

IMPORTANT NOTICE
IMPORTERS OF USED VEHICLES

This notice provides further information about vehicles equipped with an air conditioner that may be subject to the provisions of the Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Act 1989.

As previously advised, refrigerant R12 (also known as CFC-12, Freon, dichlorodifluoromethane) is a banned substance. Where vehicle air conditioners are charged with R12 it will need to be evacuated before import. Most vehicles built before 1996 will be charged with R12 refrigerant.

It is also important to note that the Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Act 1989 prohibits the importation of any equipment that may only operate by using a CFC refrigerant. Any vehicle equipped with an air conditioning system charged with R12 will require the filler valve and the receiver drier to be removed. Air conditioner systems fitted with any seals and hoses that are only R12 compatible must also be removed and/or replaced.

Documentary evidence should be held by importers of all used vehicle confirming that, in the case of R12 equipped vehicles, the refrigerant has been evacuated and the relevant air conditioner system parts have been removed. In the case of other HCFC or HFC refrigerants eg R134a equipped vehicles, documentary evidence should also be held where the refrigerant has been evacuated.

Importers of vehicles where the air conditioner is charged with R134a will require a licence.

| R12 arrangements apply immediately. Pre-charged Equipment licence for HCFCs and HFCs arrangements apply from 1 April 2004.

Detailed information is available www.deh.gov.au/atmosphere/ozone.

Specific requirements have been established by the Department of Environment and Heritage and for further details you should contact:

Ozone and Synthetic Gas Team
Department of Environment and Heritage
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA ACT 2601

For enquiries telephone 02 6274 1373 or
email katherine.cooper@deh.gov.au.

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