

EPA REMINDERS

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Requires Technician Certification Under The Clean Air Act Of 1990

Technician Defined: Anyone who performs maintenance, service, or repair operations that could reasonably be expected to release Class I or Class II substances from appliances into the atmosphere. Technicians may be installers, contractor employees, in-house service personnel, or owners.

Class I substances (CFC) - Examples: Refrigerant 11, 12, halon, etc.
Class II substances (HCFC) - Examples: Refrigerant 22, 123, etc.

Technicians must be certified for the type of refrigerant containing equipment they will install, maintain, or service before attempting to install, maintain, or service this equipment. **Type I** certification is for small appliances like refrigerators and window air conditioners which contain less than 5 pounds of refrigerant *and* are manufactured and hermetically sealed in a factory. **Type II** certification is required for high and very high pressure appliances, except small appliances, like split systems and rooftops. A technician requires **Type III** certification for low pressure equipment like R-11 and R-123 centrifugal chillers. Persons receiving certification in all 3 types will be classified as **Universally Certified**.

No one may vent any refrigerant to the atmosphere. This includes CFCs, HCFCs, and the newer HFCs such as R-410a and R-134a. Violating any provision of the **Clean Air Act of 1990** may result in a fine of \$27,500 per day per occurrence.

Comparison of the Phaseout Schedules On Next Page.

See www.epa.gov for complete information on the U.S. Federal Clean Air Act.

777 Education and Consulting, Inc. does 60+ HVAC training seminars per year in Michigan for The Behler-Young Company.

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Comparison of the Montreal Protocol and United States Phaseout Schedules			
Montreal Protocol		United States	
Year to be Implemented	% Reduction in Consumption, Using the Cap as a Baseline	Year to be Implemented	Implementation of HCFC Phaseout through Clean Air Act Regulations
2004	35.0%	2003	No production and no importing of HCFC-141b
2010	65.0%	2010	No production and no importing of HCFC-142b and HCFC-22, except for use in equipment manufactured before 1/1/2010 (so no production or importing for NEW equipment that uses these refrigerants)
2015	90.0%	2015	No production and no importing of any HCFCs, except for use as refrigerants in equipment manufactured before 1/1/2020
2020	99.5%	2020	No production and no importing of HCFC-142b and HCFC-22
2030	100.0%	2030	No production and no importing of any HCFCs

Source: EPA.gov website

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