# Contents

Technical Committee on Mechanical Refrigeration Code vi

Preface ix

# **1 Scope** *1*

- 1.1 Purpose 1
- 1.2 Application 1
- 1.3 Mandatory language 1
- 1.4 Units of measurement 2

# **2** Reference publications 2

# **3 Definitions and abbreviations** 3

- 3.1 Definitions 3
- 3.2 Abbreviations 7

# **4** System selection and application requirements 8

- 4.1 Application procedure 8
- 4.2 Classification by occupancy 8
- 4.2.1 General 8
- 4.2.2 Institutional occupancy 8
- 4.2.3 Public assembly occupancy 8
- 4.2.4 Residential occupancy 9
- 4.2.5 Commercial occupancy 9
- 4.2.6 Industrial occupancy 9
- 4.2.7 Mixed occupancy 9
- 4.2.8 Adjacent locations 9
- 4.3 Classification of refrigeration systems 9
- 4.3.1 Classification by type 9
- 4.3.2 Classification by leakage probability 12
- 4.4 Classification by refrigerant *12*
- 4.5 System application requirements 16
- 4.5.1 General 16
- 4.5.2 System application rules 17
- 4.5.3 Equipment applied in a high-probability system 18
- 4.6 Additional requirements for institutional, public assembly, residential, and commercial occupancies 18
- 4.6.1 Public stairway, stair landing, or exit 18
- 4.6.2 Public hallway or lobby 18

# **5** Equipment design and construction 18

- 5.1 Drawings, specifications, and data reports 18
- 5.2 Refrigeration systems rated 125 kW or less 19
- 5.3 Filing of drawings 19
- 5.3.1 Submission of drawings and specifications 19
- 5.3.2 Contents of drawings 19
- 5.4 Materials 19
- 5.5 Design pressures 20
- 5.6 Refrigerant-containing pressure vessels 23
- 5.7 Refrigerant piping, fittings, evaporator and condenser coils, and associated headers 23
- 5.7.1 Refrigerant piping and fittings 23

- 5.7.2 Minimum requirements for unprotected refrigerant piping and tubing 24
- 5.7.3 Evaporator and condenser coils and associated headers 24
- 5.8 Components other than pressure vessels, piping, and fittings 25
- 5.9 Design provisions for service 25
- 5.10 Pressure testing 26
- 5.10.1 General 26
- 5.10.2 Test medium 26
- 5.10.3 Factory tests 26
- 5.10.4 Field tests 27
- 5.11 Marking and labelling 27
- 5.11.1 Signs (all systems) 27
- 5.11.2 Nameplates for unit systems, condensing units, compressors, and compressor units 27
- 5.11.3 Signs for systems containing more than 45 kg (100 lb) of refrigerant 28
- 5.11.4 New signs for changed refrigerant 28
- 5.11.5 Posting of instructions 28
- 5.12 Substitution of refrigerant type 28

#### 6 Installation 29

- 6.1 General 29
- 6.2 Machinery rooms 29
- 6.2.1 General 29
- 6.2.2 Doors 29
- 6.2.3 Refrigerant vapour detector 30
- 6.2.4 Explosion protection 30
- 6.2.5 Ventilation 30
- 6.3 Class T machinery rooms 32
- 6.4 Machinery rooms Electrical requirements for ammonia systems 32
- 6.4.1 Class T machinery rooms 32
- 6.4.2 Machinery rooms 32
- 6.5 Water supply and discharge connections 33
- 6.6 Electrical wiring 33
- 6.7 Gas devices 33
- 6.8 Location of refrigerant piping 33
- 6.9 Joints and refrigerant-containing parts in air ducts 34
- 6.10 Emergency discharge 34
- 6.11 Purge discharge 34

## **7** Overpressure protection 34

- 7.1 Pressure vessel protection 34
- 7.1.1 ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code requirements 34
- 7.1.2 Pressure vessels with an internal gross volume of 0.085 m<sup>3</sup> (3 ft<sup>3</sup>) or less 34
- 7.1.3 Pressure vessels with an internal gross volume exceeding 0.085 m<sup>3</sup> (3 ft<sup>3</sup>) 34
- 7.1.4 Pressure-relief devices for pressure vessels used as, or as part of, evaporators 35
- 7.2 System protection 35
- 7.2.1 Pressure-limiting devices 35
- 7.2.2 Setting of pressure-limiting devices 35
- 7.2.3 Positive-displacement compressor protection 36
- 7.2.4 Expansion of liquid refrigerant 36
- 7.3 Pressure-relief devices 36
- 7.3.1 General 36

iv

- 7.3.2 Location of pressure-relief devices 37
- 7.3.3 Setting of pressure-relief devices 37
- 7.3.4 Capacity of pressure-relief devices 38
- 7.3.5 Marking of fusible plugs and other pressure-relief devices 40
- 7.3.6 Discharge of fusible plugs and other pressure-relief devices 40

February 2005

#### 8 Maintenance of systems 56

- 8.1 Charging and withdrawal of refrigerants 56
- 8.2 Refrigerants withdrawn from refrigeration systems 56
- 8.3 Refrigerant storage 56
- 8.4 Maintenance 56

## 9 Precautions 57

- 9.1 Protective equipment 57
- 9.2 Enclosed spaces 57

### Annexes

- **A** (informative) Maximum allowable concentration of mixtures 58
- **B** (informative) Guidelines for emergency discharge of refrigerants 59
- **C** (informative) Worst-case composition of fractionation 61
- **D** (informative) Conversion factors 62
- **E** (informative) A method for calculating the discharge capacity of pressure-relief devices for positive displacement compressors 63
- F Reserved 65
- G Reserved 66
- H (normative) Allowable equivalent length of discharge piping 67
- I (informative) CSA B52 Information Bulletin on use of hydrocarbon refrigerants in new equipment and as drop-in replacements for other classes of refrigerants in existing systems 69

## **Index** 72

#### Tables

- **1** Refrigerant classifications and quantities 13
- **2** System application requirements 16
- **3** Maximum permissible quantities of refrigerants for high-probability systems 18
- 4 Minimum design pressures 21
- 5 Unprotected soft annealed copper tubing Minimum nominal wall thickness 24
- **6** Discharge capacity calculation factor, *f*, for refrigerants 39
- 7 Pressure-relief valve discharge line capacity (lb/min of air) for various equivalent discharge line lengths for steel (expressed in imperial units) 42
- 8 Pressure-relief valve discharge line capacity (lb/min of air) for various discharge line lengths for copper (expressed in imperial units) 49

#### **Figures**

- **1** Flow diagram for identification of systems requirements 8
- **2** Direct system 10
- **3** Double direct system 10
- 4 Indirect system 11
- **5** Matrix of refrigerant classifications 12