

Cold Store Pull Down Times

The purpose of this Technical Bulletin is to give guidance on the pull down times required for new cold stores or blast freezers. Although the times stated must be confirmed in writing by the concrete floor and insulated panel contractors we can advise that the following has been published by the Institute of Refrigeration in the Cold Store Code of Practice and has worked well in our experience.

Day	Temperature
1	16°C
2	5°C
3	1°C
4	1°C
5	1°C
6	-2°C
7	-4°C
8	-8°C
9	-12°C
10	-18°C
11	-23°C
12	Final Temperature

The concrete floor should be properly cured before the pull down starts. If it is intended to start the pull down less than 35 days after the floor has been poured then the concrete floor contractor must confirm in writing that the concrete is sufficiently cured.

It is essential that the surface of the concrete floor is dry at the start of the pull down and remains that way throughout. The room doors shall be kept closed during the pull down except to allow people to pass through. Starting at a lower temperature means that the days to reach that temperature can be taken from the start of the program; so for example if the floor temperature is 16°C before the pull down starts the temperature will be held at 5°C on the first day.

Chill store floors should be pulled down according to this program until their design temperature is reached.

Blast freezers which operate below -26°C should follow the same program with additional steps of 5°C temperature reduction per day until the design temperature is reached.

Date	Issue	Changes	Originator
31/10/05	A		AMG