



# COOLCHANGE

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## Online advertising educates consumers on differences between licences

Over summer, the Australian Refrigeration Council (ARC) delivered an online marketing campaign targeting people looking to buy, install, service, repair or dispose of air conditioners (domestic and auto), refrigerators and freezers.

**AIR-CON NEED A SERVICE OR REPAIR?**

**A FULL REFRIGERATION & AIR CONDITIONING LICENCE HOLDER IS QUALIFIED TO:**

- ✓ INSTALL
- ✓ SERVICE
- ✓ DIAGNOSE
- ✓ REPAIR

**A RESTRICTED LICENCE HOLDER IS ONLY QUALIFIED TO:**

- ✓ INSTALL
- ✗ SERVICE
- ✗ DIAGNOSE
- ✗ REPAIR

**FIND A FULL LICENCE HOLDER**

SEARCH NOW

ARC



The campaign aimed to connect potential customers with authorised businesses and licensed technicians through the consumer website [www.lookforthetick.com.au](http://www.lookforthetick.com.au) and educate them on reducing the risk of refrigerant emissions.

Part of the ARC's role is to provide information for consumers about the services permit holders provide, permit entitlements and the refrigeration and air conditioning industry permit scheme.

A key component of this campaign highlighted the legal obligation and benefits of using appropriately licensed technicians. There was a focus on the differences between a Full and Restricted licence, and the services a licence/permit holder can perform under each of those licences.

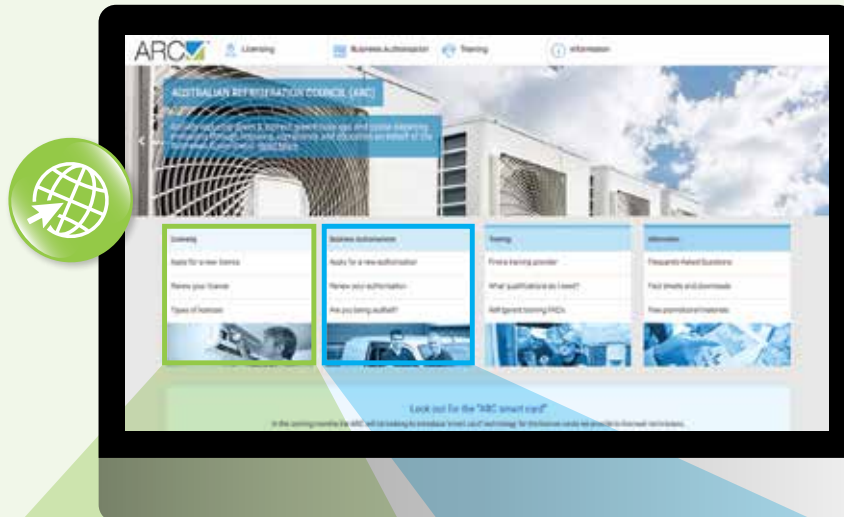
Above is one of the advertisements used to highlight this message.

# Renewing your permit soon? Double check before you submit

Using the online application and renewal facility at [www.arctick.org](http://www.arctick.org) is a quick and effective way to renew or reapply for your permit. However, there are still a few areas where permit holders sometimes get caught up.


## Existing permit holders applying for a new permit, instead of renewing

If you hold a current permit and it's coming up for renewal, the ARC will send you two reminder notices, including links to the online application/renewal facility. When renewing online make sure you click on the correct section of the website. See below for a guide.




### Licensing

- Apply for a new licence
- Renew your licence**
- Types of licences



### Business Authorisations

- Apply for a new authorisation
- Renew your authorisation**
- Are you being audited?



### Businesses with an RTA and RHL renewing the wrong permit

On occasion, businesses that hold a current refrigerant trading authorisation (RTA), and have employees with current refrigerant handling licences (RHL), renew the wrong permit. This is particularly relevant for owner-operator businesses where one person holds both permits. Make sure to check the reminder notice you receive from the ARC, which will identify the specific permit that is due for renewal.

