Feline Housing Macro Environment Design Concepts

Room Layout Considerations

- Prevent cats from facing each other.
- Provide pleasant views.
- Place housing on outside walls for natural lighting.
- Keep storage and prep items conveniently located.
- Provide hand washing stations, particularly in intake holding and isolation.

Mechanical Systems

- For odor control, provide the following:
  - One hundred percent exhaust.
  - Negative pressurization.
  - Twenty-five air changes per hour for cats in individual housing.  *(Fifteen-twenty air changes per hour if venting through cages.)*
- Provide access to the out of doors if possible for the best air quality and enrichment.

Plumbing Systems

- Locate drains in rooms with hoseable caging.
- In cat rooms where clay litter is used, drains should have hinged covers.
- Finishes must match cleaning protocols. Hoseable rooms must have hoseable finishes.

Noise Control

- Layout considerations
  - Plan to provide two doors between dogs and cats.
  - Cats should not be housed adjacent to dogs.
- Noise reduction - Dampen sound with ceiling tiles or wall panels.
  - Provide hold down clips on ceiling tiles in rooms with loose cats.
  - Tiles and panels must have a Noise Reduction Coefficient > .65.
• Isolation - Provide sound isolation walls around cat areas to prevent the presence of dog noise.

• Other considerations
  o Prevent noise that is outside the range of human hearing:
    ▪ Buzzing of lighting fixtures.
    ▪ Mechanical system rumbling.
    ▪ Fan noise.
  o Install quiet latches on cat cages.

Materials and Finishes

• Hose down flooring options
  o Porcelain tile with epoxy grout.
  o Thick resinous (epoxy or equivalent) coatings.

• Dry flooring options
  o Sealed concrete in healthy cat areas.
  o Heavy duty welded seam sheet vinyl.
  o Sheet rubber.

• Wall protection
  o Tile or thick epoxy coatings on walls in hose down areas.
  o Wall protection panel systems are acceptable in mop down rooms.