



*NSF International Standard /
American National Standard*

NSF/ANSI 170 - 2022

Glossary of Food Equipment Terminology



NSF International, an independent, not-for-profit, nongovernmental organization, is dedicated to being the leading global provider of public health and safety-based risk management solutions while serving the interests of all stakeholders.

This standard is subject to revision.
Contact NSF to confirm this revision is current.

Users of this standard may request clarifications and interpretations, or propose revisions by contacting:

Chair, Joint Committee on Food Equipment
c/o NSF International
789 North Dixboro Road, P.O. Box 130140
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48113-0140 U.S.A.
Phone: (734) 769-8010 Fax: (734) 769-0109
Email: info@nsf.org
Web: <www.nsf.org>

NSF International Standard /
American National Standard
for Food Equipment –

Glossary of Food Equipment Terminology

Standard Developer
NSF International

Designated as an ANSI Standard
June 1, 2022
American National Standards Institute

Prepared by
The NSF Joint Committee on Food Equipment

Recommended for adoption by
The NSF Council of Public Health Consultants

Adopted by
NSF International
June 2002

Revised September 2005
Revised February 2009
Revised March 2014
Revised August 2019

Revised July 2007
Revised April 2011
Revised December 2015
Revised September 2021

Revised March 2008
Revised November 2011
Revised November 2017
Revised January 2023

Published by
NSF International
P.O. Box 130140, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48113-0140, U.S.A.

For ordering copies or for making inquiries with regard to this standard, please reference the designation
“NSF/ANSI 170 – 2022.”

Copyright 2022 NSF International

Previous editions © 2021, 2019, 2017, 2015, 2014, 2011, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2005, 2002

Unless otherwise specified, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and microfilm, without permission in writing from NSF International.

Printed in the United States of America.

Disclaimers¹

NSF International (NSF), in performing its functions in accordance with its objectives, does not assume or undertake to discharge any responsibility of the manufacturer or any other party. The opinions and findings of NSF represent its professional judgment. NSF shall not be responsible to anyone for the use of or reliance upon this standard by anyone. NSF shall not incur any obligation or liability for damages, including consequential damages, arising out of or in connection with the use, interpretation of, or reliance upon this standard. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to judge the suitability of the ANS for the user's purpose.

Participation in NSF standards development activities by regulatory agency representatives (federal, state, or local) shall not constitute their agency's endorsement of NSF or any of its standards.

Preference is given to the use of performance criteria measurable by examination or testing in NSF standards development when such performance criteria may reasonably be used in lieu of design, materials, or construction criteria.

The illustrations, if provided, are intended to assist in understanding their adjacent standard requirements. However, the illustrations may not include all requirements for a specific product or unit, nor do they show the only method of fabricating such arrangements. Such partial drawings shall not be used to justify improper or incomplete design and construction.

At the time of this publication, examples of programs and processes were provided for general guidance. This information is given for the convenience of users of this standard and does not constitute an endorsement by NSF International. Equivalent programs and processes may be used.

Unless otherwise referenced, the annexes are not considered an integral part of NSF standards. The annexes are provided as general guidelines to the manufacturer, regulatory agency, user, or certifying organization.

¹ The information contained in this disclaimer is not part of this American National Standard (ANS) and has not been processed in accordance with ANSI's requirements for an ANS. Therefore, this disclaimer may contain material that has not been subjected to public review or a consensus process. In addition, it does not contain requirements necessary for conformance to the standard.

Abbreviations

The following table is provided as a reference for unit abbreviations for common forms of measurement used within NSF documents.

time	second	s
	minute	min
	hour	h
	day	d
	week	wk
	month	mo
	year	yr
length	inch	in
	foot	ft
	yard	yd
	micrometer	µm
	nanometer	nm
	millimeter	mm
	centimeter	cm
	meter	m
liquid measure	kilometer	km
	milliliter	mL
	liter	L
	liters per day	LPD
	liters per minute	LPM
	ounce	oz
	pint	pt
	quart	qt
	gallon	gal
	gallons per minute	GPM
weight	gallons per day	GPD
	microgram	µg
	picogram	pg
	nanogram	ng
	milligram	mg
	centigram	cg
	gram	g
	kilogram	kg
	pounds	lb
	tons	t
metric tons	mt	

Contents

1	General	1
1.1	Purpose.....	1
1.2	Scope.....	1
1.3	Measurement.....	1
2	Normative references	1
3	Definitions	2
	Informative Annex 1 Food Equipment Joint Committee	20

This page is intentionally left blank.

