



BSI Standards Publication

# Pressure equipment for refrigerating systems and heat pumps

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Part 1: Vessels — General requirements

## National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 14276-1:2020. It supersedes BS EN 14276-1:2006+A1:2011, which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee RHE/18, Refrigeration safety.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

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<b>Contents</b>		<b>Page</b>
European foreword.....		8
Introduction .....		9
1	Scope .....	10
2	Normative references .....	10
3	Terms and definitions .....	14
3.1	Terms and definitions .....	14
3.2	Symbols, descriptions and units .....	17
4	Materials.....	20
4.1	General.....	20
4.2	Requirements for materials to be used for pressurized parts .....	20
4.3	Requirements for materials .....	20
4.3.1	General.....	20
4.3.2	Cladding.....	21
4.3.3	Special considerations .....	21
4.4	Requirements for prevention of brittle fracture .....	22
4.4.1	General.....	22
4.4.2	Material requirements.....	23
4.5	Material documentation .....	23
4.6	Materials for non-pressure retaining parts.....	23
5	Pressure vessel classification .....	23
5.1	Category of vessel.....	23
5.2	Fluid classification .....	24
6	Design .....	25
6.1	General.....	25
6.2	Corrosion and corrosion protection .....	25
6.2.1	General.....	25
6.2.2	Internal corrosion.....	25
6.2.3	External corrosion .....	25
6.2.4	Corrosion allowance information .....	25
6.3	Stress corrosion cracking.....	26
6.4	Loading.....	26
6.5	Maximum allowable pressure $PS$ .....	26
6.6	Design pressure $P_d$ .....	26
6.7	Calculation pressure $P$ or $P_c$ .....	27
6.8	Design temperature $t_d$ .....	27
6.9	Minimum material temperature .....	27
6.10	Calculation temperature $t_c$ .....	27
6.10.1	General.....	27
6.10.2	Vessel without heater .....	27
6.10.3	Vessel with heater.....	28
6.11	Joint coefficient.....	28
6.12	Design stress.....	30

<b>6.13</b>	<b>Access and inspection openings, venting and draining provisions, filling and discharge provisions and handling devices .....</b>	<b>32</b>
6.13.1	Non corrosive fluids.....	32
6.13.2	Corrosive fluids .....	32
6.13.3	Venting and draining provisions.....	32
6.13.4	Filling and discharge provision .....	32
6.13.5	Handling devices.....	32
<b>6.14</b>	<b>Methods for design.....</b>	<b>33</b>
6.14.1	General .....	33
6.14.2	Design by formulas (DBF).....	33
6.14.3	Joint design .....	38
<b>7</b>	<b>Manufacturing.....</b>	<b>40</b>
7.1	General .....	40
7.2	Material traceability .....	40
7.3	Manufacturing tolerances.....	40
7.4	Permanent joints .....	40
7.4.1	General .....	40
7.4.2	Permanent joint and operator qualification.....	40
7.4.3	Permanent joint operations and traceability.....	40
7.4.4	Welding .....	40
7.4.5	Brazing.....	41
7.4.6	Permanent joints by deformation .....	43
7.4.7	Non-permanent joints.....	43
7.5	Forming of pressure parts.....	44
7.5.1	General .....	44
7.5.2	Deep drawing .....	44
7.6	Post weld heat treatment.....	45
7.7	Internal cleanness .....	45
7.8	Repairs/Reworks.....	45
7.9	Finishing operations.....	45
<b>8</b>	<b>Testing and inspection.....</b>	<b>45</b>
8.1	Performance of inspection and testing.....	45
8.2	Design documentation, review and approval.....	46
8.2.1	General .....	46
8.2.2	Design documentation .....	46
8.2.3	Design examination and design approval.....	47
8.2.4	Design documentation change.....	48
8.3	Type examination .....	48
8.4	Calibration.....	48
8.5	Material .....	48
8.6	Manufacturing.....	49
8.7	Non-destructive and destructive testing of welded joints.....	49
8.8	Brazed joints.....	50
8.9	Subcontracted elements.....	50
8.10	Final inspection .....	50
8.10.1	General .....	50
8.10.2	Visual examination .....	50
8.10.3	Examination of documentation .....	51
8.10.4	Pressure test.....	51
8.10.5	Leak test.....	51
8.11	Marking .....	52
8.12	Documentation .....	52

