

Designation: E 1664 - 95a (Reapproved 1999)

An American National Standard

# Standard Classification for Serviceability of an Office Facility for Layout and Building Factors<sup>1,2</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation E 1664; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

### 1. Scope

- 1.1 This classification contains pairs of scales for classifying an aspect of the serviceability of an office facility, that is, the capability of an office facility to meet certain possible requirements for layout and building factors.
- 1.2 Within that aspect of serviceability, each pair of scales, shown in Figs. 1-3, are for classifying one topic of serviceability. Each paragraph in an Occupant Requirement Scale (see Figs. 1-3) summarizes one level of serviceability on that topic, which occupants might require. The matching entry in the Facility Rating Scale (see Figs. 1-3) is a translation of the requirement into a description of certain features of a facility which, taken in combination, indicate that the facility is likely to meet that level of required serviceability.
- 1.3 The entries in the Facility Rating Scale (see Figs. 1-3) are indicative and not comprehensive. They are for quick scanning to estimate approximately, quickly, and economically, how well an office facility is likely to meet the needs of one or another type of occupant group over time. The entries are not for measuring, knowing, or evaluating how an office facility is performing.
- 1.4 This classification can be used to estimate the level of serviceability of an existing facility. It can also be used to estimate the serviceability of a facility that has been planned but not yet built, such as one for which single-line drawings and outline specifications have been prepared.
- 1.5 This classification indicates what would cause a facility to be rated at a certain level of serviceability but does not state how to conduct a serviceability rating nor how to assign a serviceability score. That information is found in Practice E 1334. The scales in this classification are complimentary to and compatible with Practice E 1334. Each requires the other.

### 2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

E 631 Terminology of Building Constructions<sup>3</sup>

E 1334 Practice for Rating Serviceability of a Building or Building-Related Facility<sup>3</sup>

E 1679 Practice for Setting Requirements for Serviceability of a Building or Building-Related Facility<sup>3</sup>

2.2 ISO Document:<sup>4</sup>

ISO 6240 International Standard, Performance Standards in Building—Contents and Presentation

2.3 ASHRAE Standard:<sup>5</sup>

ASHRAE 62-89 Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air Quality

2.4 ANSI Document:<sup>4</sup>

ANSI Z65.1 Method for Measuring Floor Area in Office Buildings

### 3. Terminology

- 3.1 Definitions:
- 3.1.1 *facility*—a physical setting used to serve a specific purpose.
- 3.1.1.1 *Discussion*—A facility may be within a building, a whole building, or a building with its site and surrounding environment; or it may be a construction that is not a building. The term encompasses both the physical object and its use (see Terminology E 631).
- 3.1.2 facility serviceability—the capability of a facility to perform the function(s) for which it is designed, used, or required to be used.
- 3.1.2.1 *Discussion*—The scope of this performance is of the facility as a system, including its subsystems, components and materials and their interactions, such as acoustical, hydrothermal, air purity, and economic; and of the relative importance of each performance requirement (see Terminology E 631).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This classification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E-6 on Performance of Buildings and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E06.25 on Whole Buildings and Facilities.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Portions of this document are based on material originally prepared by the International Centre for Facilities (ICF) and <sup>®</sup> 1993 by ICF and Minister of Public Works and Government Services Canada. Their cooperation in the development of this standard is acknowledged.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 04.11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Available from American National Standards Institute, 11 W. 42nd St., 13th Floor, New York, NY 10036.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Available from American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, 1791 Tullie Circle NE, Atlanta, GA 30329.



