STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. I-14-12

June 20, 2012

The following is in response to your request for formal interpretation dated April 11, 2012.

Scenario

"In recent days, the CT Heating & Cooling Association has received many requests from the membership for a formal interpretation of the IECC 2009 to be offered from the State Building Inspector. More specifically, as it applies to Section 403.2.2 referencing duct tightness verification."

Question 1:

"Who initiates the test?"

Answer 1:

If the installation is required to be performed according to the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code, Section 403.2.2, and the air handler and ductwork are located outside of the conditioned space, a duct tightness test must be performed. The tightness test is usually initiated by the installing duct contractor and witnessed by the municipal building official. The test must be performed as part of either the rough or final inspection.

Question 2:

"Who performs the duct test?"

Answer 2:

The duct test can be performed by any one possessing the required test equipment and who is able to utilize the testing equipment. The tester must be able to demonstrate to the building official that he or she is familiar with the test equipment and successfully perform the code required tests.

Question 3:

"Is that individual required to be certified?"

Answer 3:

The code does not require the testing party to be certified but has to be qualified and competent and should be able to demonstrate to the building official that they are familiar with the equipment and able to successfully perform the code required testing.