In the Claims

1. A fan system for a space associated with a conditioner for conditioning air in the space, comprising:

a sensor for measuring a temperature in the space;

a controller for controlling the conditioner based on the temperature sensed by the sensor; and

a fan for circulating air within the space based on the temperature sensed by the sensor.

2. The fan system of claim 1, wherein the controller comprises a thermostat, and the sensor is connected to the thermostat.

3. The fan system of claim 1, wherein the fan comprises a fan adapted for being mounted to a ceiling in the space.

4. The fan system of claim 1, wherein the sensor is connected to the fan.

5. The fan system of claim 1, wherein the controller includes a set point temperature for regulating the on/off condition of the conditioner, and is adapted for adjusting the set point temperature based on the temperature sensed by the sensor.

6. A fan system for circulating air within a space, comprising:

a fan for circulating air within the space;

a sensor for sensing whether the space is occupied; and

a controller for controlling the fan to operate at a first speed when the space is occupied and a second speed when the space is unoccupied.

7. The system of claim 6, wherein the first speed is a pre-determined minimum speed.

8. The system of claim 6, wherein the first speed is a user-defined minimum speed.

9. The system of claim 6, wherein the second speed is a pre-determined maximum speed.

10. The system of claim 6, wherein, in the occupied state of the space, the fan is controlled to vary between the first speed and the second speed.

11. The system of claim 6, wherein, in the occupied state of the space, the fan is controlled to vary sinusoidally between the first speed and the second speed.

12. The system of claim 6, wherein, in the occupied state of the space, the fan is controlled to vary between a maximum speed and a minimum speed.

13. The system of claim 6, wherein, in the unoccupied state of the space, the fan is controlled to vary between a maximum speed for providing an appreciable level of detstratification and a second, lower speed.

14. The system of claim 6, wherein in the occupied state of the space, the fan is controlled such that the first speed is a speed at which an appreciable air velocity is created at a particular distance from the fan.

15. A fan system for circulating air within a space, comprising:

a fan for circulating air within the space; and

a controller for automatically controlling the fan to operate at a first speed in a winter mode of operation, and to automatically adjust the first speed to a second, lower speed during a subsequent automatic control operation when a user manually indicates that a third lower speed is desired during the operation of the fan at the first speed.

16. The fan system of claim 15, further including a sensor for sensing whether the space is occupied, and wherein the controller automatically controls the fan to automatically adjust to the second speed only when the space is occupied.

17. A fan system for circulating air within a space, comprising:

a fan for circulating air within the space, the fan corresponding to a height within the space; and

a controller for controlling the fan to operate at a fan speed based on the height.

18. The fan system of claim 17, wherein the controller controls the fan based on the height determined by an approximate distance from a floor of the space to an airfoil associated with the fan.

19. The fan system of claim 17 further including a user input for inputting the distance.

20. The fan system of claim 17, further including a device for estimating the distance based on a plurality of photographs of the fan.

21. A fan system for a space including a fan for circulating air within the space and a heater remote from the fan for supplying heated air to the space, comprising:

a thermostat for controlling the heater; and

a controller for controlling the fan based on the activation of the heater.

22. An apparatus, comprising:

a fan adapted for being controlled to operate according to a mode of operation based on a thermostat being in a heating or cooling mode.

23. The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the fan is controlled to operate according to a winter mode of operation when the thermostat is in a heating mode.

24. A system for conditioning a space associated with a unit for conditioning the air within the space, comprising:

a thermostat for controlling the unit, the thermostat having a set point temperature;

a fan for circulating air in the space; and

a controller for regulating the set point temperature of the thermostat based on a condition associated with the fan or the controller.

25. The system of claim 24, wherein the condition is a temperature at the location of the fan.

26. The system of claim 24, wherein the fan includes a sensor for sensing the temperature.

27. The system of claim 24, wherein the condition comprises an operational state of the fan.

28. The system of claim 24, wherein the controller comprises a portable handheld device.

29. The system of claim 24, wherein the controller comprises a wall controller.

30. A system for conditioning a space associated with a unit for conditioning the air within the space, comprising:

a thermostat for controlling the unit, the thermostat having a set point temperature;

a fan for circulating air in the space; and

a controller adapted for regulating a speed of the fan and a set point temperature of the thermostat.

31. The system of claim 30, wherein the controller comprises a portable handheld device having a user interface adapted for suggesting an increase in the set point temperature based on the selected speed of the fan.

32. An apparatus for circulating air in a space, comprising:

a fan; and

means for determining an approximate height of the fan in the space.

33. The apparatus of claim 32, wherein the means comprises a device adapted for determining the approximate height based on a plurality of photographs of the fan.

34. A system for conditioning a plurality of zones associated with a unit for supplying conditioned air to the zones, a fan for circulating air in each zone, and a damper associated with supplying conditioned air from the unit to at least one of the zones, comprising:

a controller associated with each zone, the controller adapted for regulating the fan, the unit for conditioning the air, and the damper associated with each zone.