- 3.1.3 *office*—a place, such as a room, suite, or building, in which business, clerical or professional activities are conducted (see Terminology E 631).
- 3.1.4 For standard definitions of additional terms applicable to this classification, see Terminology E 631.
  - 3.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:
- 3.2.1 building loss factor—in a facility, expressed as a percentage of a facility's usable floor area, the space not effective for planning because of building design. It is the floor area percentage that must be used for excess circulation, oversize footprints, or "dead space," because of floorplate configuration.
- 3.2.2 building projection—a pilaster, convector, baseboard heating unit, radiator, or other building element located in the interior of a building adjacent to a building wall that prevents the use of that space for furniture, equipment, circulation, or other functions.
- 3.2.3 *floorplate*—an entire floor of a building, thought of as a solid plane with specific shape and dimensions.
- 3.2.4 occupiable area—that portion of usable area that is actually available for efficient space planning and furniture layout for office functions, after deducting the area of any building elements or design features that prevent floor area from being so used, for example, columns, perimeter convectors, and projections from walls; or a narrow space between a column and a wall, which cannot be used for placement of furniture or for people to walk; or an angle in a wall, or diagonal alignment of a wall, leaving a zone where furniture cannot be placed.
- 3.2.5 occupied zone—the region within an occupied space between planes 3 and 72 in. (75 and 1800 mm) above the floor and more than 2 ft (600 mm) from the walls or fixed air-conditioning equipment (see ASHRAE 62-1989).
- 3.2.6 primary circulation—the portion of a building that is a public corridor, lobby, or the common-use portion of the base floor of an atrium; or is required for access by all occupants on a floor to stairs, elevators, toilet rooms, or building entrances or emergency exits or refuge areas.
- 3.2.7 secondary circulation area—the portion of a building required for access to some subdivision of space whether bounded by walls or not, that does not serve all occupants on a floor, and that is not defined as primary circulation area.
- 3.2.8 usable area—the sum of all floor areas of a facility assigned to, or available for assignment to, occupant groups, including interior walls, building columns and projections, and secondary circulation.

### 4. Significance and Use

- 4.1 Each Facility Rating Scale (see Figs. 1-3) in this classification provides a means to estimate the level of service-ability of a building or facility for one topic of serviceability and to compare that level against the level of any other building or facility.
- 4.2 This classification can be used for comparing how well different buildings or facilities meet a particular requirement for serviceability. It is applicable despite differences such as location, structure, mechanical systems, age, and building shape.
- 4.3 This classification can be used to estimate the amount of variance of serviceability from target or from requirement, for a single office facility or within a group of office facilities.
  - 4.4 This classification can be used to estimate the following:
- 4.4.1 Serviceability of an existing facility for uses other than its present use.
- 4.4.2 Serviceability (potential) of a facility that has been planned but not yet built.
- 4.4.3 Serviceability (potential) of a facility for which remodeling has been planned.
- 4.5 Use of this classification does not result in building evaluation or diagnosis. Building evaluation or diagnosis generally requires a special expertise in building engineering or technology and the use of instruments, tools, or measurements.
- 4.6 This classification applies only to facilities that are building constructions, or parts thereof. (While this classification may be useful in rating the serviceability of facilities that are not building constructions, such facilities are outside the scope of this classification.)
- 4.7 This classification is not intended for, and is not suitable for, use for regulatory purposes, nor for fire hazard assessment nor for fire risk assessment.

## 5. Basis of Classification 93827/astm-e1664-95a1999

- 5.1 The scales in Figs. 1-3 contain the basis for classification.
- 5.2 Instructions for the use of this classification are contained in Practices E 1334 and E 1679.
- 5.3 Detailed instructions for using the table shown in Fig. 4 are contained within that table.

#### 6. Keywords

6.1 building; building layout factors; building loss factors; facility; facility occupants; function; HVAC; layout factors; office; performance; rating; rating scale; requirements; serviceability



