

# Spotlight On Safety

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## EPA'S REFRIGERANT RECYCLING RULE

In May 1993, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established regulations under Section 608 of the Clean Air Act. Summarized below are regulations and information to help protect the environment.

### Summary of Regulations

- Require service practices that maximize recycling of ozone-depleting freon compounds, both chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), during the servicing and disposal of air-conditioning and refrigeration equipment
- Set certification requirements for recycling and recovery equipment, technicians, and reclaimers
- Restrict the sale of refrigerant to certified technicians
- Require persons servicing or disposing of air-conditioning and refrigeration equipment to certify to EPA that they have acquired recycling or recovery equipment and are complying with the requirements of the rule
- Require the repair of substantial leaks in air-conditioning and refrigeration equipment with a charge greater than 50 pounds
- Establish safe disposal requirements to ensure removal of refrigerants from products that enter the waste stream with the charge intact (motor vehicle air conditioners, home refrigerators, room air conditioners)
- The freon and compressor oil must be removed before disposal or salvage of air conditioning and refrigeration equipment

### EPA's Ozone Depletion Website [www.epa.gov/ozone](http://www.epa.gov/ozone)

- Contains a Fact Sheet that summarizes the final rule and its specifications (also available by contacting the EPA Stratospheric Ozone Information Hotline directly at 800-296-1996)
- Provides information on the science of ozone depletion and alternatives to ozone-depleting substances

### Energy & Utility Services/Central Plant

- Has the necessary equipment and training to safely recover freon compounds
- Can be reached at 827-4677

Visit [www.ehs.ucr.edu](http://www.ehs.ucr.edu) for additional information or call EH&S at 827-5528 if you have any questions.