35. The system of claim 34, wherein the controller is adapted for being mounted on a wall in each zone.

36. The system of claim 34 or claim 35, wherein the controller is adapted for controlling a light associated with each zone.

37. A system for conditioning a space associated with a unit including a blower for blowing conditioned air to the space, comprising:

a fan for circulating air in the space; and

a controller for regulating the speed of the blower based on a condition associated with the fan or the controller.

38. A fan, comprising:

a plurality of blades mounted to a hub;

a support member having an upper end portion and a lower end portion for supporting the hub; and

a canopy associated with the upper portion of the support member, the canopy including at least one indicator for indicating a condition of the fan.

39. The fan of claim 38, wherein the canopy includes a plurality of indicators for indicating the condition of the fan.

40. The fan of claim 39, wherein the indicators are arranged in an annular fashion around the support member.

41. The fan of any one of claims 38-40, wherein the canopy includes an at least translucent portion for allowing light from the one or more indicators to pass.

42. A method for determining a height of a structure associated with an overhead fan, comprising:

determining the height of the structure based on first and second images of the overhead fan.

43. The method of claim 42, further including the steps of:

obtaining the first image of the fan taken with a camera located at a floor; and

obtaining the second image of the fan taken with the camera located at a known height.

44. The method of claim 42, further including the step of providing an object having the known height for supporting the camera for obtaining the second image.

45. A method of conditioning a space, comprising:

automatically adjusting an operating condition of a thermostat for controlling a conditioning unit for conditioning air in the space based on a sensed condition in the space.

46. A method of conditioning a space, comprising:

automatically adjusting an operating condition of a thermostat for controlling a conditioning unit for conditioning air in the space based on an operating mode of a fan for moving air in the space.

47. A method of conditioning a space, comprising:

regulating a fan for circulating air in the space based on a set point temperature of a thermostat.

48. The method of claim 47, wherein the regulating step further comprises regulating the fan based on a comparison of a sensed temperature in the space and the set point temperature of the thermostat.

49. The method of claim 47, further including the step of regulating the set point temperature of the thermostat based on a temperature sensed by a sensor associated with the fan or a wall controller.

50. A method for conditioning a plurality of zones associated with a unit for supplying conditioned air to the zones, a fan for circulating air in each zone, and a damper associated with supplying conditioned air from the unit to at least one of the zones, comprising:

using a controller associated with at least one of the zones, regulating the fan, the unit for conditioning the air, and the damper associated with the zone based on a condition in the zone sensed by the controller.

51. The method of claim 50, wherein the sensed condition is selected from the group consisting of temperature or occupancy.

In the Claims:

1. A fan system for a space, comprising:

a conditioner for conditioning air in the space;

a sensor for measuring a temperature in the space;

a controller for controlling the conditioner based on the temperature sensed by the sensor, wherein the controller includes a set point temperature for regulating an on/off condition of the conditioner, and is adapted for adjusting the set point temperature based on the temperature sensed by the sensor; and

a fan for circulating air within the space based on the temperature sensed by the sensor.

2. The fan system of claim 1, wherein the controller comprises a thermostat, and the sensor is connected to the thermostat.

3. The fan system of claim 1, wherein the fan comprises an overhead fan adapted for being mounted to a ceiling in the space.

4. The fan system of claim 1, wherein the sensor is connected to the fan.

5. A fan system for circulating air within a space, comprising:

a fan for circulating air within the space;

a sensor for sensing whether the space is occupied; and

a controller for controlling the fan to operate at a first speed associated with a first temperature range when the space is in an occupied state and a second speed associated with a second temperature range when the space is in an unoccupied state, wherein in the unoccupied state, the fan is controlled to vary the first or second temperature range until the space is in the occupied state.

6. The system of claim 5, wherein the first speed is a pre-determined minimum speed.

7. The system of claim 5, wherein the first speed is a user-defined minimum speed.

8. The system of claim 5, wherein the second speed is a pre-determined maximum speed.

9. A fan system for circulating air within a space, comprising:

a fan for circulating air within the space, the fan corresponding to a height within the space;

an imaging device for estimating an approximate distance from a floor of the space to an airfoil associated with the fan; and

a controller for controlling the fan to operate at a fan speed based on the height, wherein the controller controls the fan based on the height determined by the approximate distance from the floor of the space to the airfoil associated with the fan.

10. The fan system of claim 9, wherein the imaging device estimates the approximate distance based on a plurality of photographs of the fan.

11. A system for conditioning a space associated with a unit for conditioning the air within the space, comprising:

a thermostat for controlling the unit, the thermostat having a set point temperature;

a fan for circulating air in the space; and

a controller for automatically adjusting the set point temperature of the thermostat based on a speed of the fan.

12. The system of claim 11, wherein the fan includes a sensor for sensing the temperature.

13. The system of claim 11, wherein the controller comprises a portable handheld device.

14. The system of claim 11, wherein the controller comprises a wall controller.