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**Cryogenic vessels — Pressure-relief  
accessories for cryogenic service —**

**Part 3:  
Sizing and capacity determination**

*Réipients cryogéniques — Dispositifs de sécurité pour le service  
cryogénique*

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## Foreword

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The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

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For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [Foreword - Supplementary information](#)

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 220, *Cryogenic vessels*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 21013-3:2006), which has been technically revised. <https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/fca91b92-fa5a-4019-ad91-1cc01f5530ea/iso-21013-3-2016>

ISO 21013 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Cryogenic vessels — Pressure-relief accessories for cryogenic service*:

- *Part 1: Reclosable pressure-relief valves*
- *Part 2: Non-reclosable pressure-relief devices*
- *Part 3: Sizing and capacity determination*
- *Part 4: Pressure-relief accessories for cryogenic service*

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# Cryogenic vessels — Pressure-relief accessories for cryogenic service —

## Part 3: Sizing and capacity determination

### 1 Scope

This part of ISO 21013 provides separate calculation methods for determining the required mass flow to be relieved for each of the following specified conditions:

- vacuum-insulated vessels with insulation system (outer jacket + insulating material) intact under normal vacuum, outer jacket at ambient temperature, inner vessel at temperature of the contents at the specified relieving pressure;
- vacuum-insulated vessels with insulation system (outer jacket + insulating material) intact under normal vacuum, outer jacket at ambient temperature, inner vessel at temperature of the contents at the specified relieving pressure, pressure regulator of the pressure build-up system functioning at full potential;
- vacuum or non-vacuum-insulated vessels with insulation system remaining in place, but with loss of vacuum in the case of vacuum-insulated vessels, outer jacket at ambient temperature, inner vessel at temperature of the contents at the specified relieving pressure or vacuum or non-vacuum-insulated vessels with insulation system remaining fully or partially in place, but with loss of vacuum in the case of vacuum-insulated vessels, fire engulfment, inner vessel at temperature of the contents at the specified relieving pressure;
- vacuum-insulated vessels containing fluids with saturation temperature below 75 K at 1 bar with insulation system remaining in place, but with loss of vacuum with air or nitrogen in the vacuum space;
- vacuum insulated vessels containing fluids with saturation temperature below 75 K at 1 bar with insulation system remaining in place, but with loss of vacuum with air or nitrogen in the vacuum space with fire engulfment;
- vessels with insulation system totally lost and fire engulfment.

Good engineering practice based on well-established theoretical physical science needs to be adopted to determine the required mass flow where an appropriate calculation method is not provided for an applicable condition.

Recommendations for pressure relief devices for cryostats are given in [Annex A](#).

### 2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

### 3 Symbols

$A$	arithmetic mean of inner and outer surface areas of vessel insulating material	$m^2$
$A_B$	actual flow area of a pipe element	$m^2$
$A_e$	total outer surface area of pipe network between the outer jacket and location	$xm^2$
$A_F$	minimum flow area (reference area) in a pipe network	$m^2$
$A_{Fd}$	minimum flow area (reference area) in the pipe network, downstream of relief valve	$m^2$
$A_{Fu}$	minimum flow area (reference area) in the pipe network, upstream of relief valve	$m^2$
$A_i$	total outside surface area of inner vessel	$m^2$
$A_j$	total outer surface area of pipe network between the inner and outer jackets (interspace)	$m^2$
$A_L$	larger flow area of a pipe element containing two different flow area sizes	$m^2$
$A_n$	cross-sectional area, support, or pipe material	$m^2$
$A_R$	area ratio, $A_S/A_L$	—
$A_S$	smaller flow area of a pipe element containing two different flow area sizes	$m^2$
$A_V$	actual flow (orifice) area of a pressure relief valve	$mm^2$
$A_{Va}$	actual flow (orifice) area of pressure relief valve selected for final analysis	$mm^2$
$A_{V1}$	minimum required relief valve flow (orifice) area	$mm^2$
$A_2$	external heat transfer surface area of ambient air vaporizer	$m^2$
$c_p$	constant pressure specific heat capacity at the average of $T_n$ and $T_e$	$kJ/(kg \cdot K)$
$C_V$	experimentally determined flow rate through a pipe element or device	$gal/min/psi$
$e_1$	nominal insulating material thickness, normal vacuum, non-fire condition	$m$
$e_3$	minimum insulating material thickness, considering loss of vacuum, non-fire condition	$m$
$e_5$	insulating material thickness remaining in place during fire conditions	$m$
$f_T$	pipe flow friction coefficient	—
$h$	enthalpy of fluid at conditions of $v$	$kJ/kg$
$h_r$	specific enthalpy at relief valve inlet and outlet	$kJ/kg$
$K_A$	flow resistance coefficient of a pipe element in terms of $A_F$	—
$K_B$	flow resistance coefficient of a pipe element in terms of $A_B$	—
$K_b$	subcritical flow coefficient	—
$K_{dr}$	derated coefficient of discharge	—



