**Chapter 3 Definitions**

3.1 General

The definitions contained in this chapter shall apply to the terms used in this code. Where terms are not defined in this chapter or within another chapter, they shall be defined using their ordinarily accepted meanings within the context in which they are used. Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 11th edition, shall be the source for the ordinarily accepted meaning.

3.2 NFPA Official Definitions

3.2.1\* Approved

Acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction.

3.2.2\* Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ)

An organization, office, or individual responsible for enforcing the requirements of a code or standard, or for approving equipment, materials, an installation, or a procedure.

3.2.3\* Code

A standard that is an extensive compilation of provisions covering broad subject matter or that is suitable for adoption into law independently of other codes and standards.

3.2.4 Guide

A document that is advisory or informative in nature and that contains only nonmandatory provisions. A guide may contain mandatory statements such as when a guide can be used, but the document as a whole is not suitable for adoption into law.

3.2.5 Labeled

Equipment or materials to which has been attached a label, symbol, or other identifying mark of an organization that is acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction and concerned with product evaluation, that maintains periodic inspection of production of labeled equipment or materials, and by whose labeling the manufacturer indicates compliance with appropriate standards or performance in a specified manner.

3.2.6\* Listed

Equipment, materials, or services included in a list published by an organization that is acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction and concerned with evaluation of products or services, that maintains periodic inspection of production of listed equipment or materials or periodic evaluation of services, and whose listing states that either the equipment, material, or service meets appropriate designated standards or has been tested and found suitable for a specified purpose.

3.2.7 Shall

Indicates a mandatory requirement.

3.2.8 Should

Indicates a recommendation or that which is advised but not required.

3.2.9 Standard

A document, the main text of which contains only mandatory provisions using the word "shall" to indicate requirements and which is in a form generally suitable for mandatory reference by another standard or code or for adoption into law. Nonmandatory provisions shall be located in an appendix or annex, footnote, or fine-print note and are not to be considered a part of the requirements of a standard.

3.3 General Definitions

3.3.1 Acfm

Actual cubic feet per minute. (PIP)

3.3.2 Adiabatic Heating

The heating of a gas caused by its compression. (HYP)

3.3.3 Aerosol

An intimate mixture of a liquid or a solid in a gas; the liquid or solid, called the dispersed phase, is uniformly distributed in a finely divided state throughout the gas, which is the continuous phase or dispersing medium. (MED)

3.3.4 Alarm System

3.3.4.1 Area Alarm System

A warning system within an area of use that provides continuous visible and audible surveillance of Category 1 and Category 2 medical gas and vacuum systems. (PIP)

3.3.4.2 Category 3 Alarm System

A warning system within an area of use that provides continuous visible and audible surveillance of Category 3 medical gas systems. (PIP)

3.3.4.3 Local Alarm System

A warning system that provides continuous visible and audible surveillance of medical gas and vacuum system source equipment at the equipment site. (PIP)

3.3.4.4 Master Alarm System

A warning system that monitors the operation and condition of the source of supply, the reserve source (if any), and the pressure in the main lines of each medical gas and vacuum piping system. (PIP)

3.3.5 Alternate Power Source

One or more generator sets, or battery systems where permitted, intended to provide power during the interruption of the normal electrical service; or the public utility electrical service intended to provide power during interruption of service normally provided by the generating facilities on the premises. (ELS)

3.3.6 Ambulatory Health Care Center

A building or portion thereof used to provide services or treatment simultaneously to four or more patients that (1) provides, on an outpatient basis, treatment for patients that renders the patients incapable of taking action for self-preservation under emergency conditions without the assistance of others; or (2) provides, on an outpatient basis, anesthesia that renders the patients incapable of taking action for self-preservation under emergency conditions without the assistance of others. (FUN)

3.3.7 Ampacity

The current, in amperes, that a conductor can carry continuously under the conditions of use without exceeding its temperature rating. (ELS)

3.3.8 Anesthetic

As used in this code, applies to any inhalational agent used to produce sedation, analgesia, or general anesthesia. (MED)

3.3.9\* Anesthetizing Location

Any area of a facility that has been designated to be used for the administration of general anesthesia. (MED)

3.3.10 Anoxia

A state of markedly inadequate oxygenation of the tissues and blood, of more marked degree than hypoxia. (HYP)

3.3.11 Appliance

Utilization equipment, generally other than industrial, normally built in standardized sizes or types, that is installed or connected as a unit to perform one or more functions. (MED)

3.3.12\* Applicator

A means of applying high-frequency energy to a patient other than by an electrically conductive connection. (MED)

3.3.13 Area of Administration

Any point within a room within 4.3 m (15 ft) of oxygen equipment or an enclosure containing or intended to contain an oxygen-enriched atmosphere. (MED)

3.3.14\* Atmosphere

The pressure exerted by, and gaseous composition of, an environment. (HYP)

3.3.14.1 Ambient Atmosphere

The pressure and composition of the environment surrounding a chamber. (HYP)

3.3.14.2 Atmosphere Absolute (ATA)

The pressure of the earth's atmosphere, 760.0 mmHg, 101.325 kPa, or 14.7 psia. Two ATA = two atmospheres. (See also 3.3.14, Atmosphere.) (HYP)

3.3.14.3\* Atmosphere of Increased Burning Rate

Any atmosphere containing a percentage of oxygen or oxygen and nitrous oxide greater than the quotient of 23.45 divided by the square root of the total pressure in atmospheres. (HYP)

3.3.14.4 Chamber Atmosphere

The environment inside a chamber. (HYP)

3.3.15 Automatic

Providing a function without the necessity of human intervention. (ELS)

3.3.16 Bathrooms

An area including a basin with one or more of the following: a toilet, a tub, or a shower. (FUN)

3.3.17 Battery-Powered Lighting Units

Individual unit equipment for backup illumination consisting of a rechargeable battery, battery-charging means, provisions for one or more lamps mounted on the equipment, or with terminals for remote lamps, or both, and relaying device arranged to energize the lamps automatically upon failure of the supply to the unit equipment. [70, 2011] (ELS)

3.3.18 Bends

Decompression sickness; caisson worker's disease. (HYP)

3.3.19 Branch Circuit

The circuit conductors between the final overcurrent device protecting the circuit and the outlet(s). [70, 2011] (ELS)

3.3.20 Branch Line

See 3.3.144, Piping.

