

ADDENDA

**ANSI/ASHRAE Addendum v to
ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2025**

Ventilation of Health Care Facilities

Approved by ASHRAE and the American National Standards Institute on September 22, 2026, and by the American Society for Health Care Engineering on September 11, 2026.

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FOREWORD

Addendum v extends a change made by previously published Addendum n to the 2021 standard, when the committee expanded the minimum definition of a HEPA filter to include those filters classified under test methods more commonly used outside the United States. The reason for this was to offer better guidance to international users of Standard 170 and to follow through on ASHRAE's desire to be a more global organization. For general ventilation air filters, there are two primary classification test standards: the MERV rating system, based on ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 52.2, and ISO 16890, which replaced EN 779 a few years ago. Addendum v provides equivalences between Standard 52.2 and ISO 16890 with regard to minimum filtration required by Standard 170.

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

Addendum v to Standard 170-2025

Modify Section 6.4 as shown.

6.4 Filtration. Filtration of mechanically supplied air shall be provided as follows:

- a. Particulate matter filters, minimum MERV-8, shall be provided upstream of the first heat exchanger surface of any air-conditioning system that combines return air from multiple rooms or introduces outdoor air.
- b. Outdoor air shall be filtered in accordance with Table 7-1, 8-1, 8-2, or 9-1.
- c. Air supplied from equipment serving multiple or different spaces shall be filtered in accordance with Table 7-1, 8-1, 8-2, or 9-1.
- d. Air recirculated within a room shall be filtered in accordance with Table 7-1, 8-1, 8-2, or 9-1, or Section 7.1(a)(5), 8.1(a)(5), 8.2(a)(5), or 9.1(a)(5).
- e. The design shall include all necessary provisions to prevent moisture accumulating on filters located downstream of cooling coils and humidifiers.
- f. Minimum filter requirements shall meet the equivalent MERV rating when tested in accordance with ASHRAE Standard 52.2.⁴ Filters tested in accordance with ISO16890²⁰ filters meeting ePM10 50% are equivalent to MERV 8; filters meeting ePM1 70% are equivalent to MERV 14; and filters meeting ePM1 95% are equivalent to MERV 16.

Modify Section 11 as shown.

11. NORMATIVE REFERENCES

20. ISO. 2016. ISO 16890, *Air Filters for General Ventilation*. Geneva, Switzerland: International Standards Organization. www.iso.org/standard/57864.html.

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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.

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