

Camfil Farr

Technical Services Bulletin

HEPA Filter

Conforming Products



In today's world of confused acronyms, items that have had distinct definitions have been misused by those wishing to capitalize on the convenience or connotation of the acronym.

By definition a HEPA filter is a **tested filter** that is at least 99.97% efficient on particles 0.3 micron in size. Now we have vacuum cleaners and other consumer items claiming to use HEPA filters – absolutely not! These filters are not individually tested and many of them actually use a lesser efficiency media. HEPA filters in the HVAC arena are often used in critical control areas where a tested level of confidence is necessary. Lets review some of the idiosyncrasies and the gamesmanship that may confuse customers in the HVAC filter arena.

A quantity of filters arrives at the same location with the same information on each label, is this possible?

Rarely do sequentially tested filters test at the same penetration and resistance. If each label is a duplicate of the previous it is doubtful that the manufacturer tested every filter. The IEST Recommended Practice, Underwriters Laboratories Standard,



HEPA filters may be manufactured with a metal frame, a wood frame, and various other materials. The common thread is that all HEPA filters are to be tested by the manufacturer to assure conformance to HEPA performance Standards.

and the 'industry standard' government specifications and definitions of HEPA filters, require testing of every filter.

Camfil Farr tests every filter having an efficiency of 99.97% or higher. This adds both cost and value to the product.

Can a filter be defined as a HEPA filter because the media manufacturer has tested a piece of the media?

All HEPA media is tested by the media manufacturer. It is a different testing method than that used for a completely assembled filter. Some manufacturers will reference the media manufacturers' test, assemble a product, and make inference that they are providing a HEPA filter. This is an absolute misstatement. In order to meet the aforementioned Practices and Standards, every HEPA filter must be tested after all components are assembled. Camfil Farr also tests the media upon factory arrival for conformance to specifications.

How do you protect yourself from these misleading sales tactics? Make sure that you request a **Letter of Certification** with every filter that you order. A Letter of Certification will re-state the information on the filter label, and will state that the filter has been tested under the criteria of the applicable Recommended

Practice or Standard.

You should maintain a file of such information for your protection should questions arise at a later date (proof that the filters have met the requirements as published by the Food and Drug Administration, Center for Disease Control, the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations and other regulating bodies).

Camfil Farr does not charge a premium for this service, if the letter is requested at the time the order is placed. (There is a nominal charge if requested after order placement to cover administrative and file research expenditures^a).

So remember, add this line to your request for quote specifications:

Letter of Certification required with each filter.

Additional HEPA Filter Information

Camfil Farr HEPA, ULPA and MEGA grade Cleanroom Products are designed and manufactured to meet or exceed specific performance and quality standards including the following:

1. Cleanroom filters and filter modules are assembled, tested, bagged and sealed within a certified Class 10,000 cleanroom to assure the highest levels of cleanliness.
2. Camfil Farr specified HEPA, ULPA and MEGA grade media used in each filter is traceable to the media manufacturer's lot number and quality certification procedure.
3. Each incoming media lot is tested to ensure compliance with Camfil

Farr's test and certification procedure to meet exact specifications for penetration, airflow resistance and physical properties.

4. To verify specifications, every assembled filter is scan-tested using DOP-free automated scan equipment to certify the absence of pinhole leaks or assembly defects. Additionally, each filter is tested for efficiency and airflow resistance at rated air flow. Testing is performed in accordance with accepted industry practices.
5. For identification and traceability, test results, item identification and date of manufacture are summarized on serialized labels affixed to each filter and filter carton.



^a Certificates of Conformance will be provided at no charge if requested prior to acceptance of the order by Camfil Farr. There will, however, be a processing charge if Certificates of Conformance are requested after the order is received. Cost will vary dependent on the type of certificate required and the number of filters involved. Customer Service will provide you a cost estimate for processing certificates after order receipt.