



Walk-in Refrigerator Rehabilitation

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance to regulated industry regarding **existing** walk-in refrigeration box design and finish requirements.

Serious consideration must be given to whether rehabilitation or replacement is the appropriate course of action. The public is advised to investigate the costs associated with all of these options.

Existing “built in” refrigeration boxes that hold temperature, that have finishes that are impervious, sealed, easily cleanable and are in good repair, need not upgrade or rehabilitate the unit until such time as the finish becomes un-cleanable or is in disrepair, or the unit becomes unserviceable.

Existing cam-lock style boxes that are otherwise serviceable but require refinishing may explore as alternatives various commercially available third-party certified coating products. Products approved under ANSI/NSF Standard 51 for splash zone use in food establishments would be acceptable for this purpose.

Existing “Built-in” Walk-in Refrigeration Boxes:

The following criteria are provided as guidance for NSF-Certified (Standard 2) fabricators for the refurbishment of walk-in refrigerator or freezer box interiors that will be equivalent to the applicable NSF materials and construction standards. ***These criteria are meant only to apply to those boxes that are currently capable of maintaining proper temperatures as required by The Regulations 1996 Governing the Sanitation of Food Establishments, Section 96.03.0300, but that do not meet materials and construction standards:***

1. The interior walls and ceiling are to be, as a minimum, aluminum electroplated galvanized steel, of 22-24 gauge (0.040 in.) or better, with a stucco-embossed or flat finish.
2. Walls are to be vertically seamed between panels, and joined using a like-material concealed fastener such as an internal hem strip, which is gasketed at the seam without caulking. Ceiling panels are to be joined in a like manner. Vertical corners must have minimum continuous radii of ¼”.
3. Any fasteners used must be countersunk and concealed with “cam-lock”-type flat caps.
4. Floors must be quarry tile, with quarry tile base, sealed with epoxy grout, or other approved seamless material (such as sealed concrete) with proper cove base and corner treatment providing a minimum ¼” radius at the floor-to-wall juncture and the corners.

5. Doors must be an NSF or equivalent approved component walk-in door. Vertical and ceiling door jams are to be finished as above (2). In lieu of an approved component door, in situations where such a door is not commercially available, the existing door interior and door jams are subject to the same finish as noted in (2) above, properly fit, and with Manufacturer's approved gaskets. The exterior of such a door must be sealed, smooth and easily-cleanable.
6. All drain/condensate/refrigeration lines must not have exposed copper and must be sealed in accordance with NSF standard 2 or painted with epoxy paint and all penetrations for such lines must be sealed properly.
7. Refrigeration components must be NSF or approved equivalent, and must be drained indirectly to an external floor sink or other approved device (such as an external evaporation pan). The BTU rating for the given ambient temperature must meet or exceed those provided for by the calculations listed in the ASHRAE (American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers) *Refrigeration Handbook*.