



Clarification Request 02142023 of HVI Publication/Policy: 920:2020

Date Approved: 02/14/2023

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete the form below. Do NOT make any edits to **red text**. Multiple clarification requests for a specific topic within HVI publications/policies can be submitted together. Please allow four to six weeks for approved clarification request responses. If it has been more than six weeks since submission of a clarification request with no response, please contact iaq@hvi.org.

Save the word document with the following file name format: "ClarificationRequest-[HVIPublicationOrPolicy]-[Topic]-[LastName][FirstNameInitial]-MMDDYYYY", ex: ClarificationRequest-HVI920-RHCE-MathenyM-03252021. Submit the clarification request by email to iaq@hvi.org. Copy the clarification request name into the email subject line.

Request From: *Enter the clarification requestor information below.*

First Name: Patrick **Last Name:** Nielsen **Date:** 01/13/2023

Company: Broan-NuTone **Email:** patrick.nielsen@broan.com

Reference #1: *Enter the reference publication and section(s) below.*

HVI Publication/Policy: 920:2020 **Section(s):** Appendix 1 – Range Hood Power Units

Background #1: *Enter the background information below. This information should provide context, identify what is unclear, and explain why clarification is necessary. Be thorough but concise. Include "screen clips" as necessary.*

When a member has range hood power units ("blowers") that can be paired with multiple non-powered kitchen ventilators ("shells"), Appendix 1, footnote 2 states that "HVI certifies range hood power units only in conjunction with a non-powered kitchen ventilator.". While this makes sense, it is often the case where a given blower can be paired with a large multitude of possible non-powered hoods/shells. A member may choose to certify that blower with a worst-case performance non-powered shell so that if it is used with any other shell, the performance will be at least as good (i.e. test and certify the blower with the small 30" shell and if the consumer uses a 36" or 40" hood the performance will be better). The certification submittal will state which non-powered shell the blower was tested with (i.e. HVI will always have this information available). The member is choosing to "leave some claimed performance on the table" so to speak. The issue is that to a consumer who might be looking at the certified products directory (CPD) for a blower, they will likely read that "blower model ABC was tested with shell XYZ" and think that this is the shell that blower ABC has to be paired with or that if they use any other shell their performance may be worse. Note that the specification/sell sheets for the products (where most consumers are likely to get their information) can better explain what all of the options are. It is better to leave the information regarding which shell it was tested with off of the CPD as it will only cause consumer confusion. A note can be added somewhere on/near

the CPD (perhaps with an asterisk) explaining that this blower was tested with a worst-case shell and that the consumer will enjoy even better performance with any other shell. If this blower is ever selected for verification testing, HVI can refer to the certification submittal to see which shell it was tested with (so they know which one to procure and test). Broan-NuTone has been certifying hoods using this worst-case shell approach for many, many years. An additional problem the publication of the tested shell can cause is that when an OEM (e.g. Broan) uses a basic blower for not only their own-branded shells but for private label customer shells, the private labeler will not want consumers to see in the CPD that their hood/shell was tested with the OEM blower. Private label customers will not want consumers to see that their hood was tested with the OEM-branded blower. There is no reason for them to see it.

Clarification #1: *Enter what you consider the clarification should be below. Clarifications shall not create new revisions, requirements, or intentions of the existing HVI publication/policy.*

Appendix 1, footnote 2: “HVI certifies range hood power units only in conjunction with a non-powered kitchen ventilator. While the certification submittal must state which non-powered kitchen ventilator the power unit was tested with, the actual model number of the non-powered kitchen ventilator does not need to appear in the certified products directory.”

Question(s) #1: *Enter the question(s) about Clarification #1 below. Your question(s) must be stated such that the answer is “Yes” or “No”. Number the questions if there is more than one.*

Does the model number of the non-powered kitchen ventilator that a particular range hood power unit was certified with need to appear in the certified products directory (CPD)?

HVI Answer(s) #1:

Yes

HVI Comment(s) #1: *If necessary, comments about the response will be entered below.*

Per the italicized directions associated with “Clarification #1:”, “*Clarifications shall not create new revisions, requirements, or intentions of the existing HVI publication/policy*”, the redline language provided in the “Clarification #1” field is prohibited in HVI Clarification Requests and is rather appropriate for submission as a potential addendum to an HVI Publication through the HVI Numbered Publication Change Request Form 999, available from HVI staff.

Per HVI Publication 920, Appendix 1, footnote 2, “HVI certifies range hood power units only in conjunction with a non-powered kitchen ventilator.” “In conjunction with” is determined to mean that both the range hood power unit model name “with” the non-powered kitchen ventilator model name must be listed in the HVI CPD. Per HVI Publication 920, section 4.21.1, “Each unique model number must be listed in the HVI CPD in order to be considered HVI-Certified. A model number that does not appear in the HVI CPD is not HVI-Certified. (Exception: See Section 3.2.1.)” Therefore, all range hood power units + non-powered kitchen ventilator combinations, advertised as HVI-certified, must be listed in the HVI CPD.

The “non-production base model” definition (see HVI Publication 920, section 3.2.1.) provides a method for members to certify a model family (in accordance with the base-derived model family requirements of HVI Publication 920) without disclosing specific model name testing

information from the test report in the HVI CPD. The model name as shown on the test report must be submitted for HVI certification as the product family base model. If the range hood power unit + non-powered kitchen ventilator naming convention from the test report is not marketed, it may be certified as a non-production base model and not displayed in the CPD. Note, per HVI Publication 920, section 6.1.3., “Derived model certification shall not be used to avoid testing products that differ significantly from the base model.”

Per HVI Publication 925, section 4.3.3., “The HVI Certification Label may be used on materials that unmistakably relate only to products that have current HVI certification in good standing, i.e. data sheets, publications, catalogs, advertisements, displays, exhibits, and web sites.”

If submitting multiple clarification requests about a specific topic, please copy, renumber, and complete the Reference through Comment sections above for each clarification request.

HVI official answer(s) and comment(s) for this clarification request are provided by the HVI staff below. Please direct any further questions to them at the contact information below.

HVI Staff Info:

Name: Matt Matheny



Title: Engineering Director

Email: iaq@hvi.org