



MAGTFTC-MCAGCC 29 Palms

Environmental Standard Operating Procedure



1 October 2025

Motor Vehicle Air Conditioning Refrigerant Operations (MVR)

Application and Purpose

This guidance applies to individuals who work with motor vehicle refrigerant systems aboard the Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms (hereafter called the "installation"). This includes any individual who installs, repairs, maintains, services, replaces, recycles, or disposes of a motor vehicle air conditioning (MVAC) system.

The improper management of refrigerant can harm persons and the environment and may result in fines, penalties, and enforcement actions, all of which could impact the installation's mission. Refrigerant operations must be managed in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations, in addition to the requirements of this environmental standard operating procedure (ESOP).

Operational Controls

The following requirements must be followed when maintaining MVAC systems:

- Certified Equipment: Use refrigerant recovery equipment certified by a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)-approved equipment testing organization.
- Equipment Registration: Register refrigerant recovery equipment with the USEPA. If no registration is on file, initiate the registration by submitting the attached USEPA registration request form to the EA Air Resources Manager. EA will register the equipment with the USEPA on your behalf.
- Technician Certifications: Do not service, maintain, or repair refrigerant-containing equipment unless you have a Clean Air Act Section 609 technician certification. Maintain a copy of the certification at the place of business. This must be kept onsite until 3 years after the technician is no longer working as a technician.
- Do not add refrigerants to any system known to have a leak, except when necessary for seasonal adjustment or to operate the system temporarily to complete a leak repair.
- Do not intentionally release (vent) refrigerants into the atmosphere while maintaining, servicing, repairing, or disposing of refrigerant-containing equipment.
- Evacuate the refrigerant to a system pressure of 102 millimeters of mercury or less before disposing of MVAC-like appliances, such as military vehicles.
- Collect, store, and dispose of recovered refrigerants and filters through the Environmental Affairs Hazardous Waste Program.

Training Requirements

All affected personnel must be trained in this document and the following:

- General Environmental Awareness training
- Clean Air Act Section 609 Certification

Inspections and Corrective Action

The Environmental Compliance Coordinator (ECC) will confirm unit adherence to this ESOP. The ECC will confirm that unit personnel are trained in this ESOP and maintain appropriate documentation in accordance with this ESOP. The ECC will ensure immediate corrective action for deficiencies noted during weekly inspections. Actions taken to correct each deficiency will be recorded on the weekly inspection sheet (including Work Request numbers). Designated personnel will conduct weekly inspections using this ESOP as guidance and the enclosed checklist to document inspections.

Recordkeeping

Records must be kept for at least 3 years. The following records must be readily accessible and maintained onsite:

- Technician certifications
- USEPA registration certifications for all refrigerant recovery devices

Spills and Releases

Refer to the spill response procedures listed in the Abatement ESOP.

References

- (a) 40 *Code of Federal Regulations* 82, Subpart B
- (b) Clean Air Act, Title VI, Sections 604, 605, and 609
- (c) Abatement ESOP

Use and Version Control

ESOPs are used to augment instructions contained in official orders and directives, and, where necessary, provide for sufficient control of the installation's significant practices. Environmental Affairs maintains the authoritative, current version of this and other ESOPs on the installation's website:

<https://www.29palms.marines.mil/Staff-Offices/G-4-Installation-Support-Directorate/Environmental-Affairs/#environmental-sops>.



USEPA Registration Request Form for Motor Vehicle Air Conditioning Refrigerant

All refrigerant recovery equipment used on motor vehicle air conditioning systems must be registered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and certified by a USEPA-approved equipment testing organization. To determine if equipment is properly certified, confirm that there is a USEPA equipment certification sticker on the piece of equipment. The certification label must include the statement: "This equipment has been certified by _____ to meet USEPA requirements."

To register refrigerant recovery equipment with the USEPA, please fill out the following table, verify that all equipment is properly certified, and provide this form along with copies of the unit's technician certifications to the Air Resources Program Manager (760-830-8480). The Air Resources Program Manager will then register the equipment with the USEPA on behalf of the requestor.

Manufacturer	Model	Year	Serial number	Location (Building No.)	Unit
EXAMPLE: BlackMAX	TR700	2014	104258	2044	ESD

EQUIPMENT CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

I, _____, have verified that the equipment listed above has been certified by the USEPA or an organization approved by the USEPA.

Signature: _____

Date: _____