



ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 158.1-2004

ASHRAE[®] STANDARD

Methods of Testing Capacity of Refrigerant Solenoid Valves

Approved by the ASHRAE Standards Committee on October 5, 2003; by the ASHRAE Board of Directors on January 29, 2004; and by the American National Standards Institute on February 25, 2004.

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ISSN 1041-2336

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**AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HEATING,
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1791 Tullie Circle, NE • Atlanta, GA 30329

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1791 Tullie Circle NE
Atlanta, GA 30329
www.ashrae.org

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(This foreword is not part of this standard. It is merely informative and does not contain requirements necessary for conformance to the standard. It has not been processed according to the ANSI requirements for a standard and may contain material that has not been subject to public review or a consensus process.)

FOREWORD

This standard was written at the request of the Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration Institute (ARI) to provide a standard method of test for the capacity of refrigerant solenoid valves. The intent is to provide a standard that meets the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) requirements.

It is anticipated that ARI will revise their Standard 760, Solenoid Valves for Use With Volatile Refrigerants, to require this standard be used as a method of test for capacity. It is further anticipated that ARI will continue to maintain Standard 760 as it relates to standard methods of rating refrigerant service solenoid valves. ARI 760 may also include information concerning other solenoid valve performance characteristics.

The basis for the method of testing and the calculation of capacity for flow through solenoid valves is a research project (PRF 5233) performed at Ray W. Herrick Laboratories, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, and sponsored by ARI. This research followed a study performed at Herrick Laboratories, under ARI auspices, by R.T. McKenzie, J.B. Chaddock, and W.E. Fontaine between September 1963 and September 1966.

This standard provides a means of accurately measuring the refrigerant mass flow capacity of solenoid valves. The flow capacity may be expressed in terms of refrigerating effect with various refrigerants by performing simple thermodynamic computations. Examples of the computations necessary to express valve capacity in kW (tons) or other appropriate dimensions are included in the appendix of this standard for the user's convenience.

ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 15-2001, Safety Standard for Refrigeration Systems, and ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 34-2001, Designation and Safety Classification of Refrigerants, list the various refrigerants to which this standard is applicable.

Requests for interpretation or proposals for revision of this standard may be addressed to the ASHRAE Manager of Standards. This standard falls under the ASHRAE Standards Committee classification of a standard method of measurement or test.

1. PURPOSE

This standard prescribes a method of testing the capacity of refrigerant solenoid valves for use in refrigerating systems.

2. SCOPE

2.1 This standard is applicable to refrigerant solenoid valves in the following circumstances:

- as defined in Section 3, "Definitions,"
- for either liquid or vapor refrigerant applications, and

- to be used with refrigerants deemed available and suitable according to *ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 15-2001, Safety Standard for Refrigeration Systems*,¹ and *ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 34-2001, Designation and Safety Classification of Refrigerants*.²

2.2 This standard specifies procedures, apparatus, and instrumentation that will produce accurate capacity data.

2.3 This standard does not do the following:

- specify rating conditions or electrical or mechanical design requirements; rating conditions may be found in *ARI Standard 760, Solenoid Valves for Use with Volatile Refrigerants*;³
- make recommendations for safety; or
- specify tests for production, specification compliance, or field testing of solenoid valves.

3. DEFINITIONS

capacity: the mass flow rate of a selected refrigerant that will pass through the valve under test at specified conditions.

certified standard instrument: an instrument calibrated by the manufacturer or other reliable agency and certified traceable to the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST).

direct-operated solenoid valve: a valve in which the solenoid functions to directly open and close the main valve port, which is the only flow path in the valve.

flowmeter: a device for determining the mass flow rate through the valve under test.

pilot-operated solenoid valve: a valve in which the solenoid functions to directly open and close a relatively small (pilot) flow port. Flow through the pilot port parallels the flow path of the main port. Starting or stopping flow through the pilot port creates a pressure imbalance on the main valve member, thereby causing the main valve port to be opened or closed.

refrigerant solenoid valve: a two-way (i.e., one inlet and one outlet), two-position (i.e., open or closed) valve that is actuated by a solenoid and is suitable for use with any of the refrigerant fluids designated in Section 2.1(c). It may be pilot or direct operated.

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