

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Guidance for Mobile Air Conditioning (MAC) Sectors

Guidance: F Gas and Ozone Regulations

Information Sheet MAC 4: Getting Started

April 2012

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Information Sheets MAC 1 to MAC 3 give compliance details for companies in the mobile air-conditioning (MAC) sector in relation to the impact of the EU F gas Regulation and EU MAC Directive. This Information Sheet gives advice on steps you should consider taking to ensure your organisation meets its obligations and minimises emissions of F gases.

Step 1 Identify General Obligations

The first step is to identify those elements of the EU F gas Regulations that apply to your company. The key obligations for those servicing and dismantling MAC systems are summarised in Information Sheet MAC 3.

Step 2 Allocate Director Level and Operational Responsibilities

The next step is to allocate responsibilities. It is suggested that a Director has overall control, so you can be certain that your obligations are being met.

Step 3 Plan for Certification of Relevant Personnel

Identify suitable training resources and plan for certification of all personnel involved in handling refrigerants when either servicing or dismantling MAC systems. If you need to take delivery of containers of F gas then you may need to employ appropriately certificated personnel. Your fluid supplier may ask for a certificate as evidence. See Information Sheet MAC 5 for more details.

Step 4 Recover Refrigerant Gases

Ensure suitable equipment is in place in order to recover HFC 134a to avoid loss of the gas to the atmosphere. The refrigerant must be recovered to ensure it is recycled or destroyed in the appropriate manner.

Step 5 Check that Leaks are Repaired

You are not allowed to refill a system if it has shown abnormal leakage until the cause of leakage is identified and repaired, if necessary. Ensure all your personnel are aware of this obligation. Additional guidance will be issued about abnormal leakage.

Step 6 Do Not Use Non-refillable Containers

Supply of refrigerant in non-refillable containers is now banned. Ensure you are using refillable containers and that these are returned to your supplier.

The information in this document is intended as guidance and must not be taken as formal legal advice or as a definitive statement of the law. Ultimately only the courts can decide on legal questions and matters of legal interpretation. If you have continuing concerns you should seek legal advice from your own lawyers.

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