



REPORT/ADVISORY TO MMDA MEMBERS

Three issues of major concern to the Motor Dealers of Manitoba in 2013!

Emerging Refrigerant HFO 1234yf

HFO 1234yf is a new refrigerant used in air conditioning systems that some of the automobile manufacturers will be introducing in new models, as early as this year. This refrigerant is not the same as HFC 134a which has been primarily used in auto air conditioning (A/C) systems for the past 15 years. With the introduction of HFO 1234yf, new equipment such as recovery machines, analyzers and leak detectors will be required for servicing A/C. Be prepared!

If you service mobile air conditioning systems, prepare for this added equipment cost. You may want to adjust your 2013 equipment and technician training budgets for this new expense.

Illegal HFC 134a Purchase and Distribution

Last year, several MMDA members were issued warnings by Government (Manitoba Conservation) as they were found to be in possession of, and/or engaged in, the wholesale distribution and sale of, illegal cylinders of HFC 134a. The penalties for this can include jail time for the principals and fines up to \$1 million for the corporation in addition to restitution, compensation and other fines as the judge levies.

There are only a few manufactures of virgin refrigerants in the world, but many, many distributors. While you are free to choose who you buy refrigerants from, it's up to you to ensure that the cylinder and the refrigerant contained meet all Environment Canada, Transport Canada and Manitoba Conservation regulatory specifications. It's the law and the penalties for none compliance can be significant! As enforcement officers are aware of last year's illegal activity in Manitoba you can be assured they will be looking for areas of non-compliance from the automobile sector as we enter the 2013 air conditioning season.

Secondary Distributor Permit Required

Ensure also that your business has an annually issued Secondary Distributor (SD) Permit from MOPIA as this allows your company/shop to purchase regulated refrigerants and all parts (new and used) connected to the closed refrigerant loop for servicing A/C.

For more information, contact the MMDA's rep.: Michael Blackey at mblackey@easternchrysler.com or Phone: 204.339.2013 or call MOPIA at 1.888.667.4203 or email directly at mopia@mts.net website: www.mopia.ca