

(overseen by the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare, National Institutes of Health) and the ~~AAALAC~~ (overseen by the U.S. Department of Agriculture). These publications and regulations shall be viewed as the “final authority” on animal facility design. Compliance with these publications and regulations is essential in maintaining accreditation for granting agencies.

Location / Configuration: Animal facilities shall be consolidated where possible and isolated as much as practical from spaces of other usage types. Animal facilities shall be laid out so as to promote their convenient operation with minimal impact to adjacent space(s) and vice versa. This shall include provision for the convenient transfer of animals, feed, bedding, equipment and other supplies, as well as waste, into and out of the area. This shall also include adequate provision for the cleaning and sterilizing of equipment within the animal facility. Animal facilities shall be configured to maximize security (e.g. by providing a single point of entry/exit).

Sanitation / Sterilization: Animal facilities shall be laid out to facilitate the sanitation and sterilization of personnel, equipment, materials, etc. as they enter/exit each room within the facility as well as the facility as a whole. These facilities shall be designed and constructed to facilitate the routine wash-down of all surfaces of all areas.

HVAC Systems: Animal facilities shall be served by dedicated HVAC systems. Energy recovery systems that may recirculate air or have bleed-over of hazardous chemicals shall not be used in animal facilities. HVAC systems, as well as any building or central utility systems that serve them (e.g. steam, hot water, chilled water, electrical power, compressed air, etc.) shall have sufficient reliability and redundancy to prevent loss to animals or research due to mechanical system failure. These facilities shall be provided with 100% outdoor air ventilation. A ventilation rate of 15 air changes per hour will typically satisfy the HVAC requirements of an animal room efficient exhaust air systems from becoming fouled with dust, are dust spot efficiency ratings per the current mechanical narratives and design guidelines.

Control Systems: Temperature control systems such that overheating of areas occupied by animals or power or other utilities. See mechanical narratives and

Odor Control: Air distribution systems that serve an

ANIMAL FACILITIES

shall be provided. This is also true of glassware washers, sterilizers and other pieces of equipment that release concentrated amounts of heat and humidity. Where applicable, the exhaust system shall operate only for an appropriate length of time after the completion of each wash cycle. Special consideration shall be given to providing waterproof / humidity-resistant construction in areas that house this type of equipment.

Electrical Systems: Electrical systems that support critical services, including critical HVAC systems, shall be served by an emergency back-up system.