



**AUTOPART
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PREMIUM PARTS~EXPERT SERVICE

Since 1957

NEW RULES FOR PURCHASING REFRIGERANT EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2018!

Effective January 1, 2018 the EPA will require service technicians to have Section 609 credentials to service motor vehicle air conditioning systems.

The sales restriction is established by EPA regulations (40 CFR Part 82, Subpart F) under Section 608 of the Clean Air Act. Only EPA-certified technicians are allowed to purchase ozone-depleting substances (ODS) used as refrigerants. The sales restriction covers refrigerants contained in cylinders, cans or drums, except for the sale of small cans of substitute refrigerants for use in motor vehicle air conditioners. The sales restriction does **not** cover refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment or components containing refrigerants.

How does this effect you?

Starting January 1, 2018, technicians must pass a certification exam offered by an approved technician certification program in order to maintain, service, repair or dispose of appliances containing ODS or substitute refrigerants. The certification exam will be updated to reflect the new rules and new refrigerants. The technicians are required to keep a copy of this certificate at their place of business. **This copy of your certificate must be maintained for three years after no longer operating as a technician.**

Autopart International will not sell refrigerant to any service provider without proof of this certificate effective January 1, 2018.

The following people can buy any type of ozone-depleting refrigerant under this sales restriction effective January 1, 2018:

- Technicians who have earned the Section 608 Technician Certificate.
- Employers of Section 608 certified technician (or the employer's authorized representative) if the employer provides the refrigerant wholesaler written evidence that he or she employs at least one properly certified technician.

The following people can buy refrigerant found acceptable for use in a motor vehicle air conditioner (MVAC):

- Technicians who have earned the Section 609 Technician Certificate.

Service professionals can satisfy the sales requirement by showing their certificate or wallet card prior to purchase. Section 609 credentials can be earned with the EPA-approved ASE Refrigerant Recovery and Recycling Program. ASE recommends that technicians take the program online so they can get their results instantly.

The program costs \$19 and more details can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/mvac/section-609-technician-training-and-certification-programs>.