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Australian Refrigeration Council Ltd



Australian Government

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FACTSHEET

Following the refrigerant handling 'Codes of Practice'

The refrigerant handling Codes of Practice provide mandatory and best practice guidelines to handle fluorocarbon refrigerant and must be followed by ARC-licensed technicians under the Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Regulations 1995 (the Regulations).

The Codes of Practice have been developed with the intention of reducing emissions of ozone depleting substances into the atmosphere, under Australia's obligations as a signatory to the Montreal Protocol.

If you have an ARCTick licence – you must follow the Codes of Practice

All ARCTick licence holders must follow the mandatory practices outlined in the Codes of Practice, and consider the best practice suggestions for further work. The Codes of Practice are incorporated into the Regulations and mandate improved work practices, along with minimum standards for equipment design and manufacture.

Particularly for technicians new to the industry, the Codes of Practice are a fantastic reference tool that should be part of your everyday work life in the industry. If you do not have a copy of the relevant Codes of Practice at your work, you can download a copy from the ARC website www.arctick.org/licensing/codes-of-practice/ or contact the ARC on 1300 884 483.

ARC Field officers will be increasingly checking to see that the codes of practice are being followed by licensed technicians during Audits of Authorised businesses, so it is important that businesses and individual licence holders are familiar with the requirements of the Codes.

It's good for the environment!

Following the Codes of Practice will ensure you are helping to reduce emissions of ozone depleting substances into the atmosphere. Most household and car air conditioning systems contain fluorocarbon refrigerant which is an ozone depleting substance and synthetic greenhouse gas. If released into the atmosphere, fluorocarbon refrigerant can damage the ozone layer and contribute to global warming. The ozone layer protects life on earth by absorbing ultra-violet (UV) radiation from the sun. UV radiation is linked to skin cancer, genetic damage and immune suppression in humans and other living organisms.

Discharging fluorocarbon refrigerant is illegal under the *Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Act 1989* and penalties of up to \$66,600 for individuals and \$333,000 for corporations may apply. Only ARC-licensed technicians can handle and trade fluorocarbon refrigerant in Australia.

About the ARC

The Australian Refrigeration Council Ltd (ARC) administers refrigerant handling licences and refrigerant trading authorisations on behalf of the Australian Government, to professionals in the refrigeration/air conditioning industry. To enquire about applying for a licence visit www.arctick.org or call 1300 884 483

