



INTERPRETATION: IIAR SC 2025-4. For IIAR 9 Addendum A, 2024. Reduction of provisions from previously applicable codes and standards.

FINALIZED: May 9, 2025

SUBJECT: Reduction of provisions from previously applicable codes and standards.

BACKGROUND:

IIAR 9 Addendum A - 2024, Section 1.4 states:

1.4 *Applicable Requirements

- 1.4.1 Where the minimum system safety requirements in codes and standards that initially governed design and installation of the ammonia refrigeration system are more restrictive than those in this standard, the more restrictive minimum system safety requirements shall continue to apply, unless a provision in this standard specifically states that a reduction from previously applicable codes and standards is allowed as indicated in Section 7.2.10 and Section 7.3.13.2.
- 1.4.2 Where the minimum system safety requirements of this standard are more restrictive than those in the codes and standards that initially governed design and installation, or where the minimum system safety requirements in the codes and standards that initially governed design and installation cannot be identified, this standard shall establish the minimum system safety requirements.

IIAR 9 Addendum A – 2024, Section 7.3.13.2 states:

7.3.13.2 Exhaust Ventilation. Machinery rooms shall be vented to the outdoors by means of a mechanical exhaust ventilation system at a rate that complies with the codes and standards adopted at the time of installation or at the time that there was an addition or modification that would affect the emergency ventilation rate.

- 1) Mechanical exhaust ventilation system shall be automatically activated by ammonia leak detection in accordance with Section 7.3.12.2 and shall be manually operable.
- 2) Machinery room emergency ventilation exhaust fans shall be equipped with non-sparking blades. Other machinery room non-emergency exhaust fans shall be equipped with non-sparking blades or automatically be de-energized when an ammonia detector is activated at 150 ppm.
- 3) Emergency exhaust fan motors located in the air stream or inside the machinery room shall be of the totally enclosed type.



QUESTION 1: Does IIAR 9, Addendum A-2024 allow for a reduced provision for section 7.2.10, Equipment Enclosures as referenced in section 1.4.1?

ANSWER 1: No. The current IIAR 9, Addendum A-2024 reference in Section 1.4.1 to a potential reduced provision is not applicable to the current Section 7.2.10 “Equipment Enclosures”.
The reference to Section 7.2.10 was valid for IIAR 9-2020, in Section 1.4.1 when the original Section 7.2.10 was “Emergency Shutdown Documentation”. However, the “Emergency Shutdown Documentation” section was removed in the IIAR 9, Addendum A-2024. Section 7.2.10 became “Equipment Enclosures” which does not need to be referenced from Section 1.4.1.

COMMITTEE
ACTION 1:

The committee will issue an errata to remove the reference to 7.2.10 from Section 1.4.1 and the flow chart in Section A.1.4 for the IIAR 9, Addendum A-2024 standard.

QUESTION 2: Does IIAR 9, Addendum A-2024 permit a reduced air volume from a facility’s original design as referenced in section 1.4.1 and section 7.3.13.2?

ANSWER 2: No, Section 1.4.1’s reference to Section 7.3.13.2 is not intended to imply or permit a reduction in air volume from a facility’s original design, but rather the application of the more restrictive minimum system safety requirements, whether located in codes and standards that initially governed design or the IIAR 9, Addendum A-2024 standard, a reduction from previously applicable codes and standards is allowed as to the topics identified in 7.3.13.2.

EXAMPLES:

- Machinery room exhaust fans that are not considered part of the emergency ventilation system do not require a non-sparking design if they are automatically de-energized when an ammonia detector is activated at 150ppm.
- There are no requirements to notify a monitored location upon loss of power to, or a failure of, the emergency ventilation system.



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COMMITTEE
ACTION 2:

The committee will review sections 1.4.1 and 7.3.13.2 of ANSI/IIAR 9 during the standard's next revision process to clarify and clearly restate requirements.