Intent: Minimize the introduction of construction-related pollutants into the indoor air, remediate indoor air contamination, and protect building products stored onsite.

Air pollution originating from construction and demolition can impact the health and quality of life of people working nearby and is associated with increased mortality owing to chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Increased emissions of PM10 in vicinity of construction sites are positively correlated to people suffering respiratory diseases.

Impact: Minimizing construction-related pollutants protects indoor air quality and human well-being.

Requirements for the Sidney Lu Mechanical Engineering Building:
1. Maintain all air ducts sealed to protect from construction dust contamination.
2. Protect all adsorptive materials from dust and moisture damage.
3. Deploy walk-off mats at entryways to reduce transfer of dirt and pollutants.
4. Saws and tools use dust guards to capture generated dust.

How do we accomplish these requirements? During the facility construction, all ductwork brought to site and stored was individually sealed until time of installation. Once installed, any outlets were sealed. We enforced a policy to avoid operation of the HVAC systems during construction to prevent system level dust and pollutants. All materials were carefully stored off-site until major dust and pollutant-causing activities were completed. We also used walk-off mats at the entrances until we were provided entry mats. MechSE continues forward with a policy to protect our indoor air quality from construction contaminants during any future renovations.