



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

First Public Review Draft

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

**First Public Review (April 2025)
(Draft shows Proposed Changes to Current Standard)**

This draft has been recommended for public review by the responsible project committee. To submit a comment on this proposed standard, go to the ASHRAE website at www.ashrae.org/standards-research-technology/public-review-drafts and access the online comment database. The draft is subject to modification until it is approved for publication by the Board of Directors and ANSI. Until this time, the current edition of the standard (as modified by any published addenda on the ASHRAE website) remains in effect. The current edition of any standard may be purchased from the ASHRAE Online Store at www.ashrae.org/bookstore or by calling 404-636-8400 or 1-800-727-4723 (for orders in the U.S. or Canada).

This standard is under continuous maintenance. To propose a change to the current standard, use the change submittal form available on the ASHRAE website, www.ashrae.org.

The appearance of any technical data or editorial material in this public review document does not constitute endorsement, warranty, or guaranty by ASHARE of any product, service, process, procedure, or design, and ASHRAE expressly disclaims such.

© 2025 ASHRAE. This draft is covered under ASHRAE copyright. Permission to reproduce or redistribute all or any part of this document must be obtained from the ASHRAE Manager of Standards, 180 Technology Parkway NW, Peachtree Corners, GA 30092. Phone: 404-636-8400, Ext. 1125. Fax: 404-321-5478. E-mail: standards.section@ashrae.org.

ASHRAE, 180 Technology Parkway NW, Peachtree Corners, GA 30092

(This foreword is not part of this standard. It is merely informative and does not contain requirements necessary for conformance to the standard. It has not been processed according to the ANSI requirements for a standard and may contain material that has not been subject to public review or a consensus process. Unresolved objectors on informative material are not offered the right to appeal at ASHRAE or ANSI.)

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. The proposed revisions add a definition for “authorized personnel”, access limitations to machinery rooms and additional guidance intended to provide further information on the “authorized personnel” requirements of Section 8.9.4.

Note: This addendum makes proposed changes to the current standard. These changes are indicated in the text by underlining (for additions) and ~~striketrough~~ (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 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 *pip*ing with ready access to ~~nonauthorized personnel~~ persons that 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*.