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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ban on high-GWP small AC equipment

The import and manufacture of small air conditioning equipment with high global warming potential refrigerant (GWP over 750) has been banned as of 1 July 2024.

The Australian Refrigeration Council (ARC) has welcomed the ban, which applies to air conditioning equipment designed to be used to cool or heat, or both, a stationary space primarily for human comfort if the equipment is:

- an outdoor unit for a single-head split system air conditioning system
- a portable air conditioner
- a window/wall air conditioner (a single unit designed to be fixed to a window or wall)

and the equipment:

- has a standard refrigerant charge of 2.6 kilogram or less, and
- contains, or is designed to operate with, an HFC refrigerant that has a global warming potential (GWP) of more than 750.

ARC chief executive officer Glenn Evans said existing equipment in Australia would not be affected, and the ban would **not** apply to:

- outdoor units for ducted systems
- indoor units of split systems when imported separately from the outdoor unit
- equipment for mobile applications such as motor vehicles, caravans, aircraft and boats
- systems for use in electrical enclosures and computer rooms
- air-to-water equipment, such as units for hydronic home heating systems, swimming pool heat pumps
- humidifiers or dehumidifiers.

Importers will be able to apply for an exemption to the ban in certain circumstances. Equipment imported or manufactured in Australia before 1 July 2024 may be sold after that date.

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