



Building Performance
Institute

RAISING THE BAR SINCE 1993



Interpretation to BPI Technical Standards for the Building Analyst Professional v.1-4-12 Monitoring Carbon Monoxide in the Ambient Environment

Question: In order to meet the minimum requirements of the standard referenced above, are technicians in the field required to have a dedicated CO monitoring device (independent of any CO monitoring devices used to perform appliance testing) on their person at all times?

Interpretation: Yes. The BPI Building Analyst Professional standard requires that carbon monoxide levels in the ambient air around the technician be monitored throughout all combustion safety tests (CST). In order to do this, the technician needs two separate devices: the combustion analyzer and a dedicated ambient CO monitor. (If the technician is using only the combustion analyzer, it is not measuring the ambient air when it is in the flue.)

Additionally, while the BA standard only specifies continuous ambient CO monitoring during the CST, best practice would be to monitor ambient CO levels at all times *while in the work environment*.

Question: If a dedicated device is required, would any device measuring ambient CO levels suffice?

Interpretation: Any device measuring ambient CO levels would suffice as long as it is dedicated for ambient CO monitoring only and is operated in accordance with manufacturer's specifications.