BSR/ASHRAE Addendum b
to ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 15-2024

First Public Review Draft

Proposed Addendum b to Standard 15-2024, Safety Standard for Refrigeration Systems

First Public Review (November 2024)
(Draft shows Proposed Changes to Current Standard)

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FOREWORD

This addendum revises portions of Standard 15 related to refrigerant pipe shaft ventilation. Ventilation will not be required for continuous pipe or tube that has been tested per the standard. Shaft ventilation will not be required for tested pipes, tubes, joints, or connections using Group A2L or B2L refrigerant in pipe shafts with no hot surfaces exceeding 1290º F (700º C).

Note: This addendum makes proposed changes to the current standard. These changes are indicated in the text by underlining (for additions) and ~~strikethrough~~ (for deletions) except where the reviewer instructions specifically describe some other means of showing the changes. Only these changes to the current standard are open for review and comment at this time. Additional material is provided for context only and is not open for comment except as it relates to the proposed changes**.**

Addendum b to Standard 15-2024

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

9.12.2.2 Shaft Ventilation. *Refrigerant* pipe shafts with *refrigeration systems* using only Group A2L or B2L *refrigerants shall* be naturally or mechanically ventilated. *Refrigerant* pipe shafts with one or more systems using any Group A2, A3, B2, or B3 *refrigerant shall* be continuously mechanically ventilated and *shall* include a *refrigerant detector*. The shaft ventilation exhaust outlet *shall* comply with the discharge location requirement *specified* in Section 9.7.8.2.

a. Naturally ventilated shafts *shall* have a minimum of a 4.0 in. (102 mm) diameter pipe, *duct*, or conduit that connects at the lowest point of the shaft and connects to the outdoors. The pipe, *duct*, or conduit *shall* be level or pitched down to the outdoors. A *makeup air* opening *shall* be provided at the top of the shaft.

b. When active, mechanically ventilated shafts *shall* have a minimum air velocity in accordance with Table 9-12. *Makeup air shall* be provided at the inlet to the shaft for mechanically ventilated shafts. The mechanical ventilation *shall* either be continuously operated or, for pipe shafts containing only systems using Group A2L or B2L *refrigerants*, activated by a *refrigerant detector*. *Refrigerant* pipe shafts utilizing a *refrigerant detector shall* have a set point not exceeding the *occupational exposure limit* (*OEL*) of the *refrigerant*. The detector, or a sampling tube that draws air to the detector, *shall* be located in an area where *refrigerant* from a leak will concentrate.

c. The shaft *shall not* be required to be ventilated for double-wall *refrigerant* pipe where the interstitial space of the double-wall pipe is vented to the outdoors in accordance with the discharge location requirements *specified* in Section 9.7.8.2.

d. The shaft *shall not* be required to be ventilated where all the *refrigerant* pipe or tube is continuous and has been tested in accordance with Section 9.13.

e. The shaft *shall not* be required to be ventilated for systems using only Group A2L or B2L *refrigerants* where there are no hot surfaces exceeding 1290º F (700º C) in the shaft and the pipes, tubes, joints, or connections have been tested in accordance with Section 9.13.