3.3.21 Bulk System

An assembly of equipment, such as storage containers, pressure regulators, pressure relief devices, vaporizers, manifolds, and interconnecting piping, that terminates at the source valve of oxygen or 1452 kg (3200 lb) of nitrous oxide, including unconnected reserves on the site. (PIP)

3.3.21.1 Bulk Inert Gas System

An assembly of equipment consisting of, but not limited to, storage containers, pressure regulators, pressure relief devices, vaporizers, manifolds, and piping, with a storage capacity of more than 20,000 ft3 (scf) (566 m3) of inert gas including unconnected reserves on hand at the site. The bulk system terminates at the point where the gas supply, at service pressure, first enters the supply line. The containers are either stationary or movable, and the source gas is stored as a compressed gas or cryogenic fluid. (PIP)

3.3.21.2 Bulk Nitrous Oxide System

An assembly of equipment as described in the definition of bulk oxygen system that has a storage capacity of more than 1452 kg (3200 lb) [approximately 793 m3 (28,000 ft3) (at normal temperature and pressure)] of nitrous oxide. (PIP)

3.3.21.3\* Bulk Oxygen System

An assembly of equipment such as oxygen storage containers, pressure regulators, pressure relief devices, vaporizers, manifolds, and interconnecting piping that has a storage capacity of more than 566 m3 (20,000 ft3) of oxygen (at normal temperature and pressure), including unconnected reserves on hand at the site. (PIP)

3.3.22 Category 3 Drive Gas System

An assembly of component parts including, but not limited to, the source, pressure and operating controls, filters and purification equipment, valves, alarm warning systems, alarm wiring, gauges, and a network of piping and suitable outlets that produces and distributes compressed air from cylinders, compressed air from compressors, or nitrogen from cylinders less than 1100 kPa gauge (less than 160 psi gauge) to power devices (hand pieces, syringes, cleaning devices, delivery system chairs, and so forth) as a power source. The system includes the compressor intakes and ends with the service outlet where the user connects their clinical equipment. (PIP)

3.3.23 Category 3 Vacuum System

A Category 3 vacuum distribution system that can be either a wet system designed to remove liquids, air—gas, or solids from the treated area; or a dry system designed to trap liquid and solids before the service inlet and to accommodate air—gas only through the service inlet. (PIP)

3.3.24 Cold Room

A refrigerated area large enough for personnel to enter.

3.3.25 Combustible

Capable of undergoing combustion. (MED)

3.3.26\* Combustible Liquid

Any liquid that was a closed-cup flash point at or above 37.8°C (100°F). Combustible liquids are classified as follows: (a) Class II liquid. Any liquid that has a flash point at or above 37.8°C (100°F) and below 60°C (140°F); (b) Class IIIA liquid. Any liquid that has a flash point at or above 60°C (140°F) and below 93°C (200°F); (c) Class IIIB liquid. Any liquid that has a flash point at or above 93°C (200°F).

3.3.27\* Combustion

A chemical process of oxidation that occurs at a rate fast enough to produce heat and usually light in the form of either a glow or flame. [5000, 2012] (HYP)

3.3.28 Compact Storage

Storage on solid shelves not exceeding 0.9 m (36 in.) in total depth, arranged as part of a compact storage module, with no more than 0.76 m (30 in.) between shelves vertically and with no internal vertical flue spaces other than those between individual shelving sections. [13, 2010] (FUN)

3.3.29 Container

A low-pressure, vacuum-insulated vessel containing gases in liquid form. (MED)

3.3.29.1 Liquid Oxygen Ambulatory Container

A container used for liquid oxygen not exceeding 1.5 L (0.396 gal) specifically designed for use as a medical device as defined by 21 USC Chapter 9, the United States Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, that is intended for portable therapeutic use and to be filled from its companion base unit, which is a liquid oxygen home care container. (MED)

3.3.29.2 Liquid Oxygen Base Reservoir Container

A container used for liquid oxygen not exceeding 60 L (15.8 gal) specifically designed for use as a medical device as defined by 21 USC Chapter 9, the United States Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, that is intended to deliver gaseous oxygen for therapeutic use, transfilling, or both. (MED)

3.3.29.3 Liquid Oxygen Home Care Container

A container used for liquid oxygen not exceeding 60 L (15.8 gal) specifically designed for use as a medical device as defined by 21 USC Chapter 9, the United States Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, that is intended to deliver gaseous oxygen for therapeutic use in a home environment. (MED)

3.3.29.4 Liquid Oxygen Portable Container

A container used for liquid oxygen not exceeding 1.5 L (0.396 gal) specifically designed for use as a medical device as defined by 21 USC Chapter 9, the United States Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, that is intended for portable therapeutic use and to be filled from its companion base unit, which is a liquid oxygen base reservoir container. (MED)

3.3.30 Critical Branch

system of feeders and branch circuits supplying power for task illumination, fixed equipment, select receptacles, and select power circuits serving areas and functions related to patient care that are automatically connected to alternate power sources by one or more transfer switches during interruption of the normal power source. (ELS)

3.3.31 Critical Care Area

See 3.3.138, Patient Care Room.