### Scale A.7.1. Influence of HVAC on layout

#### **Occupant Requirement Scale Facility Rating Scale** O CHOICE OF OPEN OR CLOSED O Type of layout: With a minimum of adjustment, the HVAC system OFFICES: Occupants require that design will suit all basic types of layout, e.g. all or mostly open plan, all with a minimum of adjustment, or mostly enclosed rooms, or mixed. HVAC can accommodate all basic O Location of rooms: The HVAC systems do not limit the extent or types of layout, e.g. all or mostly location of rooms or open plan areas. Systems have ample capacity to open plan, all or mostly enclosed provide additional air and thermal control for meeting rooms and for rooms, or mixed. places requiring exhaust to the outside. O CONSTRAINTS ON USE OF O <u>Screens and furniture</u>: The flow of air to the occupied zone is not **CLOSED OFFICES**: No restriction affected by screens, walls or furniture, or any type of layout. on the extent or location of enclosed O **Population density**: The required range for temperature, humidity rooms or open plan areas, placement and indoor air conditions, can be achieved or exceeded with densities of screens or furniture. up to an average space per occupant of 12 m<sup>2</sup> of usable area. O CONSTRAINTS ON O Upgrade: Adjustments of HVAC services, to meet special POPULATION DENSITY: The requirements or changes to layout, could be done at low cost, e.g. an unit's population density can be as additional 5% to 15% of fitup cost. high as 1 person per 12 m<sup>2</sup>. 7 O CHOICE OF OPEN OR CLOSED 7 O Type of layout: With a moderate amount of effort and cost, the **OFFICES**: Occupants require that HVAC system design suits all basic types of layout, e.g. all or mostly with a moderate amount of effort open plan, all or mostly enclosed rooms, or mixed. and cost, HVAC can be adjusted to O Location of rooms: With a moderate amount of effort and cost, the accommodate all basic types of HVAC system design suits all basic types of layout, e.g. all or mostly layout, e.g. all or mostly open plan, open plan, all or mostly enclosed rooms, or mixed. all or mostly enclosed offices, or O Screens and furniture: The flow of air to the occupied zone is found mixed. to be only slightly affected by screens, walls or furniture. The flow is, or O CONSTRAINTS ON USE OF would be, impeded by dense installations of screens, or screens and **CLOSED OFFICES:** No restriction furniture systems that trap air at floor level. Changing diffusers and air on the extent or location of rooms or injection rates would likely solve the problem, and air supply capacity open plan areas. Have some dense 6 areas of screens or screens/furniture O <u>Population density</u>: The required range for temperature, humidity that trap air at floor level. and indoor air conditions, can be achieved with densities up to an O CONSTRAINTS ON average space per occupant of 13.5 m<sup>2</sup> per person of usable area. POPULATION DENSITY: The O **Upgrade**: Adjustments of HVAC services, to meet special unit's population density may be as requirements or changes to layout, could be done at moderate cost, e.g. high as 1 person per usable 13.5 m<sup>2</sup>. an additional 10% to 25% of fitup cost. O CHOICE OF OPEN OR CLOSED 5 O Type of layout: HVAC suits some combinations of open plan and OFFICES: The layout may be either enclosed rooms, when one or the other is predominant, e.g. open plan, mostly open plan, e.g. 70% to 80% of 70% to 80% of the workplace area, or, enclosed rooms, 60% to 80% of the the workplace area, or mostly workplace area. enclosed rooms, e.g. 60% to 80% of O Location of rooms: HVAC systems partly limit provision and the workplace area. Able to be location of rooms or open plan areas. Systems are capable of providing flexible in the arrangement of rooms additional air and thermal control for meetings in a limited number of and open areas. Require a small meeting rooms. number of meeting rooms. O Screens and furniture: Screens, walls and furniture are found to O CONSTRAINTS ON USE OF affect the flow of air to the occupied zone. The extent of obstruction **CLOSED OFFICES**: Can accept depends on the type of furniture/screen system, location and direction constraints of using only screens of screens, walls and large items of furniture. Changing diffusers and with good clearance above floor for injection rates to mitigate the problem would be difficult or expensive, air movement, and layouts of because of constraints in the air supply system, or existing variable-air-

Scale A.7.1. continued on next page

furniture, file cabinets and screens

that do not trap air, to suit location

(continued)

FIG. 1 Scale A.7.1 for Influence of HVAC on Layout

volume mixing boxes.

(continued)



