

REFRIGERANT RECOVERY IN THE AUSTRALIAN AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

As most people in the automotive industry are aware, refrigerant recovery from automotive airconditioning systems has become very important in the day to day workshop environment.

It is imperative and also law that a workshop be correctly equipped to deal with refrigerant recovery. The workshop needs to be compliant and certified to be able to complete such recovery tasks.

Did you know that all workshops must have an electronic leak detector, recovery unit and vacuum pump? And don't forget that they must be regularly tested and serviced to ensure they are in good working order.

These tools of the trade have been declared mandatory by the regulatory organisation within Australia who can and will demand records showing that you regularly maintain these tools.

The reason behind such laws has been put in place to not only decrease our carbon footprint, but to ensure business owners do not force employees into an unsafe situation when handling refrigerant gases.

Refrigerant recovery is an extremely important part of our work, as we are, as an industry, trying to minimise the environmental impact and ensure the long term health of our workers.

In some workshop situations users may only recover and dispose of used refrigerant and this can be seen as both good and bad practice. This practice does eliminate the possibility of contaminated refrigerant being used in your customers' vehicle and also leaves little room for error by the user. On the other hand, this means we are using more new refrigerant and disposing of used refrigerant more regularly. Re-gassing an automotive air conditioning system without recycling could

mean that the system has been exposed to various types of refrigerant in the past.

If you know that the system contains genuine R134a you can very easily recover, recycle and re-use confidently knowing that you are not contaminating the system.

But how can the average workshop do this with ease? Fully automated All in One charging stations can be purchased, which include a recovery unit, vacuum pump, scales, recycle units and gauge manifolds. You would only need a separate leak detector. Scales, recycle units and manifolds are not mandatory in the legislation, but are very useful tools that work well as a unit.

Australian manufacturer JAVAC design and build individual and all in one solution to help identify and manage refrigerant recovery within the workshop and for the mobile service agent.

All Information Courtesy of JAVAC
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