

NFPA 97

Standard Glossary of Terms Relating to Chimneys, Vents, and Heat-Producing Appliances

2003 Edition



NFPA, 1 Batterymarch Park, PO Box 9101, Quincy, MA 02269-9101
An International Codes and Standards Organization

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NFPA 97

Standard Glossary of

Terms Relating to Chimneys, Vents, and Heat-Producing Appliances

2003 Edition

This edition of NFPA 97, *Standard Glossary of Terms Relating to Chimneys, Vents, and Heat-Producing Appliances*, was prepared by the Technical Committee on Chimneys, Fireplaces, and Venting Systems for Heat-Producing Appliances and acted on by NFPA at its November Association Technical Meeting held November 16–20, 2002, in Atlanta, GA. It was issued by the Standards Council on January 17, 2003, with an effective date of February 6, 2003, and supersedes all previous editions.

This edition of NFPA 97 was approved as an American National Standard on January 17, 2003.

Origin and Development of NFPA 97

This glossary of terms was prepared by the NFPA Committee on Chimneys and Heating Equipment. It was submitted to the Association for tentative adoption at the annual meeting in 1959 and was adopted on that basis. In the year following, minor revisions were made by the committee, and it was submitted and received final adoption by the Association on May 18, 1960. The glossary was revised in 1961, 1966, and 1968. It was extensively revised in 1972, and additional definitions were included in 1979 and 1984.

The committee hopes that this glossary will be used by all NFPA committees responsible for standards involving chimneys, gas vents, and heat-producing appliances. The objective is to achieve uniformity in the use and definitions of the terms defined in the glossary. The 1988 edition contained a new definition of Smoke Chamber and a change in the definition of Fireplace Stove.

Several definitions were added or revised in the 1992, 1996, and 2000 editions to keep the glossary consistent with changes in NFPA 211, *Standard for Chimneys, Fireplaces, Vents, and Solid Fuel-Burning Appliances*.

The 2003 edition has reformatted the document in accordance with the NFPA *Manual of Style* and has adopted the preferred definitions from the NFPA *Glossary of Terms* to maintain consistency with other standards.



Technical Committee on Chimneys, Fireplaces, and Venting Systems for Heat-Producing Appliances

Robert V. LeClair, *Chair*
State of Maine, ME [E]

Robert A. Rucker, *Secretary*
CMS Industries, Inc., NY [M]

Glen Edgar, Selkirk Metalbestos, Inc., OH [M]
Dave Fetters, Hart & Cooley, Inc., MI [M]
Howard A. Grisack, Intertek Testing Services NA Inc.,
Canada [RT]
Marek Kulik, Flex-L International Inc., Canada [M]
Richard D. Peacock, National Institute of Standards and
Technology, MD [RT]
Jack Pixley, Jack Pixley Sweeps, Inc., MN [IM]
Rep. National Chimney Sweep Guild

Christopher R. Schulz, Van-Packer Co., Inc., IL [M]
Christopher B. Shiver, Cerny and Ivey Engineers, Inc.,
GA [SE]
Paul B. Stegmeir, Faribault, MN [SE]
Richard L. Stone, Quincy, CA [SE]
Ben Weathersby, Tucker, GA [M]
Rep. Hearth Products Association
Robert J. Zimmerman, Jr., Underwriters Laboratories
Inc., IL [RT]

Alternates

Tammy Lynn Bitting, Van-Packer Co., Inc., IL [M]
(Alt. to C. R. Schulz)
James P. Brewer, Magic Sweep Corp., VA [IM]
(Alt. to J. Pixley)
Rick Curkeet, Intertek Testing Services, WI [RT]
(Alt. to H. A. Grisack)

Harry P. Jones, Underwriters Laboratories Inc., IL [RT]
(Alt. to R. J. Zimmerman)
Paul W. Moody, State of Maine, ME [E]
(Alt. to R. V. LeClair)

Nonvoting

Janet Buyer, Consumer Product Safety Commission,
MD [C]

James D. Lake, NFPA Staff Liaison

Committee Scope: This Committee shall have primary responsibility for documents on fire safety for the construction, installation, and use of chimneys, fireplaces, vents, venting systems, and solid fuel-burning appliances. It also shall be responsible for documents on clearances of heat-producing appliances from combustible materials and terms relating to chimneys, vents, and heat-producing appliances.

This list represents the membership at the time the Committee was balloted on the final text of this edition. Since that time, changes in the membership may have occurred. A key to classifications is found at the back of the document.

NOTE: Membership on a committee shall not in and of itself constitute an endorsement of the Association or any document developed by the committee on which the member serves.

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NFPA 97**Standard Glossary of****Terms Relating to Chimneys, Vents, and Heat-Producing Appliances****2003 Edition**

NOTICE: An asterisk (*) following the number or letter designating a paragraph indicates that explanatory material on the paragraph can be found in Annex A.