# Scale A.7.1. Influence of HVAC on layout (continued)

#### **Occupant Requirement Facility Rating Scale** Scale **5** (continued) 5 (continued) of ceiling vents and planned air O Population density: To achieve target for temperature and indoor air, movement, e.g. from perimeter the average space per occupant should be at least 15 m<sup>2</sup> per person of 4 to core of building. usable area. O CONSTRAINTS ON O <u>Upgrade</u>: Adjustments of HVAC services, while maintaining basic **POPULATION DENSITY: The** standard of fitup, is or would be at moderate cost. Upgrade for enhanced unit's population density may be serviceability would substantially add to the total cost of office installation. no higher than 1 person per usable 15 m<sup>2</sup>. O Type of layout: HVAC suits predominantly open plan, e.g. 90%, or 3 O CHOICE OF OPEN OR predominantly enclosed rooms with openable windows for ventilation. **CLOSED OFFICES:** It is O <u>Location of rooms</u>: Ventilation and temperature control systems limit acceptable that the space be the provision and location of rooms, e.g. rooms cannot total more than 10% predominantly open plan (90%). of usable area, with rooms mostly located at perimeter or mostly at core. O CONSTRAINTS ON USE OF Rooms, if installed, become stuffy if used for meetings lasting more than **CLOSED OFFICES:** Few screens two hours, or for consecutive meetings. or high furniture. Few rooms, O Screens and furniture: Standard screens and furniture are found to located at perimeter or core, are obstruct the flow of air to the occupied zone, regardless of the type of used only for short meetings. 2 furniture or screen system, or layout. This could be partially mitigated by O CONSTRAINTS ON changing diffusers and air injection volumes and rates, but at great expense **POPULATION DENSITY: The** and disruption to office workers while ceiling is opened for work. unit's population density can be O Population density: To achieve tolerable working conditions, the as low as 1 person per 18 to 20 average space per occupant must be in the range of 18 m<sup>2</sup> to 20 m<sup>2</sup> per m². person of usable area. O Upgrade: An upgrade of HVAC services to basic standard would greatly add to the total cost of office installation, e.g. up to double the fitup cost. https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standard 1 1 O <u>Type of layout</u>: HVAC suits 100% open plan, but not enclosed rooms. O CHOICE OF OPEN OR O <u>Location of rooms</u>: Ventilation and temperature control systems severely **CLOSED OFFICES:** The dictate and limit the provision and location of rooms, e.g. rooms cannot occupant requires no enclosed rooms and few screens or high total more than 5% of usable area, with rooms only located at the perimeter or only at the core. Rooms, if installed, become stuffy if used for meetings furniture. lasting more than an hour, or for consecutive meetings. O CONSTRAINTS ON USE OF O Screens and furniture: Standard screens and furniture are found to **CLOSED OFFICES:** Few obstruct the flow of air to the occupied zone, regardless of the type of meetings last over an hour. furniture or screen system, or layout, and it is not feasible to remedy the O CONSTRAINTS ON **POPULATION DENSITY: The** O **Population density**: To achieve tolerable working conditions, the unit's population density is lower than 20 to 25 m<sup>2</sup> per average space per occupant must be in the range of 20 m<sup>2</sup> to 25 m<sup>2</sup> per person of usable area. person. O <u>Upgrade</u>: An upgrade of HVAC services to basic standard would greatly add to the total cost of office installation, e.g. more than doubles fitup cost...

□ Exceptionally important. □ Impor	tant. 🗖 <u>M</u> inor Importance.
$\underline{\mathbf{T}}$ Minimum $\underline{\mathbf{T}}$ hreshold level =	□NA □NR □Zero □DP

**NOTES** Space for handwritten notes on Requirements or Ratings

FIG. 1 Scale A.7.1 for Influence of HVAC on Layout (continued)



### Scale A.7.2. Influence of sound and visual features on layout

#### **Occupant Requirement Scale Facility Rating Scale** O TOLERANCE OF SOUND AND O Main Aisles: Main aisles can be planned within a range of optional VISUAL CONDITIONS: widths and locations so distraction and disruption due to traffic in main Operations require that there be a aisles are avoided. lot of flexibility in the arrangement O Location of workstations: Individual workstations, group areas and of main aisles, individual enclosed rooms can be located in any part of the floor and achieve a workstations, and group areas, to high level of speech privacy and intelligibility without modification to achieve a high level of speech the building or services. privacy and intelligibility and a O <u>VDU locations</u>: VDU screens can be located in any part of the floor minimum of distraction and and facing any direction without resulting in glare off screens due to disruption, e.g. a high level of lights or windows. privacy and/or concentration is 8 O Type of layout: Sound and visual conditions can be provided to a needed. high level, regardless of the kind of office layout, e.g. all in any form of O AVOIDING GLARE ON VDU open plan, all in enclosed rooms, or combinations of open and enclosed. SCREENS: Require that VDU O <u>Upgrade</u>: Good conditions are achievable without modification, or screens can be placed in any location with only minor added cost. without glare. O TOLERANCE OF SOUND AND O Main aisles: Main aisles can be planned within a range of optional **VISUAL CONDITIONS:** widths and locations which limit or avoid distraction and disruption. O Location of workstations: Individual workstations, group areas and Operations require that main aisles, individual workstations, and group enclosed rooms can be located in any part of the floor and achieve a basic level of speech privacy and intelligibility without modification to areas can be arranged for a basic the building or services. level of speech privacy and O <u>VDU locations</u>: VDU screens can be located in any part of the floor intelligibility and a minimum of distraction and disruption, and facing any direction except toward windows, with only slight glare regardless of the type of office due to light sources. layout. O Type of layout: Sound and visual conditions can be provided to a 6 O AVOIDING GLARE ON VDU basic level with any kind of office layout, e.g. all in any form of open **SCREENS**: Require that there be plan, all in enclosed rooms, or combinations of open and enclosed. flexibility in the placement of VDU O <u>Upgrade</u>: Conditions are acceptable and achievable without screens, vis-a-vis glare and modification to the building or services, or with minor modification and reflections. added cost. 5 O Main aisles: Space planning is constrained by given widths and O TOLERANCE OF SOUND AND locations of main aisles resulting in unavoidable distraction or **VISUAL CONDITIONS:** disruption, if prearranged locations are not maintained. Operations can accommodate O Location of workstations: Individual workstations, group areas and prearranged layouts of main aisles. enclosed rooms can be located in any part of the floor and achieve a Operations require that individual basic level of speech privacy and intelligibility. Enhanced levels require workstations, group areas and some modification to the building or services, or both. enclosed rooms can be arranged for O VDU locations: VDU screens can be located anywhere on the floor a basic level of speech privacy and (subject to a suitable illumination level). Must face a specific direction intelligibility, with the potential for to avoid glare, e.g. parallel to windows or parallel to light fittings. enhancement by modifying building and/or services. O Type of layout: Sound and visual conditions can be provided to a basic level with any one or two but not all three kinds of office layout, O AVOIDING GLARE ON VDU e.g. all in some form of open plan, all in enclosed rooms, or 4 SCREENS: It is acceptable that VDU combinations of open and enclosed. screens must be set up in a specific O <u>Upgrade</u>: Achieving acceptable conditions requires modification with direction to avoid glare. substantial added cost.