**IMPORTANT:** When you are renewing an RHL or RTA and you are not sure if you chose the correct permit, or if your payment went through correctly, do not complete another application. Contact the ARC on 1300 884 483 to confirm. The ARC can check if you have applied for the appropriate permit and paid the correct fee.

In the past six months, the ARC engagement officers have visited a number of regional and remote areas around Australia conducting permit holder visits and education visits.

The ARC conducts permit holder visits to help permit holders better understand the permit scheme and to ensure permit obligations are met.

We also conduct education visits which aim to help people better understand the permit scheme's requirements and help consumers access services from permit holders.

## Main areas of non-compliance

Refrigerant handling licence holders not working to the automotive code of practice

- The code of practice booklets (for both automotive and stationary sectors) provide mandatory and best practice guidelines for licence holders to handle refrigerants. All licence holders must follow the mandatory practices outlined in the code of practice, and consider the best practice suggestions.
- Code of practice booklets can be downloaded free of charge from the ARC website [www.arctick.org/licensing/codes-of-practice/](http://www.arctick.org/licensing/codes-of-practice/)

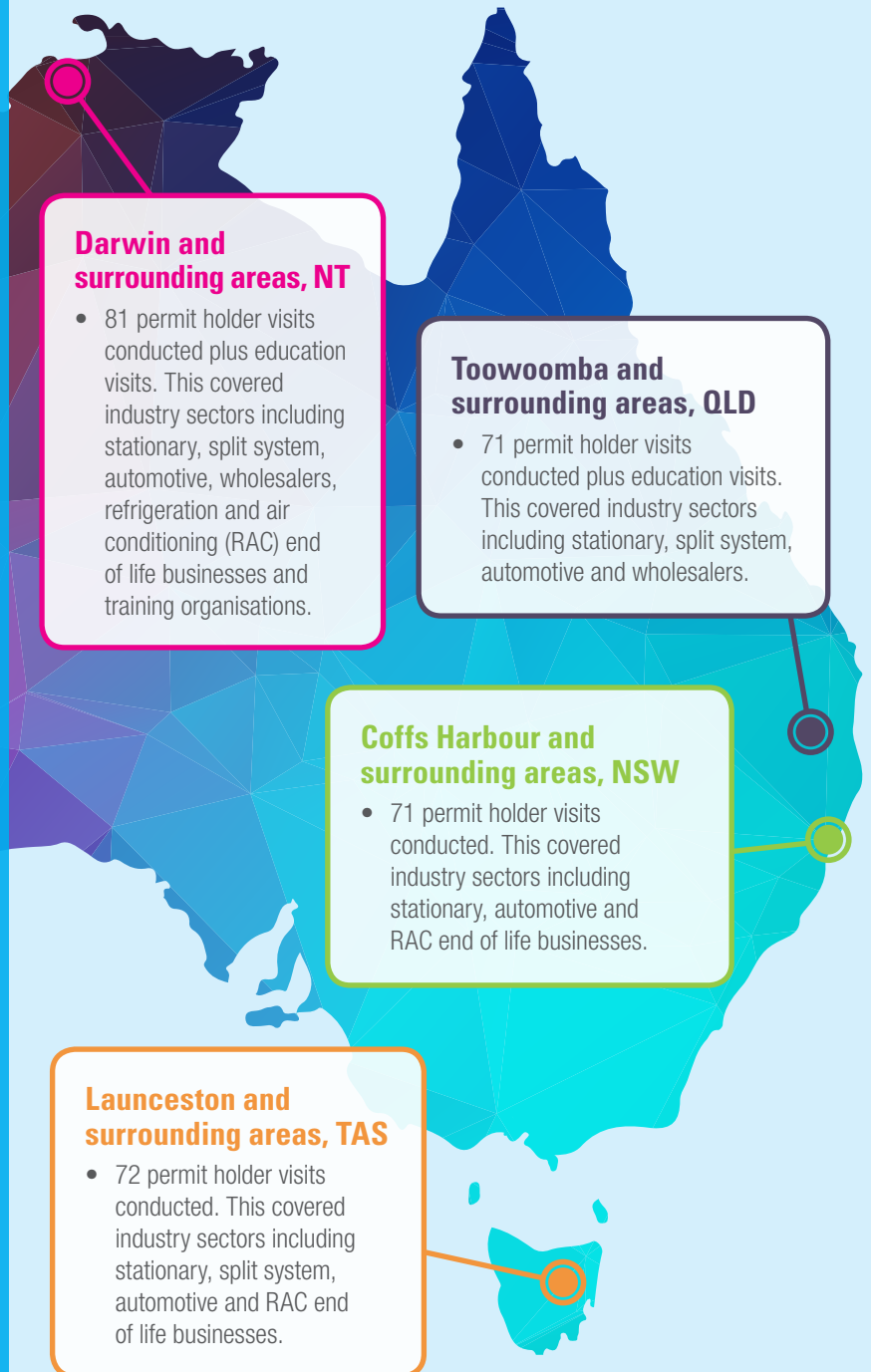
Records indicating refrigerant purchased, sold and recovered

