



Automotive Refrigerants

When released into the atmosphere refrigerants from automotive air conditioners have the potential to deplete the earth's protective ozone layer and to contribute to climate change.

The refrigerant gases that contribute to ozone depletion, as recognised in Australian law include:

- Chlorofluorocarbons (CFC).
- Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFC).
- Hydrofluorocarbons (HFC).
- Perfluorocarbons (PFC).

Any individual or business that acquires, possess and/or disposes of refrigerants must hold a Refrigerant Trading Authorisation. The MTA delivers an air conditioning course that is the automotive industry's pre-requisite for an Authorisation.

RECYCLING AND REUSE

Refrigerants may be recovered, cleaned and reused by appropriately licenced technicians. Any person who handles refrigerant or works on refrigeration and air conditioning (RAC) equipment, must hold a valid Refrigerant Handling Licence. The Licence covers activities including decanting refrigerant; installing, commissioning, servicing and maintaining RAC equipment; decommissioning and disposing of RAC equipment.

For information in relation to safe disposal methods of refrigerants, contact the Australian Refrigeration Council at enquire@arctick.org.

STORING REFRIGERANTS

Containers used to store refrigerant must be kept in a place that is:

- Well ventilated.
- Secure.
- Cool (at or below 48°C unless otherwise specified by the manufacturer).
- Away from fire risk.
- Shielded from sources of direct heat.

PENALTIES

In accordance with the Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Act 1989 and the Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Regulations 1995, penalties may apply for persons or companies that do not hold, or are in breach of a Refrigerant Handling Licence or Refrigerant Trading Authorisation. Breaches of the Act or Regulations are investigated and may result in escalated compliance and enforcement actions.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The MTA is dedicated to assisting with all your environmental needs including which business may be able to assist you with your environmental requirements. If you have any queries, please contact the MTA on environmental@mta-sa.asn.au.

To further improve your business's environmental performance, the Green Stamp accreditation has been specifically developed for the automotive industry, for more information contact the WR team on 8291 2000.

