

**INTERPRETATION IC 15-2007-4 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE STANDARD 15-2007
SAFETY STANDARD FOR REFRIGERATION SYSTEMS**

Date Approved: January 30, 2011

Request from: Norman L. Nelson, PE (norman.nelson@hilton.com), Hilton Worldwide, 8311 Brier Creek Pkwy Ste 105-505, Raleigh, NC 27617.

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 15-2007, Section 7.2.1 and Table 1, regarding refrigerant limits and institutional occupancies.

Background: Institutional occupancies require a reduction of 50% of the allowable limits for refrigerants. It is assumed that this is due to the fact that the occupants may be supine and bed ridden. R-410A is a common refrigerant for variable refrigerant flow (VRF) systems and is frequently used in hotel/motel rooms for air conditioning. Since R-410A is heavier than air, and an accidental discharge has the potential for asphyxiation of the occupant if they are in bed during the event, should the acceptable limits be reduced for hotel/motel rooms. All hotel rooms may be occupied by guests with disabilities, not just those that are designated as accessible.

Interpretation: It is Hilton Worldwide's interpretation that the reduction of permissible limits should be reduced to 50% for residential sleeping rooms since all rooms may be occupied by guests with disabilities.

Question: Is this Interpretation correct?

Answer: No

Comment: Hotels are classified as residential occupancy per Section 4.1.3.