- Refrigerant trading authorisation (RTA) holders are required to keep up-to-date records showing the amounts of refrigerant purchased, sold (bulk amount i.e. cylinders) and recovered/reclaimed (for destruction) during each quarter. During permit holder visits, RTA holders are asked to provide the last two quarters of these records.
- Record keeping templates are available free of charge and easy to fill out.
- You can access free templates and guides from [www.arctick.org/business-authorisation/business-reporting-templates-and-guides/](http://www.arctick.org/business-authorisation/business-reporting-templates-and-guides/)

No RTA number on advertising

- RTA holders are required to display their authorisation number on all advertising of refrigeration and air conditioning (RAC) services. This demonstrates to customers your compliance with national regulations. Advertising for RAC services includes:
  - any RAC advertising on a vehicle
  - business stationery
  - website
  - phone book, etc.

It's important to double check you're up to date with your records, have your RTA number displayed and are following the relevant codes of practice.



## The ARC is planning to visit the following regions in the coming months:

- **WA** – The Goldfields, South and mid-West, the Great Southern region and North-West
- **VIC** – Mildura, Ballarat, Mansfield and Geelong
- **NSW** – Morrisset and Gosford
- **QLD** – Mackay, Bundaberg and Toowoomba.



## Amendments to the Ozone Regulations

Amendments to the Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Regulations 1995 commenced on 12 December 2018.

Relevant measures updated in the amendments are:

- References to the Australian Standards 1677 series are substituted with the new standards: the Australian refrigerant designation and safety standards 5149 and 817. Refrigerant handling licence holders (RHL) are required to comply with the new standards.
- Introduction of infringement notices to the refrigeration and air conditioning domestic end-use scheme. Mid-range compliance tools like infringement notices can be more effective and efficient alternatives to prosecution in appropriate circumstances, particularly for minor breaches.
- The National Vocational Education and Training authority responsible for listing approved registered qualifications required to be eligible for an RHL has been clarified.
- Inconsistencies in criminal and civil provisions relating to a number of gas discharge circumstances, including during testing of gases and laboratory analysis, have been removed.
- The circumstances where gas discharge is permitted during sampling and testing has been clarified.

To view the Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Amendment (Methyl Bromide, Fire Protection and Other Measures) Regulations 2018 visit [www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2018L01730](http://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2018L01730)

## Industry leader gets Order of Australia medal

Former Refrigerants Australia Executive Director, Steve Anderson received an Order of Australia medal as part of the 2019 Australia Day Honours List. He received the award for service to the air-conditioning and refrigeration industry through the development of environmental policy.