3.3.32 Critical Equipment

That equipment essential to the safety of the occupants of the facility. (HYP)

3.3.33 Cylinder

A supply tank containing high-pressure gases or gas mixtures at pressures that can be in excess of 13.8 kPa gauge (2000 psi gauge). (MED)

3.3.34 Decompression Sickness

A syndrome due to evolved gas in the tissues resulting from a reduction in ambient pressure. (HYP)

3.3.35\* Defend in Place

The operational response to an emergency in a building, in which the initial action does not involve evacuation of the building occupants. (FUN)

3.3.36 Demand Check

A paired set of fittings that permit gas flow when correctly mated but interrupt flow when separated. (PIP)

3.3.37 Detonation

An exothermic reaction wherein the reaction propagates through the unreacted material at a rate exceeding the velocity of sound, hence the explosive noise. (MED)

3.3.38\* Direct Electrical Pathway to the Heart

An externalized conductive pathway, insulated except at its ends, one end of which is in direct contact with heart muscle while the other is outside the body and is accessible for inadvertent or intentional contact with grounded objects or energized, ground-referenced sources. (MED)

3.3.39\* Disaster

Within the context of this code, any unusual occurrence or unforeseen situation that seriously overtaxes or threatens to seriously overtax the routine capabilities of a health care facility. (HES)

3.3.40 D.I.S.S. Connector

A system of noninterchangeable medical gas and vacuum connectors complying with CGA V-5, Diameter-Index Safety System (Noninterchangeable Low Pressure Connections for Medical Gas Applications). (PIP)

3.3.41\* Double-Insulated Appliances

Appliances where the primary means of protection against electrical shock is not grounding. The primary means is by the use of combinations of insulation and separation spacings in accordance with an approved standard. (MED)

3.3.42 Electrical Life Support Equipment

Electrically powered equipment whose continuous operation is necessary to maintain a patient's life. (ELS)

3.3.43 Electrode

An electrically conductive connection to a patient. (MED)

3.3.43.1 Active Electrode

An electrode intended to generate a surgical or physiological effect at its point of application to the patient. (MED)

3.3.43.2 Bipolar Electrode

An electrode consisting of adjacent contacts (e.g., the two legs of a forceps) such that the current passes between the pair of contacts generating the intended effect. (MED)

3.3.43.3\* Dispersive Electrode

An electrode intended to complete the electrical path between patient and appliance and at which no surgical effect is intended. (MED)

3.3.44 Emergency Management

The act of developing procedures and plans to create effective preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery during a disaster affecting a health care facility. (HES)

3.3.45 Emergency Oxygen Supply Connection

An assembly of equipment that permits a gas supplier to make a temporary connection to supply oxygen to a building that has had its normal source of oxygen disconnected. (PIP)

3.3.46 Equipment Branch

A system of feeders and branch circuits arranged for delayed, automatic, or manual connection to the alternate power source and that serves primarily 3-phase power equipment. (ELS)

3.3.47 Equipment Grounding Bus

A grounding terminal bus in the feeder circuit of the branch circuit distribution panel that serves a particular area. (MED)

3.3.48\* Essential Electrical System

A system comprised of alternate sources of power and all connected distribution systems and ancillary equipment, designed to ensure continuity of electrical power to designated areas and functions of a health care facility during disruption of normal power sources, and also to minimize disruption within the internal wiring system. (ELS)

3.3.49 Evacuation — Waste Gas

See 3.3.183, Waste Anesthetic Gas Disposal.

3.3.50 Exposed Conductive Surfaces

Those surfaces that are capable of carrying electric current and that are unprotected, uninsulated, unenclosed, or unguarded, permitting personal contact. (ELE)

3.3.51\* Failure

An incident that increases the hazard to personnel or patients or that affects the safe functioning of electric appliances or devices. (MED)

3.3.52 Fault Current

A current in an accidental connection between an energized and a grounded or other conductive element resulting from a failure of insulation, spacing, or containment of conductors. (ELS)

3.3.53 Feeder

All circuit conductors between the service equipment, the source of a separately derived system, or other power supply source and the final branch-circuit overcurrent device. (ELS)

3.3.54\* Flammable

A combustible that is capable of easily being ignited and rapidly consumed by fire.

3.3.55 Flammable Gas

Any substance that exists in the gaseous state at normal atmospheric temperature and pressure and is capable of being ignited and burned when mixed with proper proportion of air, oxygen, or other oxidizers. (HYP)

3.3.56 Flammable Liquid

A liquid that has a closed-cup flash point that is below 37.8°C (100°F) and a maximum vapor pressure of 2068 mmHg (40 psi absolute) at 37.8°C (100°F).

3.3.57\* Flash Point

The minimum temperature at which a liquid or a solid emits vapor sufficient to form an ignitable mixture with air near the surface of the liquid or the solid. (FUN)

3.3.58 Flow-Control Valve

A valve, usually a needle valve, that precisely controls flow of gas. (MED)

3.3.59 Flowmeter

A device for measuring volumetric flow rates of gases and liquids. (MED)

3.3.59.1 Pressure Compensated Flowmeter

A flowmeter indicating accurate flow of gas whether the gas is discharged into ambient pressure or into a system at nonambient pressure. (MED)

3.3.60\* Frequency

The number of oscillations, per unit time, of a particular current or voltage waveform. The unit of frequency is the hertz. (MED)

3.3.61\* Fume Hood

An enclosure designed to draw air inward by means of mechanical ventilation.

