

Graduate information pack – automotive sector

Licence and permit information

Fact Sheet 4 – How to obtain an Automotive Air Conditioning Licence

An Automotive Air Conditioning Licence is required for any work on air conditioning equipment fitted to the cabin of a motor vehicle that involves a risk of a controlled refrigerant being emitted. This fact sheet provides information on the qualifications required to obtain an Automotive Air Conditioning Licence.

Types of Licences

There are different types of licences available for different types of work. This webpage provides details on licence types, their entitlements, the required qualifications and units for each licence and how to apply.

Your obligations under the Act

Fact Sheet 11 – Penalties increase for offences listed under the Ozone Act and Regulations

Penalties for offences under the Act and the Regulations have increased to up to \$66,600 for individuals and \$333,000 for corporations. This fact sheet provides the latest information on offences and their penalties.

Legislation & regulation

On 1 July 2005, the Australian Government implemented a licensing scheme to support regulations under the *Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Act 1989*, designed to reduce emissions of environmentally harmful refrigerant gases.

Table 135 Standards

Holders of a refrigerant handling licence must, by law, carry out work in accordance with the standards in Table 135 where they are applicable. This document provides the current standards licence holders must follow.

Codes of practice

Fact Sheet 17 – The Australian automotive code of practice 2008

The Australian automotive code of practice 2008 provides mandatory and best practice guidelines for ARC-licensed technicians to handle fluorocarbon refrigerant. This fact sheet explains why it's important to always follow the code of practice.

The Australian automotive code of practice 2008

Free download of The Australian automotive code of practice 2008 which covers the control of refrigerant gases during manufacture, installation, servicing or de-commissioning of motor vehicle air conditioning.

Tips on staying compliant

[Fact Sheet 1 – What are you doing with your contaminated or unusable refrigerant?](#)

It is a requirement to recover, return and safely dispose of ozone depleting and synthetic greenhouse gas refrigerants. This fact sheet provides information on how to dispose of refrigerant and collect your rebate.

[Fact Sheet 2 – Are you taking proper care of your cylinders?](#)

The use of untested or unsafe gas cylinders that do not meet Australian Standards is a direct breach of the conditions of holding a Refrigerant Trading Authorisation. This fact sheet provides information on cylinders that are acceptable to use.

[Fact Sheet 15 – ‘Topping Up’ of air conditioning/refrigeration systems is not allowed](#)

'Topping up' means adding refrigerant to refrigeration and air conditioning systems before checking for, and fixing, any leaks. It is not allowed under the Australian codes of practice for handling both stationary and automotive refrigerant systems. This fact sheet provides information on why 'topping up' is illegal.

Technical information

[Mobile air conditioning – Refrigerant leakage detection](#)

During servicing of air conditioning and refrigeration systems, leak detection is a mandatory requirement of both the stationary and automotive code of practice manuals. This webpage provides the latest information on leak detection methods.

[Evacuation – Automotive air conditioning systems](#)

The main purpose of evacuating an automotive air conditioning system is to remove moisture and non-condensables which include air and nitrogen from the pipework and components. This document provides information on mandatory evacuation methods.

[Lubricating oil and dye in hybrid vehicles using electric AC compressors](#)

Refrigerant and lubricating oil are circulated together around the windings of the A/C compressor electric drive motor. This document provides information on the use of lubricating oil and dye in hybrid vehicles with electric AC compressors.

[Emerging automotive refrigerants](#)

R1234yf and R744 (carbon dioxide) are two refrigerants that have been adopted by some global vehicle manufacturers as alternatives to R134a and will present significant changes to the tools, working practices, component standards and workplace safety considerations relating to repair, service and refrigerant recovery. This webpage provides important information on unregulated automotive refrigerants.

[Use of R1234yf, R744 \(CO₂\) and R134a in automotive air conditioning](#)

If your business works with vehicle air conditioning systems, then you need to be aware of new refrigerants that are making their way to Australia in vehicles right now. This document provides important information on current refrigerants used in the automotive sector.

[R1234yf and R744 educational wall chart](#)

Free poster download with important information on alternative automotive refrigerants R1234yf and R744 (carbon dioxide).

Mining industry information

Regular servicing, maintenance and repairs to mobile air conditioning systems are critical in ensuring minimum downtime of mine site vehicles and optimisation of air conditioning performance and capacity. This webpage provides important information on refrigerant handling in the mining industry.

Fact Sheet 25 – Mining industry and refrigerant management

The refrigerants used in air conditioning and refrigeration systems for portable buildings and vehicles on mine sites are known as fluorocarbon refrigerants. This fact sheet provides information on the importance of being licensed to handle refrigerants in the mining industry.

More information

More fact sheets

ARC publishes a range of fact sheets that provide general information to technicians, businesses, and the community on refrigerants, permits, and obligations under Australian law.

Frequently asked questions

Frequently asked questions relating to the licensing scheme.

Free promotional materials for your business

ARC runs an annual summer campaign to direct consumers to look for ARC-licensed businesses and technicians for refrigeration and air conditioning services. Free promotional materials are available to promote your business to customers.

Free promotional materials

Order free promotional posters, handouts, stickers, corflutes, and self-inking stamps.

Business search and licence check

Search for authorised businesses and licensed technicians using the 'Look For The Tick' website.

R1234yf and R744 safety service stickers

Free download of printable safety information stickers for vehicle air conditioning systems containing R1234yf and R744.

Industry information

Automotive Air Conditioning Equipment Industry Bodies

Licence holders should be aware of the current automotive air conditioning industry bodies. This document contains an updated list of current industry bodies and their purpose.

Quarterly CoolChange newsletter

CoolChange is ARC's quarterly newsletter delivered to over 100,000 licensed technicians and business throughout Australia. CoolChange is the most widely read publication in the refrigeration and air conditioning industry and provides important regulatory and industry information.