

American
National
Standard
for



ANSI/AIHA Z9.2-2001

**Fundamentals
Governing the
Design and
Operation of
Local Exhaust
Ventilation
Systems**



A Publication by
American Industrial Hygiene Association

ANSI/AIHA Z9.2–2001

**American National Standard —
Fundamentals Governing the
Design and Operation of
Local Exhaust Ventilation Systems**

Secretariat

American Industrial Hygiene Association

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American National Standard

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This is a preview of "ANSI/AIHA Z9.2-2001". [Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.](#)

Foreword (This foreword is not part of the American National Standard/AIHA Z9.2–2001)

This Standard describes fundamental good practices related to the commissioning, design, selection, installation, operation, maintenance, and testing of local exhaust ventilation (LEV) systems used for the control of employee exposure to airborne contaminants. It is intended for use by LEV system owners, employers, industrial hygienists, facility engineers, maintenance personnel, testing and balancing personnel, ventilation system designers, and others with responsibility for LEV systems. It is compatible with the ACGIH *Industrial Ventilation Manual* and other recognized standards of good practice.

A document describing fundamentals of exhaust system design was originally published in 1936. This was formalized by the Z9 Committee under the direction of Knowlton Caplan, and published in 1960, with updates in 1971 and 1979. The present edition constitutes a major revision of the document. Under the leadership of Jeff Burton the Z9.2 subcommittee has developed a more performance-based document with a systems orientation that should appeal to a wider audience. Much of the previously included technical design detail has been left to other, more thorough and comprehensive sources.

HOW TO READ THIS STANDARD. The Standard is presented in two-column format. The left column presents the requirements of the Standard; the right column provides clarification and explanation of the requirements plus “*how to comply*” information. Appendix provides supplementary information by standard paragraph number. The letter “(A)” at the end of a paragraph designates an Appendix A entry for that paragraph.

Requirements should be considered minimum criteria and can be adapted to the needs of the User establishment. Demonstrably equal or better approaches are acceptable. When deviating from the Standard, documentation should be provided. The Standard is auditable by those trained in local exhaust ventilation. An audit form is provided in Appendix B.

Suggestions for improvement of this standard are welcome. All comments and suggestion will be carefully considered by the committee. They should be sent to AIHA, 2700 Prosperity Avenue, Suite 250, Fairfax, VA 22031.

This standard was processed and approved for submittal to ANSI by the Z9 Accredited Standards Committee on Health and Safety Standards for Ventilation Systems. Committee approval of the Standard does not necessarily imply that all committee members voted for its approval. At the time it approved this standard the Z9 Committee had the following members:

J. Lindsay Cook, Chair
Margaret Breida, Secretariat Representative

<i>Organization Represented</i>	<i>Name of Representative</i>
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American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists	R.T. Hughes
American Foundrymen’s Society	R. Scholz
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Subcommittee Z9.2 on Local Exhaust Systems, which developed this Standard, had the following members:

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* Contributing member of Z9.2 subcommittee but not a voting member of the full Z9 Committee at the time of standard approval.

American National Standard — Fundamentals Governing the Design and Operation of Local Exhaust Ventilation Systems

Requirements of the Standard

1 Scope

1.1 This Standard establishes minimum requirements for the commissioning, design, specification, construction, and installation of fixed industrial local exhaust ventilation (LEV) systems used for the reduction and prevention of employee exposure to harmful airborne substances in the industrial environment.

1.2 The Standard also establishes fundamental requirements for the management, operation, maintenance, and testing of LEV systems to assure satisfactory performance over the life of the system.

1.3 The Standard also describes basic requirements for replacing air exhausted from the space.

1.4 The Standard does not cover:

- ventilation for comfort,
- air moving systems which are part of an industrial process,
- paint booths not used primarily for employee protection, or
- energy conservation

except when they also impact or apply to airborne contaminant control for employee protection.

Clarification and Explanation of the Requirements

1.1 Local exhaust ventilation is an important engineering control technique for maintaining acceptable air quality in the industrial work environment. Its major approaches are the capture, control, or containment of airborne contaminants at or as close as possible to the point of contaminant generation. LEV is often used with other control methods, e.g., isolation, dilution, ventilation, or personal protective equipment. Properly designed, installed and operated, LEV systems can provide excellent control of airborne contaminants.

1.3 Replacement air systems that are improperly designed, installed or operated can impair otherwise-acceptable LEV systems.

1.4 No ventilation standard can provide complete and comprehensive coverage of every application and technical problem encountered when applying LEV systems to the wide range of processes and equipment found in industry. The User should refer to appropriate technical references and publications for further guidance on uses and applications of local exhaust in specific applications. (A)