3.3.62 Gas-Powered System

A Level 3 gas distribution system comprised of component parts including but not limited to cylinders, manifolds, air compressor, motor, receivers, controls, filters, dryers, valves, and piping that delivers compressed air or nitrogen at pressures less than 1100 kPa (less than 160 psi) gauge to power devices (e.g., hand pieces, syringes, cleaning devices) as a power source. (PIP)

3.3.63\* General Anesthesia and Levels of Sedation/Analgesia

3.3.63.1 Deep Sedation/Analgesia

A drug-induced depression of consciousness during which patients cannot be easily aroused but respond purposefully following repeated or painful stimulation. The ability to independently maintain ventilatory function may be impaired. Patients may require assistance in maintaining a patent airway, and spontaneous ventilation may be inadequate. Cardiovascular function is usually maintained. (MED)

3.3.63.2 General Anesthesia

A drug-induced loss of consciousness during which patients are not arousable, even by painful stimulation. The ability to independently maintain ventilatory function is often impaired. Patients often require assistance in maintaining a patent airway, and positive pressure ventilation may be required because of depressed spontaneous ventilation or drug-induced depression of neuromuscular function. Cardiovascular function may be impaired. (MED)

3.3.63.3 Minimal Sedation (Anxlolysis)

A drug-induced state during which patients respond normally to verbal commands. Although cognitive function and coordination may be impaired, ventilatory and cardiovascular functions are unaffected. (MED)

3.3.63.4 Moderate Sedation/Analgesia (Conscious Sedation)

A drug-induced depression of consciousness during which patients respond purposefully to verbal commands, either alone or accompanied by light tactile stimulation. No interventions are required to maintain a patient airway, and spontaneous ventilation is adequate. Cardiovascular function is usually maintained. (MED)

3.3.64 General Care Area

See 3.3.138, Patient Care Room.

3.3.65 Governing Body

The person or persons who have the overall legal responsibility for the operation of a health care facility. (FUN)

3.3.66 Ground-Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI)

A device intended for the protection of personnel that functions to de-energize a circuit or portion thereof within an established period of time when a current to ground exceeds some predetermined value that is less than that required to operate the overcurrent protective device of the supply circuit. (ELS)

3.3.67 Grounding

See 3.3.68, Grounding System.

3.3.68\* Grounding System

A system of conductors that provides a low-impedance return path for leakage and fault currents. (ELS)

3.3.69 Hazard Current

For a given set of connections in an isolated power system, the total current that would flow through a low impedance if it were connected between either isolated conductor and ground. (ELS)

3.3.69.1 Fault Hazard Current

The hazard current of a given isolated power system with all devices connected except the line isolation monitor. (ELS)

3.3.69.2 Monitor Hazard Current

The hazard current of the line isolation monitor alone. (ELS)

3.3.69.3 Total Hazard Current

The hazard current of a given isolated system with all devices, including the line isolation monitor, connected. (ELS)

3.3.70\* Hazardous Chemical

A chemical with one or more of the following hazard ratings as defined in NFPA 704, Standard System for the Identification of the Hazards of Materials for Emergency Response Health — 2, 3, or 4; Flammability — 2, 3, or 4; Reactivity — 2, 3, or 4.

3.3.71\* Health Care Facilities

Buildings, portions of buildings, or mobile enclosures in which medical, dental, psychiatric, nursing, obstetrical, or surgical care is provided. (FUN)

3.3.72 Home Care

Medical services (equipment) provided in residential occupancies. (FUN)

3.3.73 Hospital

A building or portion thereof used on a 24-hour basis for the medical, psychiatric, obstetrical, or surgical care of four or more inpatients. [101, 2012] (FUN)

3.3.74 Hospital-Based

In the interpretation and application of this code, physically connected to a hospital. (MED)

3.3.75 Humidifier

A device used for adding water vapor to inspired gas. (MED)

3.3.76 Hyperbaric

Facility, building, or structure used to house chambers and all auxiliary service equipment for medical applications and procedures at pressures above normal atmospheric pressures. (HYP)

3.3.77 Hyperbaric Oxygenation

The application of pure oxygen or an oxygen-enriched gaseous mixture to a subject at elevated pressure. (HYP)

3.3.78 Hyperbaric Stand-Alone Oxygen System

The oxygen system is entirely separate from the hospital's Level 1 Oxygen System or is a freestanding hyperbaric facility. (HYP)

3.3.79 Hypobaric

Facility, building, or structure used to house chambers and all auxiliary service equipment for medical applications and procedures at pressures below atmospheric pressures. (HYP)

3.3.80 Hypoxia

A state of inadequate oxygenation of the blood and tissue sufficient to cause impairment of function. [99B, 2010] (HYP)

3.3.81 Immediate Restoration of Service

Automatic restoration of operation with an interruption of not more than 10 seconds. (ELS)

3.3.82\* Impedance

Impedance is the ratio of the voltage drop across a circuit element to the current flowing through the same circuit element. The unit of impedance is the ohm. (MED)

3.3.83 Incident Command System (ICS)

The combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure that has responsibility for the management of assigned resources to effectively accomplish stated objectives pertaining to an incident or training exercise. [1670, 2009] (HES)

3.3.84 Instrument Air

For the purposes of this code, instrument air is air intended for the powering of medical devices unrelated to human respiration (e.g., surgical tools, ceiling arms). Medical air and instrument air are distinct systems for mutually exclusive applications. Instrument air is a medical support gas that falls under the general requirements for medical gases. (PIP)

3.3.85 Intermittent Positive-Pressure Breathing (IPPB)

Ventilation of the lungs by application of intermittent positive pressure to the airway. (MED)

3.3.86\* Intrinsically Safe

As applied to equipment and wiring, equipment and wiring that are incapable of releasing sufficient electrical energy under normal or abnormal conditions to cause ignition of a specific hazardous atmospheric mixture. (HYP)

