



**BSR/ASHRAE/ASHE Addendum v  
to ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2021**

**Public Review Draft**

**Proposed Addendum v to  
Standard 170-2021, Ventilation of  
Health Care Facilities**

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

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**(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

*This proposed addendum follows up on action earlier this year 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 behind 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 ASHRAE 52.2, and the ISO 16890 standard, which replaced the European Norm (EN 779) a few years ago. This proposed addendum provides equivalencies between ASHRAE 52.2 and ISO 16890 with regard to minimum filtration required by Standard 170.*

***[Note to Reviewers: 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 v to 170-2021

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***Revise Section 6.4f as shown below. The remainder of Section 6.4 is unchanged.***

**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 <sup>4</sup>. Filters tested in accordance with ISO16890<sup>20</sup> 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.

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***Add new reference to Section 11 as shown below. The remainder of Section 11 is unchanged.***

## 11. NORMATIVE REFERENCES

20. ISO 16890 (2016) Air Filters for General Ventilation.