

**INTERPRETATION IC 135-2020-29 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE STANDARD 135-2020 BACnet® -
A Data Communication Protocol for Building
Automation and Control Networks**

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Request from: Michael Osborne, BTB Consulting, 130 Kingham Place, Victoria, BC, Canada V9B 1L8.

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 135-2020, Addendum *cc*, Clause 12.56.Y24 (Operational_Certificate_File) and 12.56.Y25 (Issuer_Certificate_Files) as it pertains to the DISCARD_CHANGES command and the File object, Modification_Date property requirements specified in Clause 12.13.7 of Standard 135-2020.

Background:

Addendum *cc*, Clause 12.56.Y24 and 12.56.Y25 state:

"...If the DISCARD_CHANGES command is supported by the Command property for this port, writing a value of DISCARD_CHANGES shall revert the file data in the File object referenced by this property to the file data when Changes_Pending was last equal to FALSE."

135-2020 Clause 12.13.7, Modification_Date states:

This property, of type BACnetDateTime, indicates the last time this object's underlying file data or File_Size was modified. A File object shall be considered modified when any of these conditions occur:

- (a) the File object is created;
- (b) the underlying file data that it represents is written using AtomicWriteFile or ConfirmedPrivateTransfer or UnconfirmedPrivateTransfer services or is written by some internal process; or
- (c) the File_Size property changes.

...

When the file data is reverted, there is value in also reverting the Modification_Date to be the date and time when the file data was originally written. This benefit occurs when a client uses the Modification_Date property to determine if the file data has changed.

Based on 12.13.7 (b). After the file data has been written using AtomicWriteFile, the Modification_Date must be equal to the present local date and time. If a DISCARD_CHANGES command is then sent, the file data is changed back to the original file data by some internal process and the Modification_Date date and time should be the local date and time when the DISCARD_CHANGES command was processed.

Interpretation: If the file data in a File object referenced by the Operational_Certificate_File or Issuer_Certificate_Files of a Network Port object has been changed and a successful DISCARD_CHANGES command is sent to the Command property of that Network Port object, the Modification_Date property in that File object shall contain the local date and time when the DISCARD_CHANGES command was processed.

Question: Is this Interpretation correct?

Answer: No. All properties related to the File data shall be reverted as if no changes had occurred.