



SERVICE ENGINEER'S SECTION GOOD PRACTICE GUIDE 24

Labelling Obligations Under the F Gas Regulations

The EC F Gas Regulation 843/2006 article 7.2 and supporting Regulation 1494/2007 contain an obligation for new stationary refrigeration, air conditioning and heat pump equipment first placed on the market from April 1st 2008 to be labelled.

• Design

The label should be clearly legible and remain securely in place on the product or equipment throughout the entire period during which the product or equipment contains fluorinated greenhouse gases.

• Wording

The text must include "Contains fluorinated greenhouse gases covered by the Kyoto Protocol".

• Refrigerant Identification

The label must include the abbreviated chemical names for the fluorinated greenhouse gases contained or designed to be contained in the equipment e.g. R410A, R134a etc.

• Charge Size

The label must specify the quantity of the fluorinated greenhouse gases, expressed in kilograms. This must include the manufacturer's original charge, any fluorinated greenhouse gases added on site and the total quantity.

• Positioning

The label should be placed in a way which ensures visibility to installation and servicing technicians. For any system with separate indoor and outdoor sections connected by refrigerant piping, the label information shall be placed on that part of the equipment which is initially charged with the refrigerant. Suitable locations for the labels are on, or adjacent to existing nameplates or product information labels, or adjacent to servicing access locations.

Hermetically sealed equipment

Hermetically sealed equipment must be labelled as such. This is defined as: a system in which all refrigerant containing parts are made tight by welding, brazing or a similar permanent connection which may include capped valves and capped service ports that allow proper repair or disposal and which have a tested leakage rate of less than 3 grams per year

under a pressure of at least a quarter of the maximum allowable pressure. The label must include text "hermetically sealed".

HFC Blown Foam

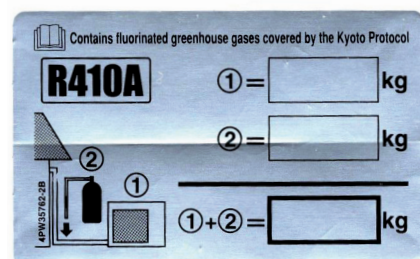
Additional information indicating whether refrigeration and air conditioning products and equipment as well as heat pumps covered by the Regulation have been insulated with foam blown with fluorinated greenhouse gases may be included on the label in order to promote potential recovery from foams.

What equipment must be labelled?

All new equipment should be manufactured or installed with an appropriate label and instruction manuals containing information about F Gases contained in the system in English from 1st April this year.

There is no requirement to label any existing equipment however this will need to have system Record Sheet which is an on site log of refrigerant use. See Good Practice Guide 25.

The photographs below illustrate some labels now in use.



Further information

- F-Gas Support Help Line 0161 874 3663 www.defra.gov.uk/fgas
- Electronic version of the Record Sheet www.ior.org.uk
- Copies of the Regulations on Leak Checking, Labelling and Training www.berr.gov.uk/sectors/sustainability/fgases/page28889.html