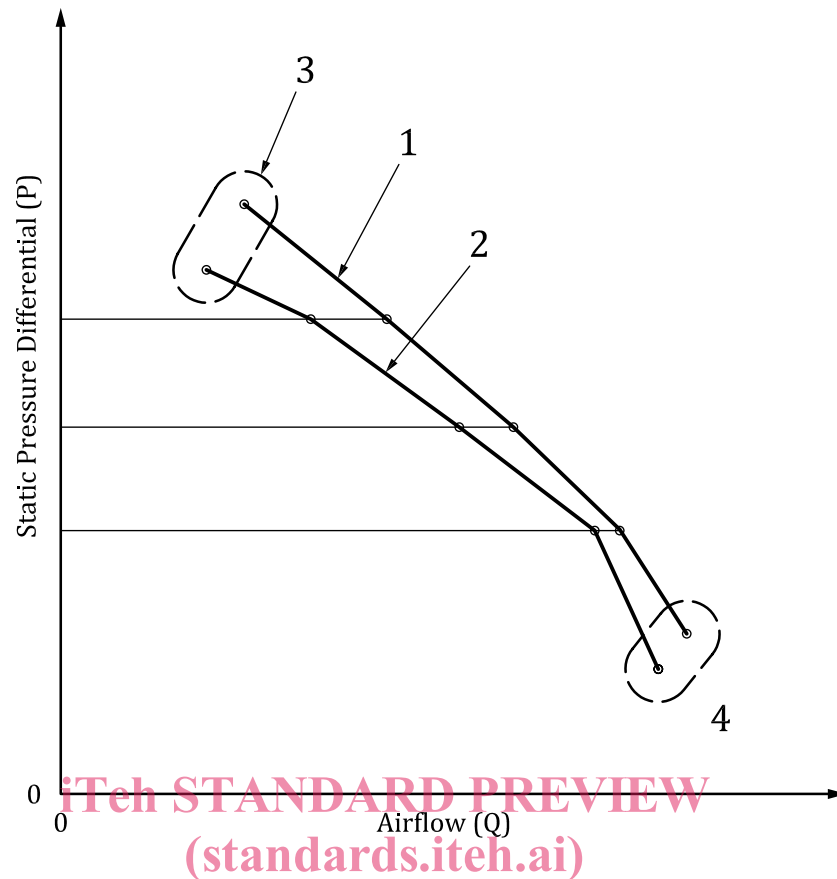
5.2.1 Airflows measured

The gross airflow shall be measured and recorded at station 2 (Supply Airflow) and at station 3 (Return Airflow) as shown in [Figure 1](#), under the static pressure conditions indicated in [5.2.2](#).

5.2.2 Static pressure conditions

5.2.2.1 In order to properly characterize the performance of the unit, the ventilator shall be tested at specified maximum rated and minimum rated airflows and at a minimum of three additional, approximately evenly spaced intermediate airflows between the maximum rated airflow and minimum rated airflow. This gives a minimum of five test points as shown in [Figure 2](#). The airflow test points must be reached by adjusting the test apparatus to change the static pressure differential. If the ventilator is equipped with a speed control device, it shall not be adjusted during this test. Input power in watts shall be measured and recorded at each test point.

5.2.2.2 Any inlet or outlet which is not designed for duct connection shall be maintained at an average value of $0 \pm 2,5$ Pa, static pressure for all test points. However, if the ventilator is designed for installation with model-specific exterior termination system as defined in [3.27](#), that system shall be installed.



Key

- 1 P-Q curve (supply airflow)
- 2 P-Q curve (return airflow)
- 3 minimum rated airflow
- 4 maximum rated airflow

Figure 2 — Representative chart of airflow performance

5.2.2.3 Static pressure measurement requirements

When testing for airflow, the requirements of 5.2.2.3 a) or 5.2.2.3 b) shall apply.

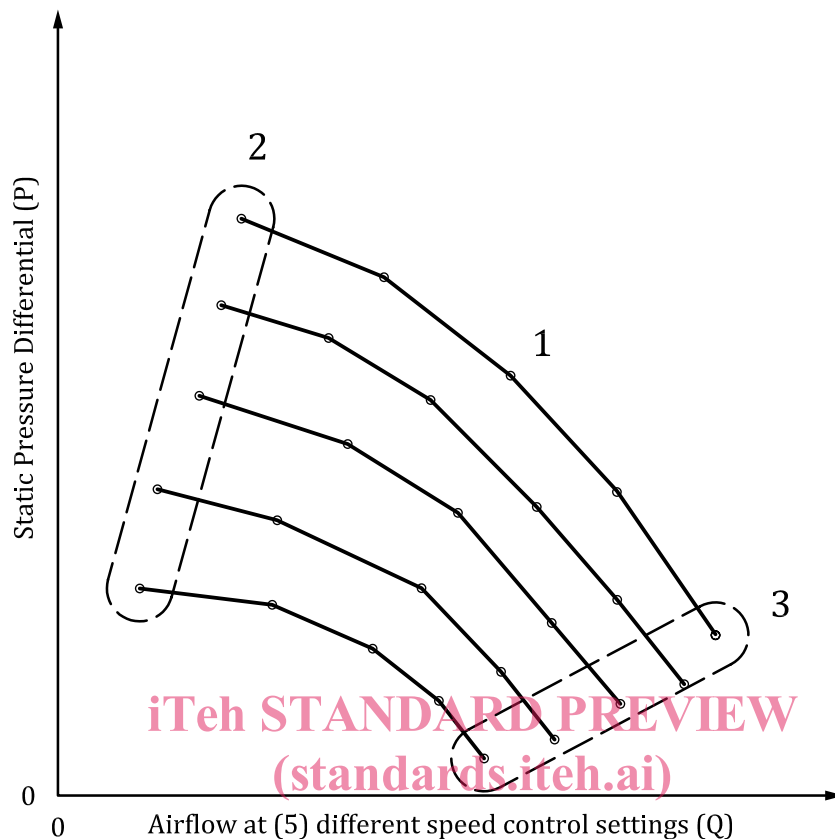
a) Only for units tested in a ducted setup:

