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**Hladilni sistemi in toplotne črpalke - Varnostnotehnične in okoljevarstvene zahteve - 1. del: Osnovne zahteve, definicije, razvrstitev in kriteriji za izbiro**

Refrigerating systems and heat pumps - Safety and environmental requirements - Part 1: Basic requirements, definitions, classification and selection criteria

Kälteanlagen und Wärmepumpen - Sicherheitstechnische und umweltrelevante Anforderungen - Teil 1: Grundlegende Anforderungen, Begriffe, Klassifikationen und Auswahlkriterien

Systèmes frigorifiques et pompes à chaleur - Exigences de sécurité et d'environnement - Partie 1 : Exigences de base, définitions, classification et critères de choix

**Ta slovenski standard je istoveten z: prEN 378-1**

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27.200	Hladilna tehnologija	Refrigerating technology

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**Refrigerating systems and heat pumps - Safety and  
environmental requirements - Part 1: Basic requirements,  
definitions, classification and selection criteria**

Systèmes frigorifiques et pompes à chaleur - Exigences  
de sécurité et d'environnement - Partie 1 : Exigences  
de base, définitions, classification et critères de choix

Kälteanlagen und Wärmepumpen -  
Sicherheitstechnische und umweltrelevante  
Anforderungen - Teil 1: Grundlegende Anforderungen,  
Begriffe, Klassifikationen und Auswahlkriterien

This draft European Standard is submitted to CEN members for enquiry. It has been drawn up by the Technical Committee CEN/TC 182.

If this draft becomes a European Standard, CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration.

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Recipients of this draft are invited to submit, with their comments, notification of any relevant patent rights of which they are aware and to provide supporting documentation.

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COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION  
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

**CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels**

<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>European foreword .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>1 Scope .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>2 Normative references .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3 Terms and definitions .....</b>	<b>7</b>
3.1 Refrigerating systems .....	7
3.2 Occupancies, locations .....	10
3.3 Pressures .....	11
3.4 Components of refrigerating systems .....	11
3.5 Piping and joints .....	14
3.6 Safety accessories .....	15
3.7 Fluids .....	16
3.8 Miscellaneous .....	20
<b>4 Symbols and abbreviated terms .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>5 Classification .....</b>	<b>24</b>
5.1 General .....	24
5.2 Classification of system locations .....	24
5.2.1 General .....	24
5.2.2 Class I – Mechanical equipment located within the occupied space .....	24
5.2.3 Class II – Compressors and pressure vessels outside the occupied space .....	25
5.2.4 Class III – Entire refrigerating system in machinery room or open air .....	25
5.2.5 Class IV – Ventilated enclosures .....	25
5.3 Classification of access to occupied spaces, machinery rooms, and open air .....	25
5.4 Classification of refrigerants .....	27
<b>6 Determining the room volume and floor area used in refrigerant quantity safety limit calculation .....</b>	<b>27</b>
6.1 General .....	27
6.2 Connected spaces calculations .....	27
6.3 Space size for ducted systems .....	28
<b>7 Determining the releasable quantity of refrigerant and the refrigerant quantity safety limit .....</b>	<b>28</b>
7.1 General .....	28
7.2 Establishing the releasable quantity of refrigerant, $m_{rq}$ .....	29
7.3 Defining factors for toxicity and flammability .....	29
7.4 Establishing the refrigerant quantity safety limit, $m_{sl}$ .....	29
7.4.1 General .....	29
7.4.2 Quantity limit based on toxicity .....	30
7.4.3 Quantity limit based on flammability .....	31
7.5 Options for calculation of refrigerant quantity safety limits .....	32
7.5.1 General .....	32
7.5.2 Determination of the concentration factor $F$ .....	33
7.5.3 Determination of the representative height $h^*$ .....	33
7.5.4 Determination of toxicity quantity limit $m_{tl}$ .....	33
7.5.5 Determination of $m_{fl}$ and $A_{min}$ .....	34
7.5.6 Surrounding concentration test .....	35
7.5.7 Required air flow rates to justify the increase of concentration factors of Table 7 .....	35
7.5.8 Quantity limit based on flammability for class IV ventilated enclosure .....	36
7.6 Additional requirements for spaces below ground .....	36
7.7 Special requirements for ice rinks .....	36
<b>Annex A (informative) Equivalent terms in English, French and German .....</b>	<b>37</b>