3.3.87 Invasive Procedure

Any procedure that penetrates the protective surfaces of a patient's body (i.e., skin, mucous membrane, cornea) and that is performed with an aseptic field (procedural site). [Not included in this category are placement of peripheral intravenous needles or catheters used to administer fluids and/or medications, gastrointestinal endoscopies (i.e., sigmoidoscopies), insertion of urethral catheters, and other similar procedures.] (ELS)

3.3.88 Isolated Patient Lead

A patient lead whose impedance to ground or to a power line is sufficiently high that connecting the lead to ground, or to either conductor of the power line, results in current flow below a hazardous limit in the lead. (MED)

3.3.89\* Isolated Power System

A system comprising an isolation transformer or its equivalent, a line isolation monitor, and its ungrounded circuit conductors. (ELS)

3.3.90 Isolation Transformer

A transformer of the multiple-winding type, with the primary and secondary windings physically separated, that inductively couples its ungrounded secondary winding to the grounded feeder system that energizes its primary winding. (ELS)

3.3.91\* Laboratory

A building, space, room, or group of rooms intended to serve activities involving procedures for investigation, diagnosis, or treatment in which flammable, combustible, or oxidizing materials are to be used.

3.3.92\* Laboratory Work Area

A room or space for testing, analysis, research, instruction, or similar activities that involve the use of chemicals. This work area may or may not be enclosed.

3.3.93 Leak Detectant

For purposes of this standard, a reagent, a solution, or an electronic or mechanical device suitable for the detection or visualization of escaping gas. (PIP)

3.3.94 Life Safety Branch

A system of feeders and branch circuits supplying power for lighting, receptacles, and equipment essential for life safety that are automatically connected to alternate power sources by one or more transfer switches during interruption of the normal power source. (ELS)

3.3.95 Limited Care Facility

A building or portion of a building used on a 24-hour basis for the housing of four or more persons who are incapable of self-preservation because of age; physical limitations due to accident or illness; or limitations such as mental retardation/developmental disability, mental illness, or chemical dependency. [101, 2012] (FUN)

3.3.96\* Limited-Combustible (Material)

Refers to a building construction material not complying with the definition of non-combustible material that, in the form in which it is used, has a potential heat value not exceeding 8141 kJ/kg (3500 Btu/lb), where tested in accordance with NFPA 259, Standard Test Method for Potential Heat of Building Materials, and includes either of the following: (1) materials having a structural base of noncombustible material, with a surfacing not exceeding a thickness of 1/8 in. (3.2 mm) that has a flame spread index not greater than 50; or (2) materials, in the form and thickness used, having neither a flame spread index greater than 25 nor evidence of continued progressive combustion, and of such composition that surfaces that would be exposed by cutting through the material on any plane would have neither a flame spread index greater than 25 nor evidence of continued progressive combustion, when tested in accordance with ASTM E 84, Standard Test Method far Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials, or ANSI/UL 723, Standard for Test for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials. [90A, 2012] (PIP)

3.3.97 Line Isolation Monitor

A test instrument designed to continually check the balanced and unbalanced impedance from each line of an isolated circuit to ground and equipped with a built-in test circuit to exercise the alarm without adding to the leakage current hazard. (ELS)

3.3.98\* Liquid

Any material that (1) has a fluidity greater than that of 300 penetration asphalt when tested in accordance with ASTM D 5, Standard Test Method for Penetration of Bituminous Materials, or (2) is a viscous substance for which a specific melting point cannot be determined but that is determined to be a liquid in accordance with ASTM D 4359, Standard Test for Determining Whether a Material is a Liquid or a Solid. [30, 2012] (LAB)

3.3.99\* Local Signal

A visible indication of the operating status of equipment. (PIP)

3.3.100 MA

Milliampere.

3.3.101 Manifold

A device for connecting the outlets of one or more gas cylinders to the central piping system for that specific gas. (PIP)

3.3.102\* Manufactured Assembly

A factory-assembled product designed for aesthetics or convenience that contains medical gas or vacuum outlets, piping, or other devices related to medical gases. (PIP)

3.3.103 Mask

A device that fits over the mouth and nose (oronasal) or nose (nasal) used to administer gases to a patient. (MED)

3.3.104\* Medical Air

For purposes of this code, medical air is air supplied from cylinders, bulk containers, or medical air compressors or reconstituted from oxygen USP and oil-free, dry nitrogen NF. (PIP)

3.3.104.1 Proportioning System for Medical Air USP

A central supply that produces medical air (USP) reconstituted from oxygen USP and nitrogen NF by means of a mixer or blender. (PIP)

3.3.105 Medical Air Compressor

A compressor that is designed to exclude oil from the air stream and compression chamber and that does not under normal operating conditions or any single fault add any toxic or flammable contaminants to the compressed air. (PIP)

3.3.106\* Medical/Dental Office

A building or part thereof in which the following occur: (1) examinations and minor treatments/procedures are performed under the continuous supervision of a medical/dental professional; (2) only sedation or local anesthesia is involved and treatment or procedures do not render the patient incapable of self-preservation under emergency conditions; and (3) overnight stays for patients or 24-hour operation are not provided. (FUN)

3.3.107 Medical Gas

A patient medical gas or medical support gas. (See also 3.3.142, Patient Medical Gas and 3.3.109, Medical Support Gas.) (PIP)

3.3.108 Medical Gas System

An assembly of equipment and piping for the distribution of nonflammable medical gases such as oxygen, nitrous oxide, compressed air, carbon dioxide, and helium. (PIP)

