

The Air Movement and Control Association International (AMCA) is a not-for profit international association of the world's manufacturers of fans, louvers, dampers, air curtains, air flow measurement devices, ducts, acoustic attenuators and other air system components.

**WHO ARE AMCA MEMBERS?** Any manufacturer of the aforementioned products is welcome as a member. AMCA also embraces suppliers as associates, and re-sellers as affiliates. A complete list of our members, associates and affiliates by region is published, and posted at our web site.

**WHERE IS AMCA ACTIVE?** AMCA began in the USA in 1917, but now includes Asia AMCA and Europe AMCA which operate independently with their separate boards of directors out of Singapore and Brussels. Today, less than ½ our members are American companies. AMCA is expanding rapidly, growing 10% per year, mostly outside the USA.

**WHAT DOES AMCA DO?** AMCA operates its own laboratories in Chicago and Singapore, and uses a licensed independent laboratory in Seoul Korea to test and certify the ratings and regulatory compliance of member and non-member products. Lab capacity will be added in Europe and China. Lab services account for ½ of AMCA employment and assets. Members define AMCA programs, write AMCA standards, and guide AMCA activities to serve *our mission, which is to advance the health, growth and integrity of our industry.*

## AMCA credentials

---

- AMCA standards are adopted by the American National Standards Institute as ANSI Standards
- AMCA's state-of-the-art lab in Chicago is accredited to comply with ISO 17025
- AMCA Certification Programs will be accredited to comply with ISO 17065
- AMCA educational classes are accredited by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying, so that professional designers can obtain professional development credits

**AMCA LABORATORY SERVICES:** Acoustic, airflow, pressure, power and efficiency testing services offered by our laboratories reflect the needs of our members. Tests may be done to establish or certify catalog ratings, in accordance with any AMCA Standard, or applicable ISO, ANSI, ASHRAE, ASTM, AHRI or other national standards which our members (or non-members) wish to use. AMCA labs also verify compliance with local regulations. Customers may also choose which lab they work with – in Chicago, Singapore, or Seoul. Facilities include:

- Reverberant rooms from 6,300 to 62,000 cubic feet (180 to 1800 cubic meters)
- Multi-nozzle chambers with airflow up to 88,000 cfm (154,000 cubic meters per hour)
- Circulator fan facility up to 96" (2.5 meters) in diameter
- Wind driven rain chamber simulating 8"/hour rainfall with 50 mph wind
- Hurricane impact testing per Miami Dade County requirements

# Why Specify AMCA Certified Ratings?

WWW.AMCA.ORG

Fans and air control products are different than most products used in commercial buildings. They are different because their performance varies widely depending on fluid dynamic conditions which are unique to each air system design.

This variability in performance begs the question – what is the basis of catalog ratings, and how can a system designer use those ratings to accurately predict performance in the field? This is a HUGE question which AMCA members have wrestled with for almost 100 years. The collective wisdom of that effort is reflected in AMCA rating standards, certification programs and application guidance. Suppliers who publish non-certified air and sound performance often base their ratings on assumptions which differ from those documented in AMCA standards. They may not be wrong – but they are not comparable to AMCA certified ratings.

In AMCA's experience, when a manufacturer chooses to certify the ratings of their products, catalog ratings change by 5% to 25%. AMCA members do not generally certify every product model, because some models are built so seldom that certification costs would be too great. But all AMCA members sign a solemn oath to abide by a pledge of integrity and rate their products in accordance with applicable AMCA standards. AMCA members take this oath very seriously. Those who violate the oath lose their membership.

AMCA members choose to compete on a level playing field, in which ratings of all competitors are correct and based on a common standard. AMCA members generally choose not to compete in markets where exaggerated performance ratings, or unusual rating standards are accepted by the buying authority. Affirming the performance of an air system product is very difficult in the field – because jobsite conditions vary so widely. That is why specifying AMCA certified ratings is so important.

Of course, the jobsite performance of every air system product will vary from the catalog, whether the product is AMCA certified or not. So how does the system design professional check to be sure the supplier delivers what they claim in their catalog? There is only one way – to specify AMCA certified ratings, and follow AMCA application guidelines when predicting the performance of an air system product in the field. AMCA members stand behind their ratings. They go through the diligence of third party testing in AMCA's own accredited or licensed laboratories. AMCA members act with integrity, for if they act otherwise, AMCA will withdraw their rating certification, and/or their membership from this great organization.

Don't get into trouble specifying air system products that do not deliver what they claim. Design using AMCA certified ratings and application guidelines to yield a predictable result. Get what you specify. The only way to accomplish this with air system products is to **require** AMCA certified ratings. And if you want AMCA members to bid aggressively on your jobs, give them a level playing field on which to compete.

