



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

First Public Review Draft

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

**First Public Review (July 2026)
(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 addresses Section 7.5.1.2 Corridors and Lobbies. Section 7.5.1.2 provides evacuation and egress protection by limiting the amount of flammable refrigerant allowed for unit systems located in a public corridor or lobby. There have been multiple requests to SSPC-15 asking for guidance on what constitutes “in” the corridor and lobby. This addendum clarifies the boundaries of public corridors and lobbies. These boundaries were derived from existing language in Standard-15, 2024 and from Interpretation IC 15-2022-13 of ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 15-2022.

Note: This addendum makes proposed changes to the current standard. These changes are indicated in the text by underlining (for additions) and ~~striking through~~ (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 p to Standard 15-2024

Modify Section 7 as follows. The remainder of Section 7 remains unchanged.

7. RESTRICTIONS ON REFRIGERANT USE

[...]

7.5 Additional Restrictions

[...]

7.5.1 All Occupancies

[...]

7.5.1.2* Corridors and Lobbies. Refrigeration systems that include any part of the independent circuit in a public corridor or lobby shall comply with the following: Sections 7.5.1.2(a), (b), and (c). Parts of the refrigeration system independent circuit that are above a ceiling or installed at a height greater than 9.0 ft (2.74 m) are not considered to be in a public corridor or lobby. A public corridor or lobby includes any adjoining public vending areas.

{Note to reviewers: Section 7.5.1.2(a), (b), and (c) are not part of the public review and are provided here solely for context.

a. Refrigeration systems shall be limited to unit systems.

b. The refrigerant charge shall be limited based on the refrigerant charge quantity as specified in Section 7.3.

c. Refrigeration systems containing Class 2L, 2, or 3 refrigerants shall be listed, and the refrigerant charge shall be limited for each unit system, calculated in accordance with Equation 7-7a or 7-7b:

[...]

Modify Section 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 7.5.1.2

The intent of this section is to limit the risk posed by placing all or part a *refrigeration system* within the confines of a public *corridor* or *lobby*, during an evacuation or relocation event. To minimize potential obstructions to egress from the building, equipment installed in public *corridors* or *lobbies* is limited in scope to *unit systems* and compliance with the *EDVC* requirements of Section 7.3, regardless of charge size. Additional restrictions are placed on equipment using Flammability Class 2L, 2, and 3 *refrigerants*, to limit the risk of flammable *refrigerant* releases producing or contributing to fire events within public *corridors* and *lobbies*.

These restrictions apply specifically to the *independent circuits* of a *refrigeration system*. Ductwork attached to or extending from a *refrigeration system* is exempt from this restriction. Requirements for ductwork are addressed elsewhere within this standard. In cases where all parts of the *independent circuit* are above the ceiling, other installation requirements of this standard (e.g., Section 9.12.1.3) still apply. The term “ceiling” encompasses various overhead architectural elements, including standard ceilings, suspended or drop ceilings, and other secondary ceiling structures installed below the primary structural floor/ceiling assembly.

Standard 15 does not use the term public areas in the standard. However, ASHRAE does provide guidance as to what is a public area. Per ASHRAE Terminology (<https://terminology.ashrae.org/>):

public areas: designated spaces freely accessible to the public. These include parking areas, secured entrances and areas, entrance lobbies, reception and waiting areas, public toilets, snack bars, cafeterias, vending areas, gift shops and other retail locations, health education libraries and meeting rooms, chapels, and gardens.

A public vending area refers to a vending area space freely accessible to the public and examples of *unit systems* serving these areas include but are not limited to drinking fountains, water coolers, refrigerated vending machines, and ice machines. Vending areas located behind access control, such as locked rooms, employee-only zones, or restricted-entry spaces are not considered public.

[...]