3.3.109 Medical Support Gas

Nitrogen or instrument air used for any medical support purpose (e.g., to remove excess moisture from instruments before further processing, or to operate medical—surgical tools, air-driven booms, pendants, or similar applications) and, if appropriate to the procedures, used in laboratories and are not respired as part of any treatment. Medical support gas falls under the general requirements for medical gases. (PIP)

3.3.110 Medical—Surgical Vacuum

A method used to provide a source of drainage, aspiration, and suction in order to remove body fluids from patients. (PIP)

3.3.111 Medical—Surgical Vacuum System

An assembly of central vacuum-producing equipment and a network of piping for patient suction in medical, medical—surgical, and waste anesthetic gas disposal (WAGD) applications. (PIP)

3.3.112 Multiple Treatment Facility

A diagnostic or treatment complex under a single management comprising a number of single treatment facilities, which can be accessed one from the other without exiting the facility (i.e., does not involve widely separated locations or separate distinct practices). (FUN)

3.3.113 MV

Millivolt.

3.3.114 Nasal Cannula

Device consisting of two short tubes to be inserted into the nostrils to administer oxygen or other therapeutic gases. (MED)

3.3.115 Nasal Catheter

A flexible tube for insertion through the nose into the nasopharynx to administer oxygen or other therapeutic gases. (MED)

3.3.116 Nebulizer

A device used for producing an aerosol of water and/or medication within inspired gas supply. (MED)

3.3.117 Negative Pressure

Pressure less than atmospheric. (MED)

3.3.118 Nitrogen

An element that, at atmospheric temperatures and pressures, exists as a clear, colorless, and tasteless gas; it comprises approximately four-fifths of the earth's atmosphere. (MED)

3.3.118.1 Nitrogen NF (Oil-Free, Dry)

Nitrogen complying as a minimum with oil-free, dry nitrogen NF. (PIP)

3.3.119 Nitrogen Narcosis

A condition resembling alcoholic inebriation, which results from breathing nitrogen in the air under significant pressure. (HYP)

3.3.120 Nitrous Oxide

An inorganic compound, one of the oxides of nitrogen. It exists as a gas at atmospheric pressure and temperature, possesses a sweetish smell, and is used for inducing anesthesia when inhaled. The oxygen in the compound will be released under conditions of combustion, creating an oxygen-enriched atmosphere. (MED)

3.3.121 Noncombustible (Hyperbaric)

An adjective describing a substance that will not burn in 95 ±5 percent oxygen at pressures up to 3 ATA (44.1 psia). (HYP)

3.3.122 Noncombustible (Hypobaric)

An adjective describing a substance that will not burn in 95 ±5 percent oxygen at pressures of 101.325 kPa (760 mmHg). (HYP)

3.3.123 Noncombustible (Material)

A material that, in the form in which it is used and under the conditions anticipated, will not ignite, burn, support combustion, or release flammable vapors, when subjected to fire or heat. Materials that are reported as passing ASTM E 136, Standard Test Method for Behavior of Materials in a Vertical Tube Furnace at 750°C, shall be considered noncombustible materials. (HYP)

3.3.124 Nonflammable

Not readily capable of burning with a flame and not liable to ignite and bum when exposed to flame.

3.3.125\* Nonflammable Anesthetic Agent

Refers to those inhalation agents that, because of their vapor pressure at 37°C (98.6°F) and at atmospheric pressure, cannot attain flammable concentrations when mixed with air, oxygen, or mixtures of oxygen and nitrous oxide. (MED)

3.3.126\* Nonflammable Medical Gas System

See 3.3.105, Medical Gas System, and Chapter 5.

3.3.127 Nursing Home

A building or portion of a building used on a 24-hour basis for the housing and nursing care of four or more persons who, because of mental or physical incapacity, might be unable to provide for their own needs and safety without the assistance of another person. [101, 2012] (FUN)

3.3.128\* Oxidizing Gas

A gas that supports combustion. (HYP)

3.3.129\* Oxygen

A chemical element that, at normal atmospheric temperatures and pressures, exists as a colorless, odorless, and tasteless gas and comprises about 21 percent by volume of the earth's atmosphere. (MED)

3.3.129.1 Gaseous Oxygen

A colorless, odorless, tasteless, and nontoxic gas, comprising about 21 percent of normal air by volume, that is about 10 percent heavier than air; also the physical state of the element at atmospheric temperature and pressure. (MED)

3.3.129.2\* Liquid Oxygen

Exists at cryogenic temperature, approximately —184.4°C (—300°F) at atmospheric pressure. It retains all of the properties of gaseous oxygen, but, in addition, when allowed to warm to room temperature at atmospheric pressure, it will evaporate and expand to fill a volume 860 times its liquid volume. (MED)

3.3.130\* Oxygen Delivery Equipment

Any device used to transport and deliver an oxygen-enriched atmosphere to a patient. (MED)

3.3.131 Oxygen-Enriched Atmosphere (OEA)

For the purposes of this code, an atmosphere in which the concentration of oxygen exceeds 23.5 percent by volume. (HYP)

3.3.132\* Oxygen Hood

A device encapsulating a patient's head and used for a purpose similar to that of a mask. (See also 3.3.103, Mask.) (HYP)

3.3.133 Oxygen Index

The minimum concentration of oxygen, expressed as percent by volume, in a mixture of oxygen and nitrogen that will just support combustion of a material under conditions of ASTM D 2863, Standard Test Method for Measuring the Minimum Oxygen Concentration to Support Candle-Like Combustion of Plastics (Oxygen Index). (HYP)

3.3.134\* Oxygen Toxicity (Hyperbaric)

Physical impairment resulting from breathing gaseous mixtures containing oxygen-enriched atmospheres at elevated partial pressures for extended periods of time. (HYP)

3.3.135 Oxygen USP

Oxygen complying with Medical USP.

