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Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE

Background: In Section 9.7.8.4 where it mentions a common relief system header should be “based
on the sum of “their” outlet areas” needs some clarification. It has been explained in a relief design basis
statement, that “their” meant the relief valve outlets not the relief valve outlet piping which increases in
diameter downstream of the relief valve outlets.

Interpretation: When the relief valve outlet piping increases in size before it discharges in the
common header, in the statement “sum of “their” outlet areas” the term “their” refers to the increased
pipe areas versus the relief valve outlet areas.

Question: Is this Interpretation correct?

Answer: No

Comment: “Their” refers to the sum of the outlet areas of the relief devices and only establishes a
minimum requirement. This is not the only section governing header size. In most cases, the header size
will be larger than this based on compliance with Section 9.7.8.5.