Foreword²

The purpose of this glossary is to provide a single resource containing all of the technical terms used in all NSF Food Equipment Standards. With all NSF Food Equipment definitions located in one document, and not in the individual Food Equipment standards, greater consistency will be achieved, as changes to a given definition will affect all other Food Equipment standards simultaneously once adopted in the glossary. In addition, the Glossary of Food Equipment Terminology may serve as a reference tool within the industry.

This glossary was developed by the NSF Joint Committee on Food Equipment using the consensus process described by the American National Standards Institute.

The requirements established in this standard are intended to be consistent with the Food Code recommendations of the U.S. Public Health Service, Food and Drug Administration.

This edition of the standard contains the following revisions:

Issue 23

This revision affirms language for new definitions for the terms *potable water* and *potable ice*.

Issue 30

This revision affirms new and revised language in NSF/ANSI 25: *Vending Machines for Food and Beverages*. These proposed changes support the incorporation of language from the National Automatic Merchandising Association (NAMA) document *Standard for the Sanitary Design and Construction of Food and Beverage Vending Machines* (v2013).

This standard was developed by the NSF Joint Committee on Food Equipment using the consensus process described by the American National Standards Institute.

This standard and the accompanying text are intended for voluntary use by certifying organizations, regulatory agencies, and/or manufacturers as a basis of providing assurances that adequate health protection exists for covered products.

Suggestions for improvement of this standard are welcome. This standard is maintained on a continuous maintenance schedule and can be opened for comment at any time. Comments should be sent to: Chair, Joint Committee on Food Equipment at standards@nsf.org, or c/o NSF International, Standards Department, P.O. Box 130140, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48113-0140, U.S.A.

² The information contained in this foreword is not part of this American National Standard (ANS) and has not been processed in accordance with ANSI's requirements for an ANS. Therefore, this Foreword may contain material that has not been subjected to public review or a consensus process. In addition, it does not contain requirements necessary for conformance to the standard.

This page is intentionally left blank.

NSF/ANSI Standard for Food Equipment –

Glossary of Food Equipment Terminology

1 General

1.1 Purpose

This standard establishes definitions for food equipment, devices, and related components.

1.2 Scope

Definitions covered by this standard consist of terminology related to food equipment, including terms describing equipment, materials, design, construction, and performance testing. This standard includes common definitions of terms used throughout NSF Food Equipment and Sanitation standards.

1.3 Measurement

Decimal and SI conversions provided parenthetically shall be considered equivalent. Metric conversions have been made according to IEEE/ASTM SI 10.³

2 Normative references

The following documents contain requirements that, by reference in this text, constitute requirements of this standard. At the time of publication, the indicated editions were valid. All of the documents are subject to revision and parties are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the documents indicated below. The most recent published edition of the document shall be used for undated references.

21 C.F.R. Part 131, *Milk and Cream (Food and Drug)*⁴

ANSI/NEMA LD 3-2005, *High-Pressure Decorative Laminates*⁵

FDA Food Code, 2017⁶

IEEE/ASTM SI 10-2016, *American National Standard for Metric Practice*³

NSF/ANSI 2, *Food Equipment*

NSF/ANSI 3, *Commercial Warewashing Equipment*

³ ASTM International. 100 Barr Harbor Drive, P.O. Box C700, West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959. <www.astm.org>

⁴ National Archives and Records Administration, Office of the Federal Register. 7 G Street NW, Suite A-734, Washington, DC 20401. <www.ecfr.gov>

⁵ National Electrical Manufacturers Association. 1300 N 17th Street, Suite 900, Arlington, VA 22209. <www.nema.org>

⁶ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Food and Drug Administration. 10903 New Hampshire Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20993. <www.fda.gov>