$K_{dr,a}$	derated coefficient of discharge of next largest available valve orifice area greater than $A_{V1}$	—
$K_{dr,1}$	derated coefficient of discharge of initially analyzed valve	—
$k_n$	mean thermal conductivity of an individual support or pipe, between $T$ and $T_a$	W/(m·K)
$K_R$	flow resistance coefficient of complete pipe network in terms of reference area, $A_F$	—
$K_{RC}$	flow resistance coefficient at the transition between critical and subcritical flow	—
$K_{Rd}$	overall flow resistance coefficient of pipe network, downstream of pressure relief valve	—
$K_{Ru}$	overall flow resistance coefficient of pipe network, upstream of pressure relief valve	—
$K_{SUM}$	total flow resistance coefficient of a series or parallel pipe network	—
$K_V$	experimentally determined flow rate through a pipe element or device	m <sup>3</sup> /h/bar
$k_1$	mean thermal conductivity of insulating material, normal vacuum, non-fire condition	W/(m·K)
$k_3$	mean thermal conductivity of insulating material with air or gaseous lading, non-fire condition	W/(m·K)
$L$	latent heat of vaporization of cryogenic liquid at relieving conditions	kJ/kg
$l$	length, pipe element	m
$L_a$	latent heat of vaporization of cryogenic liquid at a pressure of 1,013 bar	kJ/kg
$l_n$	length of support or pipe in vacuum interspace	m
$L'$	enthalpy-to-volume expansion ratio for critical or all-gas fluid flow conditions	kJ/kg
$M$	molar mass	kg/mol
$m_{max}$	maximum mass capacity of vessel	kg
$N$	normal evaporation rate (NER)	%/day
$P$	relieving pressure, inner vessel	bar
$P_b$	pressure, safety relief valve outlet	bar
$P_{b10}$	pressure at relief valve outlet for a downstream built-up backpressure of 10 %	bar
$P_{exit}$	pressure at pipe network exit	bar
$P_i$	pressure, safety relief valve inlet	bar
$P_S$	pressure relief valve set pressure	bar
$Q_m$	mass flow rate	kg/h
$Q_{ma}$	mass flow rate of a relief valve within a given pipe network	kg/h
$Q_{mNER}$	mass flow rate due to the normal evaporation rate	kg/h

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$R$	universal gas constant	J/(mol·K)
$r$	pipe elbow transition radius	m
$T$	relieving temperature, inner vessel	K
$T_a$	maximum external ambient temperature, non-fire condition	K
$T_{b,Pb}$	temperature at relief valve outlet	K
$T_{b10}$	temperature at relief valve outlet for a downstream built-up backpressure of 10 %	K
$T_e$	external temperature for a given condition	K
$T_{exit,Pb}$	temperature at pipe network exit	K
$T_f$	external temperature, fire condition	K
$T_i$	temperature, safety relief valve inlet	K
$T_n$	temperature of fluid at a given flow start location along the pipe network	K
$T_{sat}$	saturation temperature of fluid at a pressure of 1 bar	K
$T_x$	temperature of fluid at a given location x along the pipe network	K
$U_p$	overall heat transfer coefficient of a pipe network for given temperature conditions	W/ (m <sup>2</sup> ·K)
$U_1$	heat transfer coefficient of insulating material, normal vacuum, non-fire condition <a href="https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/fca91b92-fa5a-4019-ad91-1cc01f5530ea/iso-21013-3-2016">https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/fca91b92-fa5a-4019-ad91-1cc01f5530ea/iso-21013-3-2016</a>	W/ (m <sup>2</sup> ·K)
$U_2$	overall convective heat transfer coefficient of ambient air vaporizer	W/ (m <sup>2</sup> ·K)
$U_3$	heat transfer coefficient of insulating material with air or gaseous lading, non-fire condition	W/ (m <sup>2</sup> ·K)
$U_{3a}$	heat transfer coefficient, air or nitrogen condensation, loss of vacuum, non-fire condition	W/m <sup>2</sup>
$U_5$	heat transfer coefficient of insulating material with air or gaseous lading, fire condition	W/ (m <sup>2</sup> ·K)
$U_{5a}$	heat transfer coefficient, air or nitrogen condensation, loss of vacuum, fire condition	W/m <sup>2</sup>
$w_n$	heat leak from an individual support or pipe	W/K
$W_T$	total heat transfer rate for specified conditions	Watt [W]
$W_{T1}$	total heat transfer rate under normal operation	Watt [W]
$W_{T1NER}$	total NER heat transfer rate under normal operation	Watt [W]
$W_{T2}$	total heat transfer rate under normal operation, including pressure build-up device	Watt [W]
$W_{T2NER}$	total NER heat transfer rate under normal operation, including pressure build-up device	Watt [W]

