

Refrigerant phase-out dates

The phase-out of HCFCs is in accordance with Australia's obligations under the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. Australia is excelling in its environmental obligations under the Montreal Protocol and will essentially have phased out consumption of HCFCs by 2016.

What does this mean if I have a cylinder of HCFC in stock after the phase-out date?

Existing stocks of HCFCs can still be used as long as the cylinder is still within its test date. All cylinders of fluorocarbon refrigerants that have an expired in-test date need to be returned to the wholesaler or supplier, this is a requirement of your refrigerant trading authorisation. Similarly HCFCs existing in equipment at the time of phase-out can be recycled and re-used according to your normal business practices.

The table summarises the progress that Australia has made under the Montreal Protocol and the steps we will take in the future to meet our obligations. Further information on the Montreal Protocol can be found at:

www.environment.gov.au/atmosphere/ozone/legislation/montp.html

REFRIGERANT TYPE	PHASE-OUT DATES IN AUSTRALIA	PHASE-OUT DATES UNDER THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL
CFC's		
R11	Australia ceased the import and manufacture of CFCs on 1 January 1996* * with the exception of a very small number of internationally agreed essential uses that are considered critical to human health and/or laboratory and analytical procedures.	Phased out end of 1995* * with the exception of a very small number of internationally agreed essential uses that are considered critical to human health and/or laboratory and analytical procedures.
R12		
R113		
R114		
R500		
R502		
HCFC's		
R22	Freeze from beginning of 1996† Stepwise phase down of HCFC imports from 2000 to 2015~ Total phase-out by 2016^ The stepwise phase down of the HCFC import quota, in ODP tonnes per year, for; the period 1996 to 1999 was 250 ODP tonnes; reduced to 70 ODP tonnes for 2010 and 2011; 40 ODP tonnes for 2012 and 2013; 10 ODP tonnes for 2014 and 2015. † Based on 1989 HCFC consumption with an extra allowance (ODP weighted) equal to 2.8% of 1989 CFC consumption. ~ Phase down of HCFC use in Australia is controlled under a quota system in the Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Act 1989. ^ Up to 0.5% of base level consumption can be used until 2030 for servicing existing equipment, subject to a review in 2015.	Freeze from beginning of 1996† 35% reduction by 2004 75% reduction by 2010 90% reduction by 2015 Total phase-out by 2020^
R123		
R124		
R401A		
R401B		
R401C		
R402A		
R402B		
R403A		
R403B		
R405A		
R406A		
R408A		
R409A		
R409B		
R411A		
R411B		
R412A		
R416A		
R509A		
HFC's		
R125		
R134A		
R404A		
R407A		
R407B		
R407C		
R410A		
R413A		
R417A		
R507A		

The Montreal Protocol does not forbid the use of existing or recycled controlled substances beyond the phase-out dates.