

General

Refrigerator Appliances come in various forms, such as camping refrigerators, wine refrigerators, and drink refrigerators. This bulletin is to provide clarification for the classification level (level 3, 2 or 1) for different types of refrigerators.

Requirement

Camping refrigerators (portable type with or without heating options) may have various supply inputs but if they include an integral 240Vac supply option (but this does not include option for connecting an external LV to ELV detachable power supply) they are captured by the definition of Refrigerating appliance and they **are Level 3**.

Caravan refrigerators may have various supply inputs but if they include an integral 240Vac supply option (but this does not include option for connecting an external LV to ELV detachable power supply) they are captured by the definition of Refrigerating appliance and they **are Level 3**.

Drink or **display** type refrigerators with glass front panel/s or door/s (small refrigerators or larger refrigerators able to be purchased by, or are supplied to, households/general public), or with solid door panels, are deemed to be able to be used to also store food and are captured by the definition of Refrigerating appliance and as such they **are Level 3**.

Wine is generally not considered a food but there are various types of wine refrigerators of the compression-type or the absorption-type:

- Wine refrigerators that have specific shelving to only hold wine type bottles and have no compartments with temperature controls that are able to be set to 4°C or lower, are not deemed to be able to be used to store food and are not captured by the definition of Refrigerating appliance and they **are Level 1**.
- Wine refrigerators that have normal shelving that does not prevent the use of storing food and have any compartment with temperature controls that are able to be set to 4°C or lower, are deemed to be able to be used to store food and are captured by the definition of Refrigerator Appliance and they **are Level 3**.

Note there is a performance standard (MEPS requirement) AS/NZS IEC 62552.2:2018 that has a wine storage test (Annex B), that requires the operating temperature range for wine storage compartments to be between +5°C to +20°C degrees.

Water cooler dispensers do not store food and as such are not captured by the definition of Refrigerator Appliance and as such **are Level 1**. However, if the water cooler dispense has a compartment that does not prevent the use of storing food and has temperature controls that are able to be set to 4°C or lower, they are deemed to be able to be used to store food and are captured by the definition of Refrigerator Appliance and they are Level 3.

Background

AS/NZS4417.2 *Regulatory compliance mark for electrical and electronic equipment Part 2: Specific requirements for particular regulatory requirements*, includes the definition:

Refrigerating appliance

An electrical appliance that—
(a) is a household type; and
(b) cools and stores food.

Class specification:

AS/NZS 60335.2.24

It is immaterial that a refrigerator where the shelving and temperature adjustments allows storage of food is marketed at storing wine or drink. It is still considered as Level 3 refrigerating appliance.