



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION**

REFRIGERATION EQUIPMENT PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

Appendix Chapter 1, section 105 of the Los Angeles County Fire Code states that permits required by the Fire Code shall be obtained from the fire code official. An operational permit is required to install or operate a mechanical refrigeration unit or system regulated by Chapter 6. See Chapter 6 for complete requirements. Additional requirements may be applicable.

Scope. Refrigeration systems shall be installed in accordance with the California Mechanical Code.

Refrigerants, refrigerant classification, change in refrigerant type. The use and purity of new, recovered, and reclaimed refrigerants, classification of refrigerants and change in refrigerant type shall be in accordance with the California Mechanical Code.

Access. Refrigeration systems having a refrigerant circuit containing more than 220 pounds (100 kg) of Group A1 or 30 pounds (14 kg) of any other group refrigerant shall be accessible to the fire department at all times as required by the fire code official.

Testing of equipment. Refrigeration equipment and systems having a refrigerant circuit containing more than 220 pounds (100 kg) of Group A1 or 30 pounds (14 kg) of any other group refrigerant shall be subject to periodic testing in accordance with Section 606.6.1. A written record of required testing shall be maintained on the premises. Tests of emergency devices or systems required by this chapter shall be conducted by persons trained and qualified in refrigeration systems.

Emergency signs. Refrigeration units or systems having a refrigerant circuit containing more than 220 pounds (100 kg) of Group A1 or 30 pounds (14 kg) of any other group refrigerant shall be provided with approved emergency signs, charts, and labels in accordance with NFPA704. Hazard signs shall be in accordance with the California Mechanical Code for the classification of refrigerants listed therein.

Refrigerant detector. Machinery rooms shall contain a refrigerant detector with an audible and visual alarm.

Remote controls. Remote control of the mechanical equipment and appliances located in the machinery room shall be provided at an approved location immediately outside the machinery room and adjacent to its principal entrance.

Emergency pressure control system. Refrigeration systems containing more than 6.6 pounds (3 kg) of flammable, toxic or highly toxic refrigerant or ammonia shall be provided with an emergency pressure control system in accordance with Sections 606.10.1 and 606.10.2.

Storage, use and handling. Flammable and combustible materials shall not be stored in machinery rooms for refrigeration systems having a refrigerant circuit containing more than 220 pounds (100 kg) of Group A1 or 30 pounds (14 kg) of any other group refrigerant. Storage, use or handling of extra refrigerant or refrigerant oils shall be as required by Chapters 27, 30, 32 and 34.

Ammonia diffusion systems. Ammonia diffusion systems shall include a tank containing 1 gallon of water for each pound of ammonia (4 L of water for each 1 kg of ammonia) that will be released in 1 hour from the largest relief device connected to the discharge pipe.

Discharge location for refrigeration machinery room ventilation. Exhaust from mechanical ventilation systems serving refrigeration machinery rooms capable of exceeding 25 percent of the LFL or 50 percent of the IDLH shall be equipped with approved treatment systems to reduce the discharge concentrations of flammable, toxic or highly toxic refrigerants to those values or lower.

Notification of refrigerant discharges. The fire code official shall be notified immediately when a discharge becomes reportable under state, federal or local regulations in accordance with Section 2703.3.1.

Records. A written record shall be kept of refrigerant quantities brought into and removed from the premises. Such records shall be available to the fire code official.

Electrical equipment. Where refrigerants of Groups A2, A3, B2 and B3, as defined in the California Mechanical Code, are used, refrigeration machinery rooms shall conform to the Class I, Division 2 hazardous location classification requirements of the California Electrical Code.

Additional
Requirements _____
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