$W_{T3}$	total heat transfer rate, loss of vacuum, insulation in place, non-fire condition, $T_{\text{sat}} > 75 \text{ K}$	Watt [W]
$W_{T3a}$	total heat transfer rate, loss of vacuum, insulation in place, non-fire condition, $T_{\text{sat}} \leq 75 \text{ K}$	Watt [W]
$W_{T5}$	total heat transfer rate, loss of vacuum, insulation in place, fire condition, $T_{\text{sat}} > 75 \text{ K}$	Watt [W]
$W_{T5a}$	total heat transfer rate, loss of vacuum, insulation in place, fire condition, $T_{\text{sat}} \leq 75 \text{ K}$	Watt [W]
$W_{T6}$	total heat transfer rate, loss of vacuum, insulation not in place, fire condition	Watt [W]
$W_1$	heat transfer rate through insulation system, normal vacuum, non-fire condition	Watt [W]
$W_2$	heat transfer rate through pressure build-up device, fully open regulator	Watt [W]
$W_3$	heat transfer rate through insulation system, loss of vacuum, non-fire condition	Watt [W]
$W_{3a}$	heat transfer rate through air or nitrogen condensation, loss of vacuum, non-fire condition	Watt [W]
$W_4$	heat transfer rate through interspace supports and piping	Watt [W]
$W_5$	heat transfer rate through vessel walls, insulation in place, fire condition	Watt [W]
$W_{5a}$	heat transfer rate through air or nitrogen condensation, loss of vacuum, fire condition	Watt [W]
$W_6$	heat transfer rate through vessel walls, insulation not in place, fire condition	Watt [W]
$x$	lengthwise location along a pipe network	m
$X$	number of insulation layers	—
$Y$	heat transfer rate $U_{3a}$ or $U_{5a}$	—
$Z_i$	compressibility factor at pressure, $P_i$ , and temperature, $T_i$	—
$\varphi$	pressure ratio $P_{\text{exit}}/P$	—
$\kappa$	isentropic exponent	—
$\lambda_1$	subcritical flow coefficient	—
$\lambda_2$	subcritical flow coefficient	—
$\nu$	specific volume of critical or all-gas fluid at a given temperature at pressure, $P$	$\text{m}^3/\text{kg}$
$\nu_{b10}$	specific volume at relief valve outlet for a downstream built-up backpressure of 10 %	$\text{m}^3/\text{kg}$
$\nu_{b,Pb}$	specific volume at pressure relief valve outlet, evaluated at $h_r$ and a trial value of $P_b$	$\text{m}^3/\text{kg}$
$\nu_{d\text{max}}$	maximum average downstream specific volume, as per desired backpressure limit	$\text{m}^3/\text{kg}$
$\nu_{d10}$	average downstream specific volume, for a downstream built-up backpressure of 10 %	$\text{m}^3/\text{kg}$

