facts about

Refrigerant Best Management Practices

What types of facilities should consider implementing Refrigerant Best Management Practices?

Facilities with refrigeration and air-conditioning systems using chlorofluorocarbon (CFC), hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC), or hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) refrigerants including:

- Supermarkets
- Convenience stores
- Food processors and wholesalers
- Refrigerated warehouses
- Pharmacies
- Hospitals
- Manufacturers
- Office buildings
- Institutions

What are common Refrigerant Best Management Practices currently used?

- Designate one employee as a Refrigerant Manager
- Develop a Refrigerant Management Plan and Mission Statement
- Conduct an inventory of all systems that use refrigerant and their refrigerant charge
- Check for leaks regularly
  - Use automatic leak detection equipment
  - Conduct monthly manual leak inspections
- Repair refrigerant leaks promptly
- Do not "top off" refrigerant
- Use U.S. EPA certified technicians to conduct repairs
- Keep records of all refrigerant leaks, repairs, storage, and disposal

How do Best Management Practices help the environment?

CFC, HCFC, and HFC refrigerants are greenhouse gases typically thousands of times more potent than carbon dioxide (CO_2). Commercial refrigeration systems are the fastest growing source of greenhouse gas emissions in California. Reducing refrigerant leaks will reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

How do Best Management Practices save money?

Facilities using commercial refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment that implement Refrigerant Best Management Practices reduce consumption of refrigerant. Examples of savings from reaching a 10% annual leak rate with best management practices include:

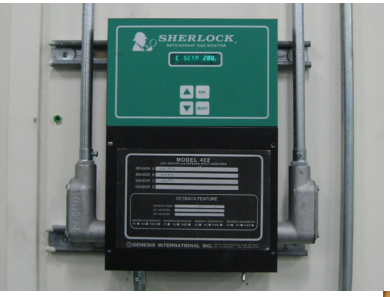
1. A store with four refrigeration systems with a total charge of 1,000 pounds of refrigerant that leaked 30% per year could save $2,200 on refrigerant.
2. A food distribution facility with one refrigeration system with a total charge of 3,000 pounds of refrigerant that leaked 30% per year could save $6,600 on refrigerant.

What are the benefits of using Best Management Practices?

- Save money annually on refrigerant
- Save energy
- Help the environment
- Help comply with the law
  - Federal Clean Air Act, Section 608
  - South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule 1415 and 1415.1
  - Air Resources Board Refrigerant Management Program

Is your facility a model of Refrigerant Best Management Practices?

The California Air Resources Board wants to highlight businesses that are already effectively conserving and properly managing refrigerants. If you would like to have your business considered as an example to highlight refrigerant best management practices, please email ARB staff at *reftrackinfo@arb.ca.gov* or call 916-324-2517.



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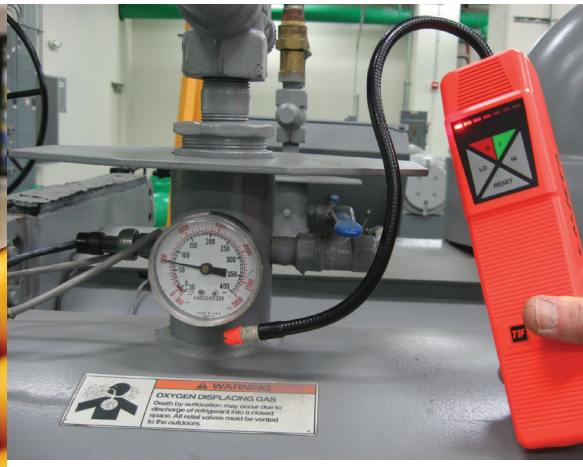
Commercial Refrigeration & Air-conditioning Equipment



Additional Information Sources for Commercial Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Systems

California Air Resources Board's Refrigerant Management Program:
On January 1, 2011, a new state rule to minimize leaks of environmentally harmful refrigerants took effect. The new rule builds on long established federal and local regulations on refrigerants and focuses on non-residential refrigeration systems. The rule requires affected businesses to fix leaks within 14 days of detection and keep records of all servicing and refrigerant purchases. For more details and program requirements, please visit *www.arb.ca.gov/StopRefrigerantLeaks*
A downloadable copy of Frequently Asked Questions is also available at: *www.arb.ca.gov/cc/reftrack/rmpfaq.pdf*.

U.S. EPA Regulations:
www.epa.gov/ozone/title6/608/index.html

South Coast Air Quality Management District Rules 1415 and 1415.1:
www.arb.ca.gov/drdb/sc/cur.htm

best management practices

California Environmental Protection Agency
Air Resources Board