<b>Annex B (informative) Total equivalent warming impact (TEWI)</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Annex C (informative) Examples of classification in Clause 5</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Annex D (normative) Special requirements for ice rinks</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>D.1 Indoor ice rinks</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>D.2 Outdoor ice rinks and installations for similar sporting activities</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Annex E (informative) Potential hazards for refrigerating systems</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Annex F (informative) Calculation examples related to 7.5</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>F.1 Example 1 for 7.5</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>F.2 Example 2 for 7.5</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>F.3 Example 4 for 7.5</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>Annex G (informative) Estimation of leak mass flow rates</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>G.1 General</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>G.2 Leakage during operation</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>G.3 Leakage during adverse operating conditions</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>G.4 Leakage during maintenance operations</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>Annex H (informative) Test and calculation methods for determining releasable charge <math>m_{rc}</math></b>	<b>52</b>
<b>H.1 General</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>H.2 Determination of releasable charge by a simulated leak into a space</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>H.2.1 Test set-up</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>H.2.2 Test method</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>H.2.3 Calculated orifice size</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>H.3 Determination of releasable charge by a simulated leak without venting to the atmosphere</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>H.3.1 Test setup</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>H.3.2 Test method</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>H.4 Determination of releasable charge by calculation and test</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>H.4.1 General</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>H.4.2 Refrigerant release between detection and closing the safety shut-off valves</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>H.4.3 Determination of <math>m_{r3}</math></b>	<b>56</b>
<b>H.5 Determining the time before the leak is detected, <math>t_{r1}</math></b>	<b>58</b>
<b>H.5.1 General</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>H.5.2 Determination of <math>t_{r1}</math> by default time</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>H.5.3 Example to determine <math>t_{r1}</math> based on effective room concentration for refrigerating systems using A1 and A2L refrigerants</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>H.6 Test conditions for releasable charge limited systems</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>H.7 Methods for determining the releasable charge based on latent heat or sublimation</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>H.7.1 General</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>H.7.2 Determination by calculation</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>Annex I (normative) Refrigerant quantity safety limit or minimum room area determination using surrounding concentration test</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>I.1 General</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>I.2 Room arrangement</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>I.3 Simulated leak</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>I.4 Concentration measurements</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>I.5 Acceptance criteria</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>Annex J (normative) Calculations for refrigerant-containing parts are within an enclosure with openings</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>J.1 Determining the concentration factor for enclosures with openings</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>J.2 Determining the effective release height for enclosures mounted at a specific height</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>Annex K (normative) Stagnation effect with of higher molar mass refrigerants</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>Bibliography</b>	<b>68</b>

## prEN 378-1 (E)

### European foreword

This document (prEN 378-1:2025) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 182 "Refrigerating systems, safety and environmental requirements", the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This document is currently submitted to the CEN Enquiry.

This document will supersede [\[1\]](#).

prEN 378-1:2025 includes the following significant technical changes with respect to [\[1\]](#):

- [Clause 5](#) was restructured.
- The examples of systems were removed from [Clause 5](#),
- Clause 6 and Clause 7 were combined to a new [Clause 6](#).
- Annex C (Location and refrigerant charge limitations) was converted into a new [Clause 7](#) of the main body of the standard (Determining the releasable quantity of refrigerant and the refrigerant quantity safety limit).
- The concept of releasable quantity of refrigerant was introduced in a new subclause [7.2](#).
- Options for calculation of refrigerant quantity safety limits were introduced in a new subclause [7.5](#).
- Additional requirements for spaces below ground are introduced in new subclause [7.6](#).
- Annex E was converted into a new [\[2\]](#).
- Annex H with examples related to Annex C were converted to and informative [Annex F](#) with examples related to [7.5](#).
- Examples related to Clause 5 were given in a new [Annex C](#).
- Annex F and Annex G were named [Annex D](#) and [Annex E](#).
- New informative [Annex G](#) for assumed mass flow rates.
- New informative [Annex H](#) for test and calculation methods for determining releasable charge  $m_{rc}$ .
- New normative [Annex I](#) for refrigerant quantity safety limit or minimum room area determination using surrounding concentration test.
- New normative [Annex J](#) for calculations for refrigerant-containing parts are within an enclosure with openings.
- New normative [Annex K](#) for stagnation effect with of higher molar mass refrigerants

[\[3\]](#) consists of the following parts under the general title "Refrigerating systems and heat pumps — Safety and environmental requirements":

- *Part 1: Basic requirements, definitions, classification and selection criteria;*
- *Part 2: Design, construction, testing, marking and documentation;*
- *Part 3: Installation site and personal protection;*
- *Part 5: Safety classification and information about refrigerants.*

[\[4\]](#) applies for operation, maintenance, repair and recovery.

## Introduction

This document relates to safety and environmental requirements in the design, manufacture, construction, installation, operation, maintenance, repair and disposal of refrigerating systems regarding local and global environments. It does not relate to the final destruction of the refrigerants.

It is intended to minimize possible hazards to persons, property and the environment from refrigerating systems and refrigerants. These hazards are associated with the physical and chemical characteristics of refrigerants and the pressures and temperatures occurring in refrigeration cycles.

Attention is drawn to hazards such as excessive temperature at compressor discharge, liquid slugging, erroneous operation and reduction in mechanical strength caused by corrosion, erosion, thermal stress, liquid hammer or vibration. Corrosion deserves special consideration as conditions peculiar to refrigerating systems arise due to alternate frosting and defrosting or the covering of equipment by insulation.

The extent to which hazards are covered is indicated in [Annex E](#). In addition, machinery should comply as appropriate with [\[5\]](#) for hazards which are not covered by this document.

Commonly used refrigerants except R717 are heavier than air. Care should be taken to avoid stagnant pockets of heavy refrigerant vapours by proper location of ventilation inlet and exhaust openings. Refrigerants and their combinations with oils, water or other substances, can affect the system chemically and physically. They can, if they have detrimental properties, endanger persons, property and the environment when escaping from the refrigerating system. Refrigerants are selected with due regard to their potential influence on the global environment (ODP, GWP) as well as their possible effects on the local environment. Evaluation of the environmental performance requires a life cycle approach. With regard to global climate change the Total Equivalent Warming Impact approach is generally used as the basis (see [Annex B](#)). Reference should be made to the [\[6\]](#) to address other environmental aspects. Many factors influence environmental impacts such as:

- location of the system;
- energy efficiency of the system;
- type of refrigerant;
- service frequency;
- refrigerant leaks;
- sensitivity of charge on efficiency;
- minimization of heat load;
- control methods.

Additional investments may be directed towards reducing leaks, increasing energy efficiency or modifying the design in order to use a different refrigerant. A life cycle approach is necessary to identify where additional investments will have the most beneficial effects.