



## Communication

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### **Precautionary Steps for “Long-term” Shutdown of Refrigeration Equipments**

*By Ed Peduto, ISI Contributor - 26 March 2020*

Many, including myself, have operated our ice rinks for so long that we may have forgotten the potential ills that can occur when the machinery is shut down for an extended time. PLEASE NOTE: Extended time is anything over a couple of days.

The closure of our rinks is expensive enough, so if you are not trained in refrigeration repair, please contact your licensed refrigeration contractor to shut off and pump down your machinery.

Why? Refrigerant left in the liquid line, including the condensers, will not pass by a properly functioning expansion valve. It will, however, travel in the reverse direction in many systems (*especially those without check valves — If you don't know what a check valve is, you should have already called your contractor!*), leaking past the cylinders into the crankcase. You DO NOT want to restart your machinery in this condition!

Please, if you are turning off your equipment, pump down and isolate your compressors and condensers.

ALSO URGENT: Make sure electricity and crankcase heaters are started at least 24 hours prior to firing up your equipment to reopen.

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