A2L Refrigeration System FAQ

General Questions:

Q: Why do I not see the compressor horsepower rating on refrigeration drawing?

A: *The compressor manufacturer has been moving away from horsepower ratings for a few years now. Horsepower ratings are being phased out because they don't accurately represent how a compressor performs. Horsepower only shows the motor's input power, not the cooling capacity of the compressor. With newer efficiency standards and the shift to A2L refrigerants, compressors are now rated by actual performance metrics—such as BTU capacity, COP, and AWEF, which give a much clearer picture of how the equipment will operate in the field.*

Q: Why doesn't the refrigeration rack nomenclature match what was specified?

A*: With the A2L transition, all RDT and Polarcraft equipment required an update to the rack nomenclature that identifies the new model equipment.*

Q: Why doesn't the evaporator model match what was specified?

A*: Along with the A2L transition, RDT made the decision to change evaporator suppliers, thus causing the model discrepancy. This change allows full integration with our Eco-Smart control platform and the system architecture used in our current refrigeration designs. The evaporator provided is engineered to meet or exceed the performance specifications of the originally selected evaporator and is fully compatible with the specified refrigeration system.*

Indoor Refrigeration System Specific Questions:

Q: Does RDT offer indoor refrigeration systems, air or water?

A: *Yes, RDT offers both air-cooled and water-cooled refrigeration systems for indoor installation. However, there have been some adjustments made, which include, but are not limited to, factory installed stainless-steel housing and a field-installed refrigerant detection sensor kit.*

Q: Is the refrigeration system designed in accordance with ASHRAE 15?

A: *Yes, the refrigeration system is designed in accordance with the ASHRAE 15 standard. However, ASHRAE 15 also focuses on how refrigeration systems are installed. There are calculations and code compliance requirements determined by the project's professional engineer (PE) to confirm that the installation adheres to the standard.*

Q: Are there ventilation requirements for the refrigeration system?

A: *This will be determined by the PE on the project. To help maintain compliance, RDT provides all indoor systems with a refrigerant detection sensor capable of sending out a signal via dry contacts to whatever the PE determines is necessary.*

Q: ASHRAE 15 classifies various occupancies, which affect several sections of that standard. Who determines which occupancy is correct for any given location?

A: *The architect of record or the building inspector would typically determine this classification.*

If you have additional A2L questions or would like to talk about a specific project, the RDT team is always available and ready to help.