- 1) For the maximum and minimum rated airflows the absolute value of static pressure at inlet (ps_1) and outlet (ps_2) shall be equal within 10 Pa or 5 %, whichever is greater, of the larger of the measured values of ps_1 or ps_2 , except as noted in 5.2.2.2.
- 2) The absolute value of static pressure at inlet (ps_3) and outlet (ps_4) shall be equal, within 10 Pa or 5 %, whichever is greater, of the larger of the measured values of ps_3 and ps_4 , except as noted in 5.2.2.2.
- 3) For each intermediate test point, the absolute value of static pressures at each inlet and outlet (ps_1 , ps_2 , ps_3 and ps_4) shall be equal within 10 Pa or 5 %, whichever is greater, of the largest of the measured value of ps_1 , ps_2 , ps_3 or ps_4 , except as noted in 5.2.2.2.

b) Only for units tested in a two room setup:

- 1) For all tests the value of static pressure at inlet (ps_1) and inlet (ps_3) shall be ≤ 0 Pa, and (ps_1) and (ps_3) shall be equal within 10 Pa, or 5 %, whichever is greater, of the larger of the measured values of ps_1 or ps_3 .

- 2) The value of static pressure at the outlets (ps_2) and (ps_4) shall be equal, within 10 Pa, or 5 %, whichever is greater, of the larger measured value of ps_2 or ps_4 , except as noted in 5.2.2.2.



Key

- 1 P-Q curves
- 2 minimum rated airflows
- 3 maximum rated airflows

NOTE Each of the individual P-Q curves shown here is generated at a different speed control setting. In this example, the ventilator either has just five discrete speed control settings, or has a continuously-variable speed control. See 5.2.2.4. For simplification, in this example only the supply air P-Q curves are shown.

Figure 3 — Representative chart of multispeed/variable speed ventilator airflow performance

5.2.2.4 For units with speed controls, additional airflow tests must be performed at the alternate speed settings. If the speed control device setting is infinitely variable, the test as described in 5.2.2.1 shall be performed separately at a minimum of five speed control settings, including the highest and lowest speed control setting and a minimum of three additional approximately evenly spaced speed control settings between the highest and lowest settings.

5.2.2.5 If supply and return airflows cannot be measured simultaneously, static pressures at all four stations at the time of measurement of the second airflow must be equal within ± 10 Pa, or 5 % of the larger of the measured static pressures, whichever is greater, to the static pressures at the time of measurement of the first airflow.

5.2.3 Airflow measurement methods for ducted heat recovery and energy recovery ventilators

Airflow measurement methods are given in Annex A.

5.3 Unducted heat recovery ventilators and energy recovery ventilators

5.3.1 Airflows measured

The net supply airflow shall be determined. Input power, in watts, shall be measured and recorded.

5.3.2 Static pressure conditions

The effective/net airflow shall be determined with the static pressures at all inlets and outlets equal within $\pm 2,5$ Pa.

5.3.3 Airflow measurement methods for unducted heat recovery and energy recovery ventilators

Net supply airflow measurement methods are given in [Annex B](#) for the decay method. Alternately, the net supply airflow for unducted ventilators may be measured at points 2 and 3, by the methods given in [Annex A](#) and [Annex C](#), and the Formula in [8.4.1](#) provided that appropriate plenums are constructed around the inlets and outlets as indicated in [Annex G](#). If the ventilator is designed for installation with model-specific exterior termination systems as defined in [3.18](#), that system shall be installed.

6 Tracer gas tests

6.1 General conditions

All heat recovery ventilators and energy recovery ventilators within the scope of this International Standard shall have the unit exhaust air transfer rate and the net supply airflow rate or net supply airflow volume determined in accordance with the provisions of this clause of this International Standard.

Tracer gas tests at other airflows and static pressure regimes may also be performed.

6.2 Temperature conditions

During tracer gas tests the laboratory ambient conditions shall be 20 ± 15 °C and 30 to 95 % RH.

6.3 Preconditions

Airstreams shall be held at lab ambient temperature and humidity conditions and must remain stable for the duration of the tracer gas test. Test(s) shall be performed until tracer gas levels have stabilized.

6.4 Airflow conditions

Tracer gas testing shall be performed at the same static pressures, and at the same speed control setting used for the thermal performance measurement as required by sections [5.2.2.2](#), [5.2.2.3](#) and [5.2.2.4](#) in accordance with the setup type (ducted or two-room) chosen for the tracer gas testing.

6.5 Unit operating voltage and frequency

The power supply voltage at the operating unit shall be within ± 2 % of the rated voltage. The power supply frequency at the operating unit shall be within ± 1 % of the rated frequency.

6.6 Tracer gas measurement methods

Tracer gas measurement methods are given in [Annex B](#) or [Annex C](#).