

# Free 12-Point Walk-In Freezer Engineer Hiring Checklist

A printable checklist to help businesses hire the right engineer and avoid costly operational mistakes.

**Why this matters:** Substandard walk-in freezer installations or repairs can lead to immediate inventory spoilage, chronic short-cycling, and inflated energy demands. Use this technical checklist to vet external commercial refrigeration and HVAC service engineers before onboarding them.

## 1. QUALIFICATIONS & COMPLIANCE

- F-Gas Certification (Category 1)**  
Verify current valid registration enabling the engineer to legally work on any static refrigeration system containing fluorinated greenhouse gases.
- Public Liability Insurance**  
Confirm active coverage (minimum £5M recommended) specifically indemnifying commercial HVAC/R site incidents and structural property damage.
- Safe Handling & Environmental Records**  
Ensure standard procedures exist for tracking, recovery, and certified disposal of reclaimed chemical refrigerants.

## 2. TECHNICAL & DIAGNOSTICS

- Sub-Zero Heat Load Competency**  
The engineer can accurately calculate ambient heat gains, insulation integrity, and specific BTUs required for commercial walk-in freezers.
- Advanced Defrost Strategy Config**  
Proven experience setting up precise multi-cycle electric or hot gas defrost parameters to prevent evaporator coil ice-ups.
- Electronic Controller Diagnostics**  
Proficiency in configuring and troubleshooting advanced smart digital microprocessors (e.g., Dixell, Carel, Danfoss units).

## 3. EXPERIENCE & CAPACITY

- Commercial-Scale Specialism**  
Minimum 3–5 years verified history servicing structural cold rooms rather than light commercial or purely residential HVAC equipment.
- OEM Parts Network Sourcing**  
Direct relationships with prime manufacturers guaranteeing genuine replacement components (compressors, fans, TXVs) instead of generic defaults.
- Documented Portfolio Check**  
Provision of referenceable case studies or contacts validating successful multi-compressor or bespoke panel builds.

## 4. SLAS & EMERGENCY SUPPORT

- 24/7 Rapid Response Guarantee**  
Contractual emergency SLA with defined response windows (e.g., under 4 hours) to mitigate sudden stock loss.
- Post-Fix Commissioning Reports**  
Commitment to providing complete diagnostic reports detailing structural pulls downs, pressure test values, and superheat metrics.
- Workmanship Warranty Terms**  
Transparent multi-month warranty covering structural installation issues or subsequent system modifications.

### **Critical Technical Warning**

Never prioritize lower call-out rates over verified Category 1 F-Gas registration. Utilizing uncertified technicians voids commercial equipment warranties and hazards systemic system component drop-offs due to improper refrigerant charge balance.

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*Context Note: Designed for seamless integration immediately following the Preventative Maintenance Strategy section of the technical operations manual.*