$v_{\text{exit,Pb}}$	specific volume at pipe network exit, evaluated at $P_{\text{exit}}$ and $T_{\text{exit,Pb}}$	$\text{m}^3/\text{kg}$
$v_{\text{exit}10}$	specific volume at pipe network exit for a downstream built-up backpressure of 10 %	$\text{m}^3/\text{kg}$
$v_{\text{g}}$	specific volume of saturated gas at relieving pressure, $P$	$\text{m}^3/\text{kg}$
$v_{\text{ga}}$	specific volume of saturated gas at a pressure of 1,013 bar	$\text{m}^3/\text{kg}$
$v_{\text{i}}$	specific volume, safety relief valve inlet	$\text{m}^3/\text{kg}$
$v_{\text{l}}$	specific volume of saturated liquid at relieving pressure, $P$	$\text{m}^3/\text{kg}$
$v_{\text{la}}$	specific volume of saturated liquid at a pressure of 1,013 bar	$\text{m}^3/\text{kg}$
$v_{\text{u}}$	average specific volume of flowing fluid upstream of pressure relief valve inlet	$\text{m}^3/\text{kg}$
$\psi$	expression for determining $Q_{\text{m}}$ and $T$ for critical or gas-full-vessel fluid flow conditions	$\text{m}^3/2 \cdot \text{kg}^{1/2}/\text{kJ}$

## 4 Calculation of the total quantity of heat transferred per unit time from the hot wall (outer jacket) to the cold wall (inner vessel)

### 4.1 General

$P$  (in bar abs) is the actual relieving pressure inside the vessel which is used for calculating the required mass flow through pressure relief devices.

$T_{\text{a}}$  (in K) is the maximum ambient temperature for conditions other than fire (as specified, for example, by a regulation or standard).

$T_{\text{f}}$  (in K) is the external environment temperature under fire conditions which is taken to be 922 K in this part of ISO 21013.

$T$  (in K) is the relieving temperature in the vessel to be taken into account.

- a) For subcritical fluids,  $T$  is the saturation temperature of the liquid at pressure,  $P$ .
- b) For critical or supercritical fluids,  $T$  is calculated from 5.2.

### 4.2 Under conditions other than fire

#### 4.2.1 Vacuum-insulated vessels under normal vacuum

$W_1$  is the quantity of heat transferred per unit time (in watts) by heat leak through the insulation system.

$$W_1 = (U_1 \cdot A)(T_{\text{a}} - T) \quad (1)$$

where

$U_1$  is the overall heat transfer coefficient of the insulating material under normal vacuum, in  $W/(m^2 \cdot K)$ ;

$$U_1 = \frac{k_1}{e_1};$$

$k_1$  is the mean thermal conductivity of the insulating material under normal vacuum, between  $T$  and  $T_a$ , in  $W/(m \cdot K)$ ;

$e_1$  is the nominal insulating material thickness, in metres;

$A$  is the arithmetic mean of the inner and outer surface areas of the vessel insulating material, in  $m^2$ .

#### 4.2.2 Pressure build-up device

$W_2$  is the quantity of heat transferred per unit time (in watts) by the pressure build-up device circuit with the regulator fully open.  $W_2$  is determined from the type (ambient air, water or steam, electrical, etc.) and design of the pressure build-up device circuit. For example, in the case of an ambient air vaporizer.

$$W_2 = (U_2 \cdot A_2)(T_a - T) \quad (2)$$

where

$U_2$  is the overall convective heat transfer coefficient of the ambient air vaporizer, in  $W/(m^2 \cdot K)$ ;

$A_2$  is the external heat transfer surface area of the vaporizer, in  $m^2$ .

As a first approximation, the following may be used:

$$U_2(T_a - T) = 19\,000 \text{ W/m}^2 \text{ for } T \leq 75\text{K} \quad (3)$$

$$U_2(T_a - T) = 2\,850 \text{ W/m}^2 \text{ for } T > 75\text{K} \quad (4)$$

#### 4.2.3 Vacuum-insulated vessels in the case of loss of vacuum and non-vacuum insulated vessels

$W_3$  is the quantity of heat transferred per unit time (in watts) by heat leak through the insulating material.

$$W_3 = (U_3 \cdot A)(T_a - T) \quad (5)$$

where

If the insulation is fully effective for conduction, convection, and radiation heat transfer at 328 K,  $U_3$  may be calculated using [Formula \(6\)](#).