8.12.1	General.....	52
8.12.2	Manufacturer's instruction.....	52
8.12.3	Technical documentation for user.....	53
8.12.4	Records .....	53
<b>Annex A (normative) Alternative requirements for prevention of brittle fracture: Method according to temperature stress cases.....</b>		
		<b>55</b>
A.1	General.....	55
A.2	Temperature stress cases .....	57
A.3	Determination of lowest application temperatures for stress cases min $t_0 75$ , min $t_0 50$ and min $t_0 25$ .....	57
A.4	Welding conditions.....	58
A.4.1	Welded connections.....	58
A.4.2	Heat treatment after welding .....	59
A.5	Proof of notch impact energy.....	59
<b>Annex B (normative) Specification and approval of brazing procedures .....</b>		
		<b>60</b>
B.1	Introduction.....	60
B.2	General.....	60
B.2.1	Responsibility.....	60
B.2.2	Specification of brazing procedures.....	60
B.2.3	Technical content of <i>BPS</i> .....	61
B.3	Test piece .....	66
B.4	Examination and testing.....	66
B.4.1	General.....	66
B.4.2	Visual examination.....	67
B.4.3	Tensile test .....	67
B.4.4	Bend test.....	67
B.4.5	Peel test .....	68
B.4.6	Metallographic examination .....	68
B.5	Range of approval .....	68
B.5.1	General.....	68
B.5.2	Related to the manufacturer .....	68
B.5.3	Related to the material.....	68
B.5.3.1	Parent metal.....	68
B.5.3.2	Thickness .....	69
B.5.4	Range of approval .....	69
B.5.4.1	General.....	69
B.5.4.2	Angle of branch connection.....	70
B.5.4.3	Brazing process.....	70

<b>B.5.4.4 Flow position</b> .....	<b>70</b>
<b>B.5.4.5 Joint design</b> .....	<b>70</b>
<b>B.5.4.6 Filler material</b> .....	<b>70</b>
<b>B.5.4.7 Brazing temperature</b> .....	<b>71</b>
<b>B.5.4.8 Brazing flux</b> .....	<b>71</b>
<b>B.5.4.9 Fuel gas, atmosphere, nature of flame or type of energy</b> .....	<b>71</b>
<b>B.5.4.10 Post braze heat treatment</b> .....	<b>71</b>
<b>B.6 Brazing Procedure Approval Record (BPAR)</b> .....	<b>71</b>
<b>Annex C (normative) Pressure testing</b> .....	<b>72</b>
<b>C.1 Pressure test</b> .....	<b>72</b>
<b>C.1.1 General</b> .....	<b>72</b>
<b>C.1.2 Basic requirements</b> .....	<b>72</b>
<b>C.1.2.1 Pressure vessels</b> .....	<b>72</b>
<b>C.1.2.2 Accessories</b> .....	<b>72</b>
<b>C.1.2.3 Safety</b> .....	<b>72</b>
<b>C.1.2.4 Hydraulic test</b> .....	<b>72</b>
<b>C.1.2.5 Pneumatic test</b> .....	<b>73</b>
<b>C.1.3 Pressure test</b> .....	<b>73</b>
<b>C.1.3.1 Value of test pressure</b> .....	<b>73</b>
<b>C.1.3.2 Specific value of test pressure for compressor housing</b> .....	<b>73</b>
<b>C.1.3.3 Temperature requirement</b> .....	<b>73</b>
<b>C.1.3.4 Test procedure</b> .....	<b>74</b>
<b>C.1.3.5 Pass fail criteria</b> .....	<b>74</b>
<b>C.1.3.6 Requirements for pressure gauges</b> .....	<b>74</b>
<b>C.1.4 Final test report</b> .....	<b>74</b>
<b>C.2 Acoustic emission examination</b> .....	<b>75</b>
<b>Annex D (normative) Relations between the different pressures</b> .....	<b>76</b>
<b>Annex E (normative) Experimental design methods</b> .....	<b>77</b>
<b>E.1 Introduction</b> .....	<b>77</b>
<b>E.1.1 General</b> .....	<b>77</b>
<b>E.1.2 Methods</b> .....	<b>77</b>
<b>E.1.3 Documentation</b> .....	<b>78</b>
<b>E.1.4 Duplicate or similar parts</b> .....	<b>78</b>
<b>E.1.4.1 General</b> .....	<b>78</b>
<b>E.1.4.2 Duplicate parts</b> .....	<b>78</b>
<b>E.1.4.3 Geometrically similar part</b> .....	<b>78</b>