Changes other than editorial are indicated by a vertical rule beside the paragraph, table, or figure in which the change occurred. These rules are included as an aid to the user in identifying changes from the previous edition. Where one or more complete paragraphs have been deleted, the deletion is indicated by a bullet (•) between the paragraphs that remain.

A reference in brackets [] following a section or paragraph indicates material that has been extracted from another NFPA document. As an aid to the user, Annex B lists the complete title and edition of the source documents for both mandatory and nonmandatory extracts. Editorial changes to extracted material consist of revising references to an appropriate division in this document or the inclusion of the document number with the division number when the reference is to the original document. Requests for interpretations or revisions of extracted text shall be sent to the technical committee responsible for the source document.

Information on referenced publications can be found in Chapter 2 and Annex B.

Chapter 1 Administration**1.1 Scope. (Reserved)****1.2 Purpose. (Reserved)****Chapter 2 Referenced Publications**

2.1 General. The documents or portions thereof listed in this chapter are referenced within this standard and shall be considered part of the requirements of this document.

2.2 NFPA Publications. National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, P.O. Box 9101, Quincy, MA 02269-9101.

NFPA 54, *National Fuel Gas Code*, 2002 edition.

NFPA 211, *Standard for Chimneys, Fireplaces, Vents, and Solid Fuel-Burning Appliances*, 2003 edition.

NFPA 255, *Standard Method of Test of Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials*, 2000 edition.

NFPA 259, *Standard Test Method for Potential Heat of Building Materials*, 2003 edition.

2.3 Other Publications.

2.3.1 ASTM Publications. American Society for Testing and Materials, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959.

ASTM D 396, *Standard Specification for Fuel Oils*, 1995.

ASTM E 84, *Standard Test Method for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials*, 1995.

ASTM E 136, *Standard Test Method for Behavior of Materials in a Vertical Tube Furnace at 750°C*, 1994.

2.3.2 Canadian Government Publication. Canadian Government Publishing Centre, Ottawa, Canada, K1A 0S9.

Canadian Government Specification Board, 3-GP-2e, *Heating Fuel Oil*.

2.3.3 UL Publications. Underwriters Laboratories Inc., 333 Pfingsten Road, Northbrook, IL 60062.

UL 723, *Standard for Safety Test for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials*, 1993.

UL 900, *Standard for Safety Test for Air Filter Units*, 1994.

Chapter 3 Definitions

3.1 General. The definitions contained in this chapter shall apply to the terms used in this standard. Where terms are not included, common usage of the terms shall apply.

3.2 NFPA Official Definitions.

3.2.1* Approved. Acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction.

3.2.2* Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). The organization, office, or individual responsible for approving equipment, materials, an installation, or a procedure.

3.2.3 Labeled. Equipment or materials to which has been attached a label, symbol, or other identifying mark of an organization that is acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction and concerned with product evaluation, that maintains periodic inspection of production of labeled equipment or materials, and by whose labeling the manufacturer indicates compliance with appropriate standards or performance in a specified manner.

3.2.4* Listed. Equipment, materials, or services included in a list published by an organization that is acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction and concerned with evaluation of products or services, that maintains periodic inspection of production of listed equipment or materials or periodic evaluation of services, and whose listing states that either the equipment, material, or service meets appropriate designated standards or has been tested and found suitable for a specified purpose.

3.2.5 Shall. Indicates a mandatory requirement.

3.3 General Definitions.

3.3.1 Accessible. Having access to but which first may require the removal of a panel, door, or similar covering of the item described. [54:3.3]

3.3.1.1 Readily Accessible. Capable of being reached easily and quickly for operation, adjustment, or inspection, without necessitating those seeking access to climb over or remove obstacles or to resort to the use of items such as portable ladders or chairs.

3.3.2* Air Change. A quantity of air, provided through a fuel burner, equal to the volume of furnace and boiler gas passes. (See also 3.3.163, *Purge*.)

3.3.3 Air Conditioning. The treatment of air to control simultaneously its temperature, humidity, purity, and distribution to meet the needs of a conditioned space.

3.3.3.1 Air Conditioning Return System. An assembly of connected ducts, air passages or plenums, and fittings through which air from the space or spaces to be conditioned is conducted back to the cooling or heating unit.

3.3.3.2 Air Conditioning Supply System. An assembly of connected ducts, air passages or plenums, and fittings through which conditioned air is conducted from the cooling or heating unit to the space or spaces to be conditioned.

3.3.4 Air Duct. A conduit or passageway for conveying air to or from heating, cooling, air conditioning, or ventilating equipment, but not including the plenum.