Steve was involved in developing policies for ozone depleting and synthetic greenhouse gas refrigerants, establishing Refrigerant Reclaim Australia and the refrigeration and air conditioning permit scheme.

Steve led Refrigerants Australia from 1987 to 2014. He was instrumental in working with the government and the refrigeration and air conditioning industry to design policies and regulations that has made Australia a world-leader in refrigerant environmental management.

## A reminder for restricted licence holders – don't work outside the scope of your licence

It is critical that holders of restricted licences do not provide services beyond the scope of works permitted by the licence.

It's an offence for a refrigerant handling licence holder to breach a condition of their licence and a penalty of up to \$2,100 may apply. Working outside the scope of a licence could also result in a licence cancellation or suspension.

Licence entitlements are listed on the ARC website at [www.arctick.org/licensing/licence-types/](http://www.arctick.org/licensing/licence-types/)



# Get your records – refrigerants record template

The ARC's engagement officers identified record keeping as one of the main areas for non-compliance during a permit condition check.

At a permit condition check, refrigerant trading authorisation (RTA) holders are required to provide evidence of up-to-date records (for the last two quarters) showing the amounts of refrigerant purchased, sold (bulk amount i.e. cylinders) and recovered/reclaimed (for destruction) during each quarter.

To help technicians and businesses with their refrigerant record keeping, the ARC has provided the following template for you to use. The ARC also provides free templates for all RTA reporting requirements on our website. Visit [www.arctick.org/business-authorisation/business-reporting-templates-and-guides/](http://www.arctick.org/business-authorisation/business-reporting-templates-and-guides/)

<b>Business name</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Automotive</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Stationary</b> (please tick)
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<b>RTA Number</b>
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<b>Quarter ending</b>	<b>Page number</b>
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## Refrigerant: purchase record

Date	Supplier and branch		Refrigerant type	Qty (kg)
1/4/2019	Eas Supply Co Branchtown	EXAMPLE	R134a	10kg

<b>Quarterly summary</b>	<b>Total (kg)</b>
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## Refrigerant: sold record (bulk transactions to a current RTA holder) Amounts used in customers systems not required

Date	Purchaser and their AU number		Refrigerant type	Qty (kg)
1/4/2019	Fred Bloggs Refrigeration AU198765	EXAMPLE	R134a	10kg

<b>Quarterly summary</b>	<b>Total (kg)</b>
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## Refrigerant: recovered and retuned for disposal record

Date	Purchaser and their AU number		Refrigerant type	Qty (kg)
1/4/2019	Eas Supply Co Branchtown	EXAMPLE	R410a	11kg

<b>Quarterly summary</b>	<b>Total (kg)</b>
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<b>Business name</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Automotive</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Stationary</b> (please tick)
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<b>RTA Number</b>
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<b>Quarter ending</b>	<b>Page number</b>
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**Refrigerant: purchase record**

Date	Supplier and branch	Refrigerant type	Qty (kg)
1/4/2019	Eds Supply Co Branchtown <b>EXAMPLE</b>	R134a	10kg

<b>Quarterly summary</b>	<b>Total (kg)</b>
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**Refrigerant: sold record (bulk transactions to a current RTA holder)** *Amounts used in customers systems not required*

Date	Purchaser and their AU number	Refrigerant type	Qty (kg)
1/4/2019	Fred Bloggs Refrigeration AU18765 <b>EXAMPLE</b>	R134a	10kg

<b>Quarterly summary</b>	<b>Total (kg)</b>
--------------------------	-------------------

**Refrigerant: recovered and retuned for disposal record**

Date	Purchaser and their AU number	Refrigerant type	Qty (kg)
1/4/2019	Eds Supply Co Branchtown <b>EXAMPLE</b>	R410a	11kg

<b>Quarterly summary</b>	<b>Total (kg)</b>
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# Refrigeration and air conditioning celebrations

## Inventor James Harrison's birthday – 17 April 2019

A cause for celebration is the upcoming birthday anniversary of inventor James Harrison who was born on 17 April 1816. James Harrison, a Victorian-based engineer, invented refrigeration in the 1850s.