<b>E.1.5</b>	<b>Examination of the components or the vessel</b> .....	<b>78</b>
<b>E.1.6</b>	<b>Application of pressure</b> .....	<b>78</b>
<b>E.1.7</b>	<b>Material properties</b> .....	<b>79</b>
<b>E.2</b>	<b>Strain gauge test method</b> .....	<b>79</b>
<b>E.2.1</b>	<b>General</b> .....	<b>79</b>
<b>E.2.2</b>	<b>Procedure</b> .....	<b>79</b>
<b>E.3</b>	<b>Burst test</b> .....	<b>80</b>
<b>E.3.1</b>	<b>General</b> .....	<b>80</b>
<b>E.3.2</b>	<b>Procedure</b> .....	<b>80</b>
<b>E.3.3</b>	<b>Burst pressure</b> .....	<b>80</b>
<b>E.4</b>	<b>Housings of hermetic compressors of testing group 2b and vessels of testing group 2b</b> .....	<b>80</b>
<b>E.4.1</b>	<b>General</b> .....	<b>80</b>
<b>E.4.2</b>	<b>Burst test method for housings of vessels</b> .....	<b>82</b>
<b>E.4.3</b>	<b>Burst test method for housings of compressor</b> .....	<b>82</b>
<b>E.4.4</b>	<b>Combined burst test / fatigue test method for housings of compressor</b> .....	<b>83</b>
<b>E.4.4.1</b>	<b>General and burst tests</b> .....	<b>83</b>
<b>E.4.4.2</b>	<b>Additional fatigue test</b> .....	<b>84</b>
<b>Annex F</b>	<b>(normative) Material characteristics for design</b> .....	<b>86</b>
<b>Annex G</b>	<b>(informative) Component classification in the sense of the Pressure Equipment Directive (PED)</b> .....	<b>90</b>
<b>Annex H</b>	<b>(informative) Selection of category</b> .....	<b>92</b>
<b>H.1</b>	<b>General</b> .....	<b>92</b>
<b>H.2</b>	<b>Definition of category for vessels for refrigerating pressure vessel</b> .....	<b>92</b>
<b>Annex I</b>	<b>(normative) Grouping system for materials (extracted from CEN ISO/TR 15608)</b> .....	<b>93</b>
<b>I.1</b>	<b>Grouping system for steels</b> .....	<b>93</b>
<b>I.2</b>	<b>Grouping system for aluminium and aluminium alloys</b> .....	<b>93</b>
<b>I.3</b>	<b>Grouping system for copper and copper alloys</b> .....	<b>94</b>
<b>Annex J</b>	<b>(informative) DN System</b> .....	<b>95</b>
<b>Annex K</b>	<b>(normative) Specification and approval of expansion procedures and operators</b> .....	<b>97</b>
<b>K.1</b>	<b>General</b> .....	<b>97</b>
<b>K.1.1</b>	<b>General rules</b> .....	<b>97</b>
<b>K.1.2</b>	<b>Responsibility</b> .....	<b>97</b>
<b>K.1.3</b>	<b>Specification of expansion procedures</b> .....	<b>97</b>
<b>K.1.4</b>	<b>Technical content of EPS</b> .....	<b>97</b>
<b>K.2</b>	<b>Test piece</b> .....	<b>99</b>
<b>K.3</b>	<b>Examination and testing</b> .....	<b>99</b>



K.3.1	General .....	99
K.3.2	Visual examination .....	99
K.3.3	Dimensional verification .....	99
K.3.4	Tests .....	100
K.4	Range of approval.....	100
K.4.1	General .....	100
K.4.2	Related to the manufacturer .....	100
K.4.3	Related to the material.....	100
K.4.4	Tube dimensions.....	100
K.4.5	Expansion factor .....	100
K.4.6	Expansion process.....	100
K.4.7	Joint design .....	100
K.4.8	Tool.....	100
K.5	Expansion Procedure Approval Record ( <i>EPAR</i> ) .....	101
K.6	Expansion operator approval .....	101
K.6.1	General .....	101
K.6.2	Validity range of expansion operator qualification .....	101
K.6.3	Qualification tests.....	101
K.6.3.1	General .....	101
K.6.3.2	Test piece.....	101
K.6.3.3	Assessment of the test piece .....	101
K.6.4	Examination and testing .....	101
K.6.5	Period of validity.....	102
K.6.5.1	Initial approval .....	102
K.6.5.2	Prolongation.....	102
K.6.6	Certification .....	102
<b>Annex ZA (informative) Relationship between this European Standard and the essential requirements of Directive 2014/68/EU (Pressure equipment Directive) aimed to be covered.....</b>		<b>103</b>
<b>Bibliography .....</b>		<b>105</b>

## European foreword

This document (EN 14276-1:2020) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 182 “Refrigerating systems, safety and environmental requirements”, the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by August 2020, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by August 2020.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document will supersede EN 14276-1:2006+A1:2011.

