

Information Bulletin No. IB11-004

April 19, 2011

- WITHDRAWN March 26, 2018

INTERPRETATION
to
Pressure Equipment Safety Regulation Section 6(b)
with respect to mechanical refrigeration systems
with prime mover rating of 125 kW or less
and tested and certified under Clause 5.2 of CSA B52-05

INTRODUCTION

Section 6(b) of the Pressure Equipment Safety Regulation - AR49/2006 (PESR) adopts CSA Standard B52-05, Mechanical Refrigeration Code as part of the regulation. Accordingly, mechanical refrigeration systems not exempted under Section 3(c)¹ of the regulation must comply with requirements of CSA B52.

Clauses 5.3.1, 5.7.1 and Clause 5.7.3 of CSA B52 allows for certain exemptions for refrigeration systems with prime mover rating of 125 kW or less. An interpretation for these clauses, as part of the PESR, is provided hereinbelow for the installation of mechanical refrigeration systems in the Province of Alberta.

INTERPRETATION:

Specifically for applications in Alberta, for independent operating refrigeration systems that have a "total" prime mover rating of 125 kW or less that are covered by the Standards listed in Clause 5.2 and are tested and certified by an approved testing laboratory,

- (1) Drawings and specifications will not require submission for registration and acceptance under Clause 5.3.1; and
- (2) Registration of refrigerant piping, fittings, evaporator and condenser coils, and associated headers in accordance with CSA B51 and the PESR will also not be required,

provided the conditions as detailed in (a), (b), and (c) hereunder are met:

- a) all other provisions of the CSA B52, including the total quantity of refrigerant per occupied space as provided for under Table 1, occupancy classification, the use of machinery room, etc., are complied with;

¹ Section 3(c) of the PESR exempts "a pressure piping system and the machinery and equipment ancillary to the pressure piping system, if the machinery and equipment (i) vaporize, compress and liquefy refrigerants in the refrigerating cycle, and (ii) have a refrigerating capacity not exceeding 10.5 kilowatts."

- b) if more than one system is installed in a single location, the systems are either
 - (i) totally independent of each other and not connected with a common header or others means such that failure of one system will not impact on another system, or
 - (ii) if interconnected, the total of all prime movers added together does not exceed 125 kW; and
- c) the design, construction, testing and stamping of every pressure vessel, if any is installed in the system (e.g., heat exchanger, refrigerant storage tank,...), shall comply with CSA B51.

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