



Changing State of Refrigerants – Digest 2018-1

The EPA has updated Refrigerant Management Requirements

Section 608 of the Clean Air Act requires proper refrigerant management practices by technicians, owners and operators of HVACR equipment.

Effective 1-1-2018: multiple changes have been made to these regulations.

For Technicians: Starting 1-1-2018:

- **New technicians** must pass a revised* 608 certification exam – they must keep a copy of the certificate at their place of business – they must maintain a copy of the certificate for 3-years after leaving the trade. *previously certified technicians do not need to re-test.
- **Technicians/Contractors** who dispose of (5 to 50Lbs) systems must keep records of:
 - Location, date, and refrigerant type recovered.
 - Quantity of refrigerant, by type, recovered for disposal, in each month.
 - Quantity of refrigerant and type transferred for reclaim or destruction, and the company or person to whom it was transferred.

For End users Starting 1-1-2019:

- **New leak inspection and verification tests** are required for appliances that the have exceeded the applicable leak rate according to the schedule below.

Equipment	Full Charge	Frequency of Leak Inspections
Commercial Refrigeration and Industrial Process Refrigeration	> 500 pounds	<i>Once every three months</i> until the owner/operator can demonstrate through leak rate calculations that the leak rate has not exceeded 20% (commercial refrigeration) or 30% (IPR) for four quarters in a row.
	50 to 500 pounds	<i>Once per calendar year</i> until the owner/operator can demonstrate through the leak rate calculations that the leak rate has not exceeded 20% (commercial refrigeration) or 30% (IPR) for one year.
Comfort Cooling	50 or more pounds	<i>Once per calendar year</i> until the owner/operator can demonstrate through the leak rate calculations that the leak rate has not exceeded 10% for one year.