This document has been prepared under a standardization request given to CEN by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association, and supports essential requirements of EU Directive(s).

For relationship with EU Directive(s), see informative Annex ZA, which is an integral part of this document.

EN 14276, *Pressure equipment for refrigerating systems and heat pumps*, is currently composed with the following parts:

- *Part 1: Vessels – General requirements;*
- *Part 2: Piping – General requirements.*

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organisations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

## Introduction

This document recognizes the unique nature of vessels for refrigerating systems or heat pumps and is intended to address the specific needs of the refrigeration and heat pump industry. This document should be read in conjunction with the various parts of the EN 13445 series.

When the text of this document modifies or supplements a clause within the EN 13445 series, then this document should prevail. Where this document does not modify or supplement the requirements of a clause, the requirements of the EN 13445 series should prevail.

The unique nature of a refrigerating system is defined as follows:

- a) the purpose of the refrigerating system is to extract and reject heat (this involves both cooling and heating);
- b) to operate the refrigerating system a pressure-imposing element (e.g. a compressor or an energy source) is necessary;
- c) the refrigerating system has a defined refrigerant charge in a closed circuit;
- d) the refrigerant has a chemical composition and purity defined in the relevant standards;
- e) the pressure of the refrigerant decreases when the temperature decreases (see typical curve in Annex A of this document);
- f) due to the maximum temperature limit of 200 °C and the maximum pressure limit of 160 bar, the time dependant creep and fatigue due to pressure variation or vibrations are not significant design factors except for some materials such as aluminium, copper and titanium where the fatigue should be taken into account;
- g) the risk of overpressure is due to:
  - 1) the pressure imposing element;
  - 2) an external heat source (e.g. fire or hot water);
  - 3) improper operation.
- h) the refrigerating system is designed to minimize refrigerant emissions and the ingress of contaminants.

Hermetic compressors are covered by this document.

## 1 Scope

This document specifies the requirements for material, design, manufacturing, testing and documentation for stationary pressure vessels intended for use in refrigerating systems and heat pumps. These systems are referenced in this document as refrigerating systems as defined in EN 378-1:2016.

The term “refrigerating system” used in this document includes heat pumps.

This document applies to vessels, including welded or brazed attachments up to and including the nozzle flanges, screwed, welded or brazed connectors, or to the edge to be welded or brazed at the first circumferential joint connecting piping or other elements.

This document applies to pressure vessels with an internal pressure down to –1 bar, to account for the evacuation of the vessel prior to charging with refrigerant.

This document applies to both the mechanical loading conditions and thermal conditions as defined in EN 13445-3:2014<sup>1</sup> associated with refrigerating systems. It applies to pressure vessels subject to the maximum allowable temperatures for which nominal design stresses for materials are derived using EN 13445-2:2014<sup>2</sup> and EN 13445-3:2014<sup>1</sup> or as specified in this document. In addition, vessels designed to this document can have a maximum allowable temperature not exceeding 200 °C and a maximum design pressure not exceeding 160 bar. Outside of these limits, it is important that the EN 13445 series be used for the design, construction and inspection of the vessel. Under these circumstances, it is important that the unique nature of refrigerating plant, as indicated in the introduction to this document, also be taken into account.

It is important that pressure vessels used in refrigerating systems and heat pumps of category less than II as defined in Annex H comply with other relevant clauses of EN 378-2:2016 for vessels.

This document applies to pressure vessels where the main pressure bearing parts are manufactured from metallic ductile materials as defined in Clause 4 and Annex I of this document.

This document does not apply to vessels of the following types:

- vessels of riveted construction;
- multi-layered, autofrettaged or prestressed vessels;
- vessels directly heated by a flame;
- “roll bond” heat exchangers.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 378-1:2016, *Refrigerating systems and heat pumps — Safety and environmental requirements - Part 1: Basic requirements, definitions, classification and selection criteria*

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<sup>1</sup> As impacted by EN 13445-3:2014/A1:2015, EN 13445-3:2014/A2:2016, EN 13445-3:2014/A3:2017, EN 13445-3:2014/A4:2018 and EN 13445-3:2014/A5:2018.

<sup>2</sup> As impacted by EN 13445-2:2014/A1:2016, EN 13445-2:2014/A2:2018 and EN 13445-2:2014/A3:2018.