Scale A.7.2. continued on next page

FIG. 2 Scale A.7.2 for the Influence of Sound and Visual Factors on Layout



# Scale A.7.2. Influence of sound and visual features on layout (continued)

Occ	cupant Requirement Scale			Facility Rating Scale
A C V C C C C C V C C C C V C C C C C C	O TOLERANCE OF SOUND AND VISUAL CONDITIONS: Location and width of main aisles or corridors is irrelevant or not important. Poor sound and visual conditions can be colerated. O AVOIDING GLARE ON VDU SCREENS: Few VDU screens, or screens are used only for a short time.	2	3 🗖	O <u>Main aisles</u> : Because of floorplate configuration, main aisle or corridor locations and widths result in serious distraction and disruption to many people and groups, requiring special design measures, e.g. extra-high screens, extra meeting rooms and retreat spaces for occupants, extra distance between workstations, and avoiding regular use of workstations next to aisles.  O <u>Location of workstations</u> : Almost regardless of the location, individual workstations, enclosed rooms and group areas experience poor conditions. It is possible to fix these conditions.  O <u>VDU locations</u> : From most locations, VDU screens reflect glare from light or windows. Some operators suffer eyestrain, headaches, etc., if working for several hours at a screen.  O <u>Type of layout</u> : Acoustic and/or visual conditions best suit only one type of office planning e.g. all or most occupants in enclosed rooms, or almost all in open plan.  O <u>Upgrade</u> : Upgrade is possible but very costly.
V C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C	O TOLERANCE OF SOUND AND VISUAL CONDITIONS: Location and width of main aisles or corridors is irrelevant or not important. Sound and visual conditions are irrelevant or not important. O AVOIDING GLARE ON VDU SCREENS: There is little use of VDU screens. catalog/sta	tp D	S:/ OC	O Main aisles: Because of floorplate configuration, main aisle or corridor locations and widths result in serious distraction and disruption to many people and groups, requiring special design measures, e.g. extra-high screens, extra meeting rooms and retreat spaces for occupants, extra distance between workstations, and avoiding regular use of workstations next to aisles. Also, required locations of aisles or corridors make it impossible to have workstations for more than 15 people grouped together.  O Location of workstations: Regardless of location, individual workstations, enclosed rooms and group areas experience poor or very poor sound and visual conditions for work. It is impossible to fix these conditions.  O VDU locations: Wherever located, VDU screens reflect glare from light and windows. Many operators suffer eyestrain, headaches, etc., if working for several hours at a screen.  O Type of layout: It is only practicable to do one type of office planning, e.g. all or most occupants in enclosed rooms, or almost all in open plan.  O Upgrade: It is not possible to upgrade the building or systems to provide adequate conditions.

NOTES Space for handwritten notes on Requirements or Ratings

 $\square$  Exceptionally important.  $\square$  Important.  $\square$  Minor Importance.

Minimum  $\underline{\mathbf{T}}$ hreshold level =

FIG. 2 Scale A.7.2 for the Influence of Sound and Visual Factors on Layout (continued)

□NA □NR □Zero □DP