

Environmental Air Systems, Inc.

Making Your World Comfortable

Heating • Ventilation • Air Conditioning

CARBON MONOXIDE SAFETY LEVELS

ACCEPTED CARBON MONOXIDE AMBIENT, HEALTH, AND RESPONSE LEVELS

1-9 ppm	Acceptable ambient levels, if not caused by vented
	appliances
10-35 ppm*	Acceptable short term levels from unvented appliances
	but not vented. Occupants need to be advised of elevated
	levels of CO
15-20 ppm	World Health Organization lists this as the first level of
	CO that can cause ill effects
27 ppm	21% increase in cardio respiratory complaints – Kurt
	1978
30 ppm	Earlier onset of exercise induced angina – World Health
	Organization
36-99 pm	Excessive level. Advise occupants to seek fresh air, check
	symptoms, and ventilate area.
100 ppm	Evacuate immediately. Advice occupants to check
	symptoms, seek medical attention.
200 ppm	Accepted as causing ill effects in healthy adults (has
	caused death in some cases)
400 ppm	Life threatening to most after 2-3 hours
800 ppm	Unconscious to most after 1-2 hours, death after 2 hours
1,600 ppm	Unconscious or death to most after one hour
3,200 ppm	Death to most after 30 minutes
6,400 ppm	Death to most after 10-15 minutes
12,800 ppm	Death to most after 1-3 mintues

*CO exposure above this level can cause headache, nausea, tiredness and other flue – like symptoms- anytime. Infants and the elderly may be considerably more sensitive than what is represented here for healthy adults.