

INTERIM RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE SANITIZATION OF AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEMS IN RELATION TO THE TRANSMISSION OF SARS-COV-2 VIRUS INFECTION, CALLED COVID-19

Faced with the current pandemic that has led to the introduction of public health measures (national and territorial) necessary to prevent, prevent and delay the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 epidemic (virus causing COVID-19), the "closed indoor air quality" is even more important in the prevention, protection and health protection of all occupants.

Below are some general advice and recommendations to be implemented in emergency conditions associated with the SARS-CoV-2 virus epidemic to maintain good indoor air quality in closed environments:

- Perform a good air exchange in all rooms, in a natural way, by opening the windows more frequently. The external air operates a replacement and renewal of the air and a dilution/reduction of the concentrations of pollutants, CO₂, odours, humidity and biological aerosol present. In general, poor air exchange in indoor indoor environments favours exposure to pollutants and can facilitate the transmission of pathogens, specifically viruses.
- In rooms equipped with a heating/cooling system (e.g. heat pumps, fancoils or convectors) where the air being moved is always the same, it is appropriate to:

When the system is stopped, sanitize, clean or replace the recirculating air filters to maintain adequate filter/removal levels. Following the territorial prescriptions in force ad interim with regard to provisions concerning the sanitation of air conditioning systems for air conditioning environments (e.g. **ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REGION n. 42 of 20 April 2020 of the Abruzzo Region** " ... 2. with the modalities foreseen for each type of system, for the aeraulic systems at the service of public and private buildings open to the public, in workplaces and in general in places subject to access by people from outside, that the person in charge of the system, also through professionals and companies, provides:

- the sanitization of grilles, vents and air filters, by washing, disinfection/sterilization or by substitution;
- the carrying out of technical assessments aimed at determining the need to sanitize the air conditioning systems of the rooms by providing, within the following 15 days from the outcome of the above mentioned assessments, if necessary, to perform/ have performed the appropriate sanitization operations;
- the total elimination of air recirculation, where possible in relation to the type of system;
- to repeat the sanitization operations periodically and, in particular, in relation to the various types of system, to carry out, at least monthly, the sanitization of air grids, nozzles and filters, by washing, disinfection/sterilization or by substitution"....).

Recommendations:

- Maintain and clean the filters by always wearing gloves and masks.
- Avoid splashes during cleaning
- Many common household cleaning products can inactivate the SARS-CoV-2 virus if used properly.
- Check and make sure the products used for sanitization and disinfection are fit for purpose.