



ESCC

ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS CORPORATION

Design / Build & Maintenance of Controlled Environmental Systems

ODP Fact Sheet

Ozone depletion is a serious environmental issue, and the Ozone Depletion Prevention (ODP) Card program is part of the Ontario Ministry of the Environment's strategy to address it. This fact sheet contains information about the ODP program and other requirements that impact the way you do business.

CERTIFICATION

The Ministry of the Environment is continuing the existing environmental certification, commonly known as the ODP Card Program. This program consists of initial training and testing, renewable cards (valid for three years) and retesting prior to card renewal.

Before your card expires, you must write a recertification examination. Upon successful completion of this test, you will be issued a card that is valid for **three years** from the date of issuance. Then, as long as you continue to need an ODP card, you must write a recertification examination before your card expires.

Please note that your ODP card and certificate number are for **your use only**. Anyone who services or tests refrigeration equipment, or purchases or handles refrigerants must have their own Ontario ODP card. Similar cards issued by other provinces are not valid for use in Ontario.

STANDARDS FOR TECHNICAL PRACTICE

Environmental Code of Practice

The Ministry of the Environment requires minimum standards of practice for leak testing equipment. Specifically, the practices set out in the Environmental Code of Practice for Elimination of Fluorocarbon Emissions from Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Systems must be followed when performing a leak test. This document can be obtained from Environment Canada, and is available online at:

www.ec.gc.ca/ozone/DOCs/SandS/RAC/EN/cop/fluoro_cop.pdf.

COMPLIANCE

Records of Use

All technicians who hold ODP cards are now required to keep records of use. These records must contain:

- All amounts and types of refrigerant purchased or obtained (if you do not purchase directly) for the purpose of servicing or testing equipment.
- The amount of and explanation for any discharge of a refrigerant, whether or not it occurs in the course of servicing or testing equipment.
- The date of any work done servicing or testing equipment, the name of the company doing the work and the name of the individual doing the work.
- A description of the work done, the amount and type of refrigerant used in the work, the type of refrigerant recaptured in the course of the work and an estimate of the amount of refrigerant recaptured in the course of the work.

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These records would be kept by each technician for a minimum of 2 years and must be made available to Ministry staff upon request.

Leak Testing Notices

Refrigerant must not be added to any air conditioning system that may be leaking. Refrigerant can only be added to equipment that has been certified as leak-free. This means that a test must first be performed to determine if there is a leak in the system, and then the system must be tagged with the results of the test, including:

- The date of the test.
- The name of the person who conducted the test.
- The ODP number and expiry date appearing on the person's card.
- The results of the test.
- If there is a leak in the equipment, a statement that no refrigerant shall be added to the equipment until the leak is repaired.

If all the leaks in the system are repaired, a new tag must be placed on the system indicating that there are no leaks. The tag has to be visible to any technician who might be working on the system in the future. Old tags can be removed only if new tags are placed on the system.

Release Reporting

The Refrigerants regulation requires reporting of releases of 100 kg or greater of refrigerants to the Ministry's Spills Action Centre (1-800-268-6060).

Non-Compliance Reporting

Any suspicious refrigerant servicing or handling practices should be reported to your local district office of the Ministry of the Environment, or to the 24 hour Pollution Hotline at 1-866-MOE-TIPS (1-866-663-8477).

MOBILE AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEMS

As part of the Ministry of the Environment's plan to reduce the release of ozone-depleting refrigerants to the atmosphere, no person shall refill any mobile air conditioning system with CFC-based refrigerants (e.g. R-12 and R-502 and their blends) after January 1, 2002.

FURTHER INFORMATION

If you have any further questions on the regulation of ozone-depleting substances in Ontario, please visit the Ministry's ozone website at www.ene.gov.on.ca/envision/ozone.home.htm, or call their information hotline: 416-314-7245 or toll free at 1-877-689-6110.

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