INTERPRETATION IC 15-2019-1 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE STANDARD 15-2019
SAFETY STANDARD FOR REFRIGERATION SYSTEMS

Date Approved: February 2, 2020

Request from: Christopher Williams, Trane, 530 Knox Rd., Chapmansboro, TN 37035.

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in
ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 15-2019, Section 9.3.1.1, regarding pressure vessels having inside
dimensions of 6 in. (152 mm) or less.

Background: ASHRAE STD 15-2019 Section 9.3.1.1 states:

9.3.1.1 Pressure vessels having inside dimensions of 6 in. (152 mm) or less shall be

a. listed either individually or as part of an assembly by an approved, nationally
   recognized testing laboratory;

b. marked directly on the vessel or on a nameplate attached to the vessel with a “U” or
   “UM” symbol signifying compliance with ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code,
   Section VIII; or

c. when requested by the AHJ, the manufacturer shall provide documentation to
   confirm that the vessel meets the design, fabrication, and testing requirements of
   ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section VIII.

Exception to 9.3.1.1: Vessels having an internal or external design pressure of 15 psig (103.4
kPa gage) or less.

Pressure vessels having inside dimensions of 6 in. (152 mm) or less shall be protected by either a
pressure relief device or a fusible plug.

The specific language shown in a. and b. has a small difference than the language of ASHRAE
15-2016 (differences are shown in RED below). The 2016 version states:

a. listed either individually or as part of an assembly by an approved, nationally recognized
   testing laboratory, or

b. marked directly on the vessel or on a nameplate attached to the vessel with a “U” or
   “UM” symbol signifying compliance with ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code,
   Section VIII, or

It has been stated verbally this change was made as an editorial revision by ASHRAE staff when
ASHRAE 15-2019 was prepared and published. The change was not approved by the
Committee through a Continuous Maintenance Proposal or a Committee Business item.

Interpretation: The requirements of ASHRAE Standard 15-2019, Section 9.3.1.1, are identical
in meaning and intent to ASHRAE Standard 15-2016, Section 9.3.1.1.
Question: Is this Interpretation correct?

Answer: Yes, the requirements of ASHRAE Standard 15-2019 Section 9.3.1.1 are the same as ASHRAE Standard 15-2016 Section 9.3.1.1.

Comments: The change between the standards is purely editorial. A list stating “a, b, c or d” is the same as a list stating “a or b or c or d.” ASHRAE Standards staff is now using the former method as the basis for all lists in ASHRAE Standards.