

# **ANDREWS AIR CONDITIONING**

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**FEELING THE  
HEAT OF  
REFRIGERANT  
LEGISLATION?**

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# > WE CAN HELP

## GUIDING YOU THROUGH COMPLEX LEGISLATION



### REFRIGERANT LEGISLATION

Owners of air conditioning systems must comply with a range of increasingly-complex legislation. F-Gas Regulations, Energy Certificates, Air Conditioning Assessments and the R22 phase-out programme are just a few. It all adds up to a confusing headache with potentially expensive results.

Andrews Air Conditioning guides you through the legal maze, ensuring full compliance and complete peace of mind.

### FLUORINATED GAS (F-GAS) REGULATIONS

Common fluorinated gases (F-Gas) are hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) widely used in air conditioning. HFCs are greenhouse gases, believed to contribute to global warming. As a result of the Kyoto Protocol, the EC F-Gas Regulations came into force in the UK in July 2007, seeking to limit the release of F-Gas into the atmosphere.

They place a number of general obligations on the owners of all equipment containing HFCs to:

- Use all measures, that are technically feasible and do not entail disproportionate cost, to prevent leakage of refrigerants
- Repair any detected leak as soon as possible
- Recover refrigerant
- Use appropriately trained and qualified contractors to service, maintain and dispose of equipment and refrigerant

In addition, for owners of systems containing more than 3kg of refrigerant, additional obligations apply:

- To conduct regular leak testing by certified personnel (usually annually, but 6 monthly or even quarterly for systems containing over 30kg of refrigerant)
- Maintain records for each system detailing:
  - The quantity & type of refrigerant
  - Quantities of refrigerant added, recovered and disposed of
  - Identification of the technician and company who performed any servicing or maintenance
  - The dates and results of leak checks

Andrews Air Conditioning Service Engineers are fully qualified in refrigerant handling, fault diagnosis and system repair. We are approved by the Register of Companies Competent to Handle Refrigerants (REFCOM). As a result you can rely on us to satisfy all of the requirements described above and be confident that our F-Gas Management Service includes all the checks and record-keeping required for our customers to comply with their legal obligations under the F-Gas Regulations.

### R22 PHASE-OUT

The Environmental Protection (Controls on Ozone Depleting Substances) Regulations 2002 ban the use of virgin R22 from 31st December 2009. Recycled R22 can continue to be used until 31st December 2014 but is expected to be expensive and in short supply.

For owners of R22 air conditioning, the most cost-effective solution is likely to be to replace it with a modern, energy efficient system offering up to 70% saving in energy, greatly reduced CO2 emissions and a financial payback in under 4 years. New equipment often qualifies for the Enhanced Capital Allowance Scheme ([www.eca.gov.uk](http://www.eca.gov.uk)). This allows the installation cost to be offset against taxable profits - effectively reducing the cost of the new system by around 30%.

In addition, The Carbon Trust ([www.carbontrust.co.uk](http://www.carbontrust.co.uk)) offers UK businesses unsecured, interest-free loans up to £400,000. These loans, repayable over 4 years, are designed to fund investment in a wide range of modern, energy efficient systems.



### AIR CONDITIONING ASSESSMENTS

Since 4th January 2009, any air conditioning system over 250kW in capacity (usually measured across the entire building) needs to have an Air Conditioning Inspection and Certification at least every 5 years. As of 4th January 2011, these rules will also apply to any systems over 12kW but it is good practice to comply prior to the enforcement date. Compliance is enforced by the Trading Standards Institute.

### ENERGY ASSESSMENTS AND CERTIFICATES

Since 4th January 2009 the Energy Performance of Buildings (Certification & Inspection) Regulations 2007 have required an Energy Assessment (leading to an Energy Performance Certificate) for all buildings when they are constructed, sold or leased (and renewed at least every 5 years). Energy Assessments give a rating of the energy performance of a building similar to the ratings now familiar on domestic appliances.

Andrews Air Conditioning is able to arrange Air Conditioning Assessments, Energy Assessments and Certification via our network of specialist partners.

At Andrews Air Conditioning Services we are proud of our reputation as the UK's leading air conditioning service provider. As experts in the design, installation, maintenance and repair of all types of fixed air conditioning systems, we combine a full nationwide capability with the kind of friendly and cost-effective service you would expect from much smaller businesses. As a subsidiary of Andrews Sykes Plc, the UK's largest specialist provider of temporary and permanent temperature control services, you can be sure we have the expertise and the resources to match our reputation.

**To learn more please call**

0800 731 8833 or visit

[airconditioningservices.com](http://airconditioningservices.com)

email: [R22@andrews-sykes.com](mailto:R22@andrews-sykes.com)

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