



ADDENDA

**ANSI/ASHRAE Addendum g to
ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 15-2024**

Safety Standard for Refrigeration Systems

Approved by ASHRAE and the American National Standards Institute on May 30, 2025.

This addendum was approved by a Standing Standard Project Committee (SSPC) for which the Standards Committee has established a documented program for regular publication of addenda or revisions, including procedures for timely, documented, consensus action on requests for change to any part of the standard. Instructions for how to submit a change can be found on the ASHRAE® website (www.ashrae.org/continuous-maintenance).

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ASHRAE Standing Standard Project Committee 15

Cognizant TCs: 10.1, Custom Engineered Refrigeration Systems, and 9.1, Large Building Air-Conditioning Systems

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FOREWORD

ASHRAE Standard 15-2024 limits access to machinery rooms to authorized personnel; however, there are no specific normative requirements or guidance around what constitutes authorized personnel nor restrictions for others who may need to access the machinery room space. Addendum g adds a definition for “authorized personnel” as well as access limitations to machinery rooms and additional guidance intended to provide further information about the authorized personnel requirements of Section 8.9.4.

Informative Note: In this addendum, changes to the current standard are indicated in the text by underlining (for additions) and ~~strike through~~ (for deletions) unless the instructions specifically mention some other means of indicating the changes.

Addendum g to Standard 15-2024

Modify Section 3 as follows. The remainder of Section 3 remains unchanged.

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1 Defined Terms

[...]

***authorized personnel:** individuals granted permission by the owner or owner’s authorized agent on the basis of safety training and hazard knowledge.

[...]

Modify Section 4 as follows. The remainder of Section 4 remains unchanged.

4. OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION

[...]

4.1.6 Industrial occupancy is a *premises* or that portion of a *premises* that is not open to the public, where access by ~~authorized persons~~ authorized personnel is controlled, and that is used to manufacture, process, or store goods such as chemicals, food, ice, meat, or petroleum.

[...]

Modify Section 7 as follows. The remainder of Section 7 remains unchanged.

7. RESTRICTIONS ON REFRIGERANT USE

[...]

7.3 Refrigerant Charge Limits.

[...]

7.3.3 Industrial Occupancies and Refrigerated Rooms. *Industrial occupancies* and refrigerated rooms shall comply with the following conditions:

- a. Spaces containing the *machinery* are separated from other *occupancies* by tight construction with tight-fitting doors.
- b. Access is restricted to ~~authorized personnel~~ authorized personnel.

[...]

Modify Section 8 as follows. The remainder of Section 8 remains unchanged.

8. INSTALLATION RESTRICTIONS

[...]

8.9 Refrigerating Machinery Room, General Requirements.

[...]

8.9.4* Access. Access to the machinery rooms shall be restricted to ~~authorized personnel~~ authorized personnel or others accompanied by authorized personnel. Doors shall be clearly marked, or permanent signs shall be posted at each entrance to indicate this restriction.

[...]

Modify Section 9 as follows. The remainder of Section 9 remains unchanged.

9. DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF REFRIGERATION EQUIPMENT AND SYSTEMS

[...]

9.7 Pressure Vessel Protection

[...]

9.7.8 Discharge from Pressure Relief Devices.

[...]

9.7.8.2 Discharging Location Exterior to Building.

[...]

Exception to (a): Outdoor refrigeration systems containing Group A1 refrigerant shall be permitted to discharge at any elevation where the point of discharge is located in an access controlled area accessible to ~~authorized personnel~~ authorized personnel only.

[...]

9.12 Refrigerant Pipe Installation

9.12.1 Piping Location.

[...]

9.12.1.6 Exposed Piping Surface Temperature. Exposed piping with ready access to ~~nonauthorized personnel~~ persons who are not authorized personnel having temperatures greater than 120°F (49°C) or less than +5°F (–15°C) shall be protected from contact or have thermal insulation that limits the exposed insulation surface temperature to a range of +5°F (–15°C) to 120°F (49°C).

[...]

Modify Informative Appendix A as follows. The remainder of Appendix A remains unchanged.

INFORMATIVE APPENDIX A EXPLANATORY MATERIAL

Sections of the standard with associated explanatory information in this appendix are marked with an asterisk “*” after the section number.

[...]

Section 3.1

authorized personnel: the owner, or an agent authorized by the owner such as a contractor or engineering services company, needs to consider criteria for granting permission to selected personnel. The criteria include establishing the minimum requirements for relevant safety training to be completed and for demonstrating hazard knowledge through some means of evaluation (whether interviewing, testing, or otherwise). Additional criteria specific to the circumstances (such as experience level or job classification) and to the refrigeration application (whether an industrial occupancy or a machinery room) are at the discretion of the owner or owner’s authorized agent.

[...]

Section 8.9.4

The purpose of restricting machinery room access to ~~authorized personnel~~ authorized personnel is to ensure those ~~occupying~~ accessing the machinery room understand the hazards that exist within the room as well as the applicable evacuation and response plans should a refrigerant leak be detected or another type of incident occur. ~~In addition, authorized personnel need to have appropriate training that enables them to safely perform assigned work within the room. Training on the hazards and evacuation and response plans enables authorized personnel to safely access the machinery room.~~ The owner is responsible for establishing the

~~threshold requirements and instruction/training to credential each individual considered authorized personnel considered as “authorized personnel” for machinery room access. In the case of authorizing contractors or other outside personnel, the owner is obligated to inform a representative from the contractor’s outside personnel’s organization or other outside personnel of operations, hazards within the space, alarms, and any emergency action planning, and to ensure they have appropriate training for the work they are expected to conduct within the space accessing the machinery room. The informed contractor, or other outside personnel, outside organization is then responsible to ensure for ensuring all of its employees who will conduct work on-site access the machinery room have been trained for authorization. In cases where nonauthorized personnel non-authorized personnel require access to the space, such as AHJs, consultants, etc., authorized facility personnel authorized personnel can serve as their escort during periods where they must access the machinery room.~~

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ASHRAE is concerned with the impact of its members' activities on both the indoor and outdoor environment. ASHRAE's members will strive to minimize any possible deleterious effect on the indoor and outdoor environment of the systems and components in their responsibility while maximizing the beneficial effects these systems provide, consistent with accepted Standards and the practical state of the art.

ASHRAE's short-range goal is to ensure that the systems and components within its scope do not impact the indoor and outdoor environment to a greater extent than specified by the Standards and Guidelines as established by itself and other responsible bodies.

As an ongoing goal, ASHRAE will, through its Standards Committee and extensive Technical Committee structure, continue to generate up-to-date Standards and Guidelines where appropriate and adopt, recommend, and promote those new and revised Standards developed by other responsible organizations.

Through its *Handbook*, appropriate chapters will contain up-to-date Standards and design considerations as the material is systematically revised.

ASHRAE will take the lead with respect to dissemination of environmental information of its primary interest and will seek out and disseminate information from other responsible organizations that is pertinent, as guides to updating Standards and Guidelines.

The effects of the design and selection of equipment and systems will be considered within the scope of the system's intended use and expected misuse. The disposal of hazardous materials, if any, will also be considered.

ASHRAE's primary concern for environmental impact will be at the site where equipment within ASHRAE's scope operates. However, energy source selection and the possible environmental impact due to the energy source and energy transportation will be considered where possible. Recommendations concerning energy source selection should be made by its members.

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As an industry leader in research, standards writing, publishing, certification, and continuing education, ASHRAE and its members are dedicated to promoting a healthy and sustainable built environment for all, through strategic partnerships with organizations in the HVAC&R community and across related industries.

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