3.3.136 Patient Bed Location

The location of a patient sleeping bed, or the bed or procedure table of a critical care area. (ELS)

3.3.137 Patient-Care-Related Electrical Equipment

Electrical equipment appliance that is intended to be used for diagnostic, therapeutic, or monitoring purposes in a patient care vicinity. (MED)

3.3.138\* Patient Care Room

Any room of a health care facility wherein patients are intended to be examined or treated. (MED)

3.3.138.1\* Basic Care Room

Room in which the failure of equipment or a system is not likely to cause injury to the patients or caregivers but can cause patient discomfort (Category 3). (MED)

3.3.138.2\* Critical Care Room

Room in which failure of equipment or a system is likely to cause major injury or death of patients or caregivers (Category 1). (MED)

3.3.138.3\* General Care Room

Room in which failure of equipment or a system is likely to cause minor injury to patients or caregivers (Category 2). (MED)

3.3.138.4\* Support Room

Room in which failure of equipment or a system is not likely to have a physical impact on patients or caregivers (Category 4). (MED)

3.3.139 Patient Care Vicinity

A space, within a location intended for the examination and treatment of patients, extending 1.8 m (6 ft) beyond the normal location of the bed, chair, table, treadmill, or other device that supports the patient during examination and treatment and extending vertically to 2.3 m (7 ft 6 in.) above the floor. (MED)

3.3.140 Patient Equipment Grounding Point

A jack or terminal that serves as the collection point for redundant grounding of electric appliances serving a patient care vicinity or for grounding other items in order to eliminate electromagnetic interference problems. (MED)

3.3.141\* Patient Lead

Any deliberate electrical connection that can carry current between an appliance and a patient. (MED)

3.3.142 Patient Medical Gas

Piped gases such as oxygen, nitrous oxide, helium, carbon dioxide, and medical air that are used in the application of human respiration and the calibration of medical devices used for human respiration. (PIP)

3.3.143 Piped Distribution System

A pipeline network assembly of equipment that starts at and includes the source valve, warning systems (master, area, local alarms), bulk gas system signal actuating switch wiring, interconnecting piping, and all other components up to and including the station outlets/inlets. (PIP)

3.3.144 Piping

The tubing or conduit of the system. The three general classes of piping are main lines, risers, and branch (lateral) lines. (PIP)

3.3.144.1 Branch (Lateral) Lines

Those sections or portions of the piping system that serve a room or group of rooms on the same story of the facility. (PIP)

3.3.144.2 Main Lines

The piping that connects the source (pumps, receivers, etc.) to the risers or branches, or both. (PIP)

3.3.144.3 Risers

The vertical pipes connecting the system main line(s) with the branch lines on the various levels of the facility. (PIP)

3.3.145 Plug (Attachment Plug, Cap)

A device that, by insertion in a receptacle, establishes connection between the conductors of the attached flexible cord and the conductors connected permanently to the receptacle. (MED)

3.3.146 Positive-Negative Pressure Breathing

Ventilation of the lungs by the application of intermittent positive-negative pressure to the airway. (MED)

3.3.147 Pressure

3.3.147.1 Absolute Pressure

The total pressure in a system with reference to zero pressure. (HYP)

3.3.147.2 Ambient Pressure

Refers to total pressure of the environment referenced. (HYP)

3.3.147.3 Gauge Pressure

Refers to total pressure above (or below) atmospheric. (HYP)

3.3.147.4 High Pressure

A pressure exceeding 1.38 kPa (200 psi) gauge (215 psia). (MED)

3.3.147.5\* Partial Pressure

The pressure, in absolute units, exerted by a particular gas in a gas mixture. (HYP)

3.3.147.6 Positive Pressure

Pressure greater than ambient atmospheric. (MED)

3.3.147.7\* Working Pressure

A pressure not exceeding 200 psi (11.6 kg/cm2) gauge. (MED)

3.3.148\* Pressure-Reducing Regulator

A device that automatically reduces gas under high pressure to a usable lower working pressure. (MED)

3.3.149 Procedure Room

Where the proceduralist is using instrumentation that requires constant observation and control. (MED)

3.3.150 Psia

Pounds per square inch absolute, a unit of pressure measurement with zero pressure as the base or reference pressure. (HYP)

3.3.151\* Psig

Pounds per square inch gauge, a unit of pressure measurement with atmospheric pressure as the base or reference pressure. (HYP)

3.3.152 Reactance

The component of impedance contributed by inductance or capacitance. The unit of reactance is the ohm. (MED)

3.3.153 Reactive Material

A material that, by itself, is readily capable of detonation, explosive decomposition, or explosive reaction at normal or elevated temperatures and pressures. [45, 2011]

3.3.154 Receptacle

A receptacle is a contact device installed at the outlet for the connection of an attachment plug. A single receptacle is a single contact device with no other contact device on the same yoke. A multiple receptacle is two or more contact devices on the same yoke. [70, 2011] (ELS)

3.3.155 Reference Grounding Point

The ground bus of the panelboard or isolated power system panel supplying the patient care room. (MED)

3.3.156\* Refrigerating Equipment

Any mechanically operated equipment used for storing below normal ambient temperature hazardous materials having flammability ratings of 3 or 4.

3.3.157\* Remote

A Level 3 source of supply that is accessed by exiting the single or multiple treatment facility. (PIP)

3.3.158 Reserve Supply

Where existing, that portion of the supply equipment that automatically supplies the system in the event of failure of the operating supply. The reserve supply only functions in an emergency and not as a normal operating procedure. (PIP)

3.3.159 Safely Can

An approved container, of not more than 18.9 L (5 gal) capacity, having a spring-closing lid and spout cover and so designed that it will safely relieve internal pressure when subjected to fire exposure.