3.3.5 Air Exhauster. A fan used to withdraw air from an affected area.

3.3.6 Air Filter. Fire Hazard Classification.

3.3.6.1 Class 1 Air Filter. An air filter that, when clean, does not contribute fuel when attacked by flame and emits only negligible amounts of smoke when tested in accordance with UL 900, *Standard for Safety for Air Filter Units*.

3.3.6.2 Class 2 Air Filter. An air filter that, when clean, burns moderately when attacked by flame or emits moderate amounts of smoke, or both, tested in accordance with UL 900, *Standard for Safety for Air Filter Units*.

3.3.7 Air Heater. An indirect-fired appliance intended to supply heated air for space heating and other purposes, but not intended for permanent installation.

3.3.8 Air Seal. Air supplied to any device at a significantly higher pressure than the surrounding air for the specified purpose of excluding contamination by the surrounding atmosphere.

3.3.9 Air Shutter. An adjustable device for varying the size of the air inlet(s) regulating primary or secondary air.

3.3.9.1 Automatically Operated Air Shutter. An air shutter operated by an automatic control.

3.3.9.2 Manually Operated Air Shutter. An air shutter manually set and locked in the desired position.

3.3.10 Alarm. An audible or visible signal indicating an off-standard or abnormal condition.

3.3.11 Aluminum-Coated Steel. Steel in which the bond between the steel and the aluminum is an iron-aluminum alloy.

3.3.12 Antiflooding Device. A safety control that causes the flow of (liquid) fuel to be shut off when a rise in fuel level occurs or when excess fuel is received, and that operates before the hazardous discharge of fuel can occur.

3.3.13 Appliance. Utilization equipment, generally other than industrial, normally built in standardized sizes or types, that is installed or connected as a unit to perform one or more functions such as clothes washing, air conditioning, food mixing, deep frying, etc. [73:1.4]

3.3.13.1 Attic-Type Heating Appliance. A heating appliance designed specifically for installation in an attic or in a space with low headroom that normally is unoccupied.

3.3.13.2 Automatically Lighted Fuel-Burning Appliance. A fuel-burning appliance in which fuel to the main burner is normally turned on and ignited automatically.

3.3.13.3 Building Heating Appliance. A fuel-burning or electric boiler operating at a gauge pressure not over 345 kPa (50 psi), a central furnace, or a heater intended primarily for heating spaces having a volume exceeding 708 m³ (25,000 ft³).

3.3.13.4 Central Heating Appliance. A stationary heating appliance comprising the following: boilers, central furnaces, floor furnaces, and wall furnaces. A floor-mounted unit heater to be connected to a duct system also is classified as a central heating appliance.

3.3.13.5 Cooking Appliance (Floor-Mounted Restaurant-Type). A range, oven, broiler, or other miscellaneous cooking appliance, designated for use in hotel and restaurant kitchens and for mounting on the floor.

3.3.13.6 Counter Appliance (Gas). Appliances such as gas-operated coffee brewers and coffee urns and any appurtenant water-heating equipment, food and dish warmers, hot plates, and griddles.

3.3.13.7 Factory-Built Appliance. A manufactured appliance furnished by the manufacturer as a single assembly or as a package set of subassemblies or parts, and including all the essential components necessary for it to function normally where installed as intended.

3.3.13.8 Nonresidential Appliance.

3.3.13.8.1 Nonresidential Appliance 760°C (1400°F). A commercial, industrial, or institutional appliance needing a chimney capable of withstanding a continuous flue gas temperature not exceeding 760°C (1400°F).

3.3.13.8.2 Nonresidential High-Heat Appliance. A commercial, industrial, or institutional appliance needing a chimney capable of withstanding a continuous flue gas temperature exceeding 982°C (1800°F).

3.3.13.8.3 Nonresidential Low-Heat Appliance. A commercial, industrial, or institutional appliance needing a chimney capable of withstanding a continuous flue gas temperature not exceeding 538°C (1000°F).

3.3.13.8.4 Nonresidential Medium-Heat Appliance. A commercial, industrial, or institutional appliance needing a chimney capable of withstanding a continuous flue gas temperature not exceeding 982°C (1800°F).

3.3.13.9 Portable Appliance. An appliance that is actually moved or can easily be moved from one place to another in normal use. [70:550.2]

3.3.13.10 Residential-Type Heating Appliance. Fuel-burning and electric heating appliances, not including high-pressure steam boilers, for heating building spaces having a volume of not more than 708 m³ (25,000 ft³), and other heat-producing appliances of the type mainly used in residences but that might be used in other buildings, such as cooking stoves and ranges, clothes dryers, fireplace stoves, domestic incinerators, laundry stoves, water heaters, and heat pumps.

3.3.14 Appliance Branch Fuel Piping. Any run of piping or tubing and its fittings, not part of an appliance, that is used to convey fuel from the main piping manifold to a heat-producing appliance.