



Refrigerant Management Program (California Assembly Bill AB32) Summary

This Regulation Affects:

- **Any Owner or Operator** of a facility with one or more stationary refrigeration systems with a high GWP **Refrigerant charge of more than 50lbs. (AC Systems are not currently affected)**
- **Any Contractor** that services or maintains systems that contain high GWP Refrigerants.
- **Any Distributor or Reclaimer** of high GWP Refrigerants.

A High GWP Refrigerant – is any CFC, HCFC, or HFC refrigerant with a **Global Warming Potential of 150 or more**. All currently CFC, HCFC and HFC refrigerants have GWP values of **1430 or higher**.

Effective January 2011

- All systems containing a High GWP refrigerant charge of 50lb or more must be subjected to periodic leak test per the following schedule.

Systems with 50 to 199 lbs	Systems w/ 200 to 1999 lbs	Systems w/ 2000 lb or more
Annual Leak Inspection	Quarterly Leak Inspection	Monthly Leak Inspection

- If refrigerant is added to a 50lb+ system **(5lbs or 1% which ever is greater) a leak test must be performed**. There are different requirements for seasonally operated systems.
- Any leak that is detected **must be repaired and documented within 14 days**. Some exceptions to the 14 day rule apply where up to 120 days may be allowed, including availability of replacement components and critical duty systems.
- Refrigerant may not be added to a system with a known leak unless it is to maintain operation in advance of a scheduled repair.
- Any System where the leak cannot be repaired within prescribed time limit **must be retired**, or replaced. Time limits range from 60 to 135 days depending on the leak repair deadline.
- All repairs **must be performed by a C20 or C38 licensed contractor**. An exception is made for facilities that service and maintain their equipment with employed staff.
- All High GWP refrigerant sales are restricted to persons that are EPA certified or companies that employ EPA certified technicians and can provide the proper documentation.
- All **disposable refrigerant cylinders must be evacuated** to 15 inches of vacuum before recycling or disposal.
- **Record Keeping Requirements** for Facilities with Stationary Refrigeration Systems of 50lbs or Greater.
 - Records on all Refrigeration System Service.
 - Invoices of all Refrigerant Purchased.
 - Records of all Shipments of Refrigerant for reclamation or destruction.
 - Any Retrofit or Retirement plans required due to unresolved leaks.
 - Records of all Refrigeration Systems and the data used to calculate the system charge.
 - All System Registrations Information (registration to be phased in starting 2012).
 - All Reports that have been submitted (reporting to be phased in starting 2012).

Registration & Reporting Requirements for Systems of 50lbs or Greater

	Systems w/ 50 to 199 lbs	Systems w/ 200 to 1999 lbs	Systems w/ 2000 lb or more
Registration	March 2016 No Fee	March 2014 \$ 170.00 Fee	March 2012 \$ 370.00 Fee
Annual Reporting	No Reporting	March 2014	March 2012
Leak check	Annually	Quarterly	Continuous Monitoring required by 2012

Changes specifically for large systems 2000 lb and more

Effective 1-1-2012:

- All systems **must have automatic leak detection** system.
- Systems must be programmed to alert the operator when the leak concentration reaches **100 parts per million**.
 - Most existing systems will need to be **recalibrated and tested to this new lower standard**.
- Leak inspection must be done within 24 hours of alert.
- Systems must be audited and **calibrated annually**.
- System Components that are not equipped with automatic detection will need to be leak checked quarterly.
 - Outdoor Equipment Racks, Evaporative Condensers etc.

Record Keeping and Enforcement

Effective 1-1-2011:

- All records must be kept on site where the system resides for **a minimum of 5 years**.
- **Records must be made available** to the executive officer of the California Air Resource Board, (CARB), an authorized representative, including a local Air Pollution Control Officer, upon request.
- Local Air District may adopt and enforce an equivalent rule.

Record Keeping and Reporting Requirements for Distributors & Reclaimers

Effective 1-1-2011:

- Distributors and Reclaimers must maintain records on all refrigerant sales and reclaim activity for a period of 5 years.
- Distributors and Reclaimers must submit annual reports on all their refrigerant activity.
- Distributors must obtain written documentation from each customer showing they employ at least one certified technician prior to the sale of any High GWP refrigerant.
- First annual Reporting is required by March 2013.

This summary has been prepared for information purposes only. It is not intended to be nor does it constitute legal advice. Please contact the California Air Resource Board for further information.

www.arb.ca.gov/cc/reftrack/reftrack.htm , email reftrackinfo@arb.ca.gov or call 916-327-8532