

Worst Case CAZ Depressurization Testing Step-by-Step

1. Measure the pressure difference of the combustion appliance zone with respect to the outdoors using a manometer. This is the baseline pressure that should be subtracted from all other CAZ readings.
2. Operate all exhaust devices (including the dryer and air handler).
3. Measure the pressure difference of the CAZ with respect to the outdoors.
4. Open and close interior doors (including the door to the CAZ) to induce the greatest CAZ depressurization. Check interior doors using a smoke puffer. If smoke enters the room from the main body of the house, open the interior door. If air from the room blows smoke back into the main body of the house, close the interior door.
5. Conduct CO, spillage, and draft tests under worst case conditions. Start with the weakest drafting appliance first. If the draft in the combustion appliance vent is less negative than minimum draft, the vented combustion appliance is susceptible to extended periods of pressure-induced spillage and/or backdrafting when exhaust devices are in operation.
 - a. Draft is a measurable pressure difference caused by combustion byproducts exhausting through a chimney flue as influenced by the temperature difference and the height of the flue. Draft for an atmospheric appliance such as a furnace or water heater should be a negative value such as -0.02 *inches of water column* or its metric equivalent, -5 Pa.
6. Repeat for all other vented appliances.
7. Return exhaust fans and combustion appliances to normal settings.