3.3.160 Scavenging

Evacuation of exhaled mixtures of oxygen and nitrous oxide. (PIP)

3.3.161 SCFM

Abbreviation of flow rate units of standard cubic feet per minute. (PIP)

3.3.162 Selected Receptacles

A minimal number of receptacles selected by the governing body of a facility as necessary to provide essential patient care and facility services during loss of normal power. (ELS)

3.3.163 Self-Extinguishing

A characteristic of a material such that, once the source of ignition is removed, the flame is quickly extinguished without the fuel or oxidizer being exhausted. (HYP)

3.3.164 Semipermanent Connection

A noninterchangeable connection, usually a D.I.S.S. connector, which is the termination of the pipeline and that is intended to be detached only for service. It is not the point at which the user makes connections or disconnections. (PIP)

3.3.165 Service Inlet

The pneumatic terminus of a Level 3 piped vacuum system. (PIP)

3.3.166 Service Outlet

The pneumatic terminus of a piped gas system for other than critical, continuous duty, nonflammable medical life support—type gases such as oxygen, nitrous oxide, or medical air. (PIP)

3.3.167\* Single Treatment Facility

A diagnostic or treatment complex under a single management comprising a number of use points, but confined to a single contiguous group of use points (i.e., does not involve widely separated locations or separate distinct practices). (PIP)

3.3.168\* Site of Intentional Expulsion

All points within 0.3 m (1 ft) of a point at which an oxygen-enriched atmosphere is intentionally vented to the atmosphere. (MED)

3.3.169 Station Inlet

An inlet point in a piped medical/surgical vacuum distribution system at which the user makes connections and disconnections. (PIP)

3.3.170 Station Outlet

An outlet point in a piped medical gas distribution system at which the user makes connections and disconnections. (PIP)

3.3.171 Supply Source

3.3.171.1 Operating Supply

The portion of the supply system that normally supplies the piping systems. The operating supply consists of a primary supply or a primary and secondary supply. (PIP)

3.3.171.2 Primary Supply

That portion of the source equipment that actually supplies the system. (PIP)

3.3.171.3 Reserve Supply

Where provided, that portion of the source equipment that automatically supplies the system in the event of failure of the primary and secondary operating supply. (PIP)

3.3.171.4 Secondary Supply

Where provided, that portion of the source equipment that automatically supplies the system when the primary supply becomes exhausted. (PIP)

3.3.172\* Surface-Mounted Medical Gas Rail Systems

A surface-mounted gas delivery system intended to provide ready access for two or more gases through a common delivery system to provide multiple gas station outlet locations within a single patient room or critical care area. (PIP)

3.3.173 Task Illumination

Provisions for the minimum lighting required to carry out necessary tasks in the areas described in Chapter 6, including safe access to supplies and equipment and access to exits. (ELS)

3.3.174 Terminal

The end of a flexible hose or tubing used in a manufactured assembly where the user is intended to make connection and disconnection. (PIP)

3.3.175 Touch Current

Leakage current flowing from the enclosure or from parts thereof, excluding patient connections, accessible to any operator or patient in normal use, through an external path other than the protective grounding (earth) conductor to earth or to another part of the enclosure. (MED)

3.3.176 Transfilling

The process of transferring a medical gas in gaseous or liquid state from one container or cylinder to another container or cylinder (MED).

3.3.177 Tube

3.3.177.1\* Endotracheal Tube

A tube for insertion through the mouth or nose into the upper portion of the trachea (windpipe). (MED)

3.3.177.2\* Tracheotomy Tube

A curved tube for insertion into the trachea (windpipe) below the larynx (voice box) during the performance of an appropriate operative procedure (tracheotomy). (MED)

3.3.178\* Unattended Laboratory Operation

A laboratory procedure or operation at which there is no person present who is knowledgeable regarding the operation and emergency shutdown procedures. [45, 2011]

3.3.179 Use Point

A location with any number of station outlets and inlets arranged for access by a practitioner during treatment of a patient. (PIP)

3.3.180\* Utility Center (J Box)

A type of terminal enclosure for utilities (e.g., gas power, vacuum, water, electrical power) used in office-based occupancies. (PIP)

3.3.181 Vaporizer

A heat exchange unit designed to convert cryogenic liquid into the gaseous state. (PIP)

3.3.182\* WAGD Interface

A device provided on the anesthesia gas machine that connects the WAGD network to the patient breathing circuit. (PIP)

3.3.183 Waste Anesthetic Gas Disposal (WAGD)

The process of capturing and carrying away gases vented from the patient breathing circuit during the normal operation of gas anesthesia or analgesia equipment. (PIP)

3.3.184\* Wet Procedure Locations

The area in a patient care room where a procedure is performed that is normally subject to wet conditions while patients are present, including standing fluids on the floor or drenching of the work area, either of which condition is intimate to the patient or staff. (FUN)

3.4 BICSI Definitions

These terms are defined in The BICSI Information Transport Systems (ITS) Dictionary. (HES)

3.4.1 Telecommunications Entrance Facility (EF)

An entrance to a building for both public and private network service cables that includes the building entrance point and the entrance room or space at the point of demarcation between campus or utility service and building interior distribution of communications systems. (ELS)

3.4.2 Telecommunications Equipment Room (TER)

An environmentally controlled centralized space for telecommunications equipment, typically including main or intermediate cross-connect equipment and cabling. (ELS)

3.4.3 Telecommunications Room (TR)

An enclosed architectural space for housing telecommunications equipment, cable terminations, and cross-connect cabling, serving a floor or an area of a floor. (ELS)