One of James Harrison's many commercial ventures was a small fishing boat business. This business presented him with a unique problem – how to keep his catch fresh? Experimenting in a small shed on the banks of the Barwon River in Geelong, Harrison came up with the world's first compression refrigeration system using sulphuric ether as the refrigerant, a substance commonly used as a cleaning fluid in the printing trade.

By 1855, Harrison had perfected the machine to the point where he was able to produce ice in commercial quantities. The following year, in order to commercially develop the invention, Harrison left Australia for Britain where he also applied for patents and formed a partnership with the engineering firm Siebe & Co., of Mason Street, London.

The first commercial Harrison-Siebe refrigeration machine was sold in 1857 to a London brewery. Further improvements and sales quickly followed. By 1861, Harrison refrigeration machines were in use all around the world.

Learn more at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James\\_Harrison\\_\(engineer\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Harrison_(engineer))



## World Refrigeration Day – 26 June 2019

26 June 2019 will be the inaugural celebration of World Refrigeration Day. This day aims to raise awareness about the role the refrigeration and air conditioning industry plays in supporting modern life and society. World Refrigeration Day is being supported by trade associations and industry groups from Australia, United States, India, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand, Africa, the Middle East, and Europe.

Glenn Evans, CEO of the ARC, said the refrigeration and air conditioning industry is vital to modern life. "It's not a stretch to say refrigeration and air conditioning is vital to mankind's survival," he said. "When you consider surgical operations can't happen without refrigeration facilities, or that there'd be no transport of meat or other perishables without refrigeration, then you start to understand the important role a refrigeration and air conditioning technician plays in society."

# Flammable refrigerants safety guide goes digital

The Australian Institute of Refrigeration, Air Conditioning and Heating (AIRAH) has released an online, updated version of its *Flammable Refrigerants Safety Guide*.

Originally developed in 2013 the *Flammable Refrigerants Safety Guide* helps refrigeration technicians, apprentices and other stakeholders understand the range of skills and knowledge required to work safely with flammable refrigerants in stationary refrigeration and air conditioning equipment.

The new online format includes information on the refrigeration and air conditioning design and safety standards AS/NZS ISO 817 and AS/NZS 5149 series, which have superseded AS/NZS 1677.

It also includes four checklists technicians and other stakeholders can use to apply safe work practices. Another benefit of the online version is a new format which breaks the content down into 20-minute (approximately) sections for quick and easy use.

The online *Flammable Refrigerants Safety Guide* is free and can be accessed by visiting [www.pointsbuild.com.au/airah/flammable-refrigerants-safety-guide-online-resource](http://www.pointsbuild.com.au/airah/flammable-refrigerants-safety-guide-online-resource)



## HFC import phase down

Australia has just completed the first year of the Hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) import phase down that was agreed to in 2016 under the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

Under the phase down the amount of HFCs that can be imported into Australia will gradually reduce by 85 per cent between 2018 and 2036. The phase down contributes to Australia's greenhouse gas emission reduction commitment.

Bulk importers of HFCs were allocated import quota based on their past share of imports. Quota available for 2018 and 2019 was 8,000,000 carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) tonnes each year – approximately the market demand for HFCs. Imports for 2018 were 98.82 per cent of the full quota.

The Department of the Environment and Energy (the Department) will be inviting importers to apply for the next quota period (2020 and 2021) in August 2019.

The Department has contracted the Expert Group to update 'Cold Hard Facts 3 – Review of the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Industry in Australia' to include data for 2017 and 2018. This will provide more detailed data on imports of HFCs, refrigeration and air conditioning equipment, the refrigerant bank and industry trends.

If you are interested in learning more about the quota or the phase down, please visit the Department's website at [www.environment.gov.au/protection/ozone](http://www.environment.gov.au/protection/ozone)