

INFORMAL CODE INTERPRETATION

NC Department of Insurance
Office of the State Fire Marshal - Engineering Division
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Programmable Thermostats

Code: 2012 Energy Code

Section: 403.1.1

Date: January 22, 2013

Code: 2012 Residential Code

Section: N1103.1.1

Date: January 22, 2013

Question:

For purposes of Section 403.1.1, is a heat pump system considered a forced air furnace, thereby required to have a programmable thermostat?

Answer:

No, the forced air-furnaces subject to the requirements of 403.1.1 are oil-fired furnaces, electric furnaces (strip heat only), solid fuel furnaces, and fuel-gas furnaces. As heat pumps have their own definition (see definitions, NCMC chapter 2, furnace, heat pump), the more specific requirement of section 403.1.2 shall apply to a heat pump.