

Hydrocarbon Refrigerant Training





Refrigeration Service Engineers Society

- Established in 1933
- World's leading education, training and certification association
- Developed a Hydrocarbon Training Program in 2012.
- Updated it to reflect the recent EPA SNAP approved refrigerants for New Equipment.





Hydrocarbon Training Program

Includes:

- HC Manual
- 50 Question Test, passing score of 88%
- Online Training Video Series available
- Face-to-Face Seminars available





Hydrocarbons as Refrigerants

- Brief History
- Purpose of Training
- Why use Flammable Refrigerants?
- Worldwide Applications





HC Regulations and Standards

- EPA Approved Flammable Refrigerants
- Approved Flammable Applications and Limits
- EPA Approval of HFC R-32
- HFC Approved Applications
- May be adapted to CSA B52 Standard for Canada





Refrigerant Properties and Safety

- MSDS Sheets
- Flash Point
- Auto-ignition Temperature
- Lower Explosive Limits
- Upper Explosive Limits
- ASHRAE Refrigerant Ratings





Training Focus

Best safe working practices with flammable refrigerants for manufacturers, service technicians, installers such as:

R-290 - Propane

R-600a - Isobutane

R-441A - Flammable Blend (HRC188C)

Others: R-170, R-152a, R-32

HFO's (HFO-1234yf, HFO-1234ze....)





EPA - Applications and Limits

NEW - Household Refrigerators, Freezers and Combination Refrigerator/Freezers	Specific Refrigerants & Charge Amounts	UL250
NEW - Retail Food Refrigerators and Freezers: (stand-alone retail food refrigeration equipment only)	Specific Refrigerants & Charge Amounts	UL471
NEW - Vending Machines	Specific Refrigerants & Charge Amounts	UL541
NEW - Very Low Temperature Refrigeration Equipment Temperatures of - 170°F (- 112°C) or lower - Non-mechanical heat transfer & Thermo-syphon Systems	Specific Refrigerants & Charge Amounts	UL471
NEW - Residential and light commercial equipment for self contained room air conditioners: PTACs, PTHPs, window units, portable units	Specific Refrigerants Charge Based on Unit Capacity	UL484





Refrigerant Properties and Safety

- Flammability and Ignition
- Ignition Sources
- Electrical Connections
- Work Space Guidelines
- Safety Checks





System Component Compatibility

- Compressors
- Refrigerant Control Devices
- Driers
- Evaporators and Condensers
- Lubricants





Servicing Procedures

- What you do BEFORE servicing.
- Unauthorized Refrigerants
- Ventilating the Work Area
- PPE and Tools
- Leak Detection





Servicing Procedures

- Removal
- Vent or Not Vent
- Recovery
- Evacuation
- Charging
- Start-up





The Refrigeration Cycle

- Superheat
- Subcool
- Applications





Cylinder Storage and Transport

- Storage Methods: how and where
- Classification of Cylinders
- Flammable Refrigerant Signage
- Non-Flammable Refrigerant Signage





Number Trained to Date

Approximately 1,500 as of June 1st, 2015

We do not currently collect any data on the proportion of trained HVAC&R contractor/engineers in the U.S.





What changes has RSES seen in the demand for HC training?

Inquiries have almost **TRIPLED** resulting from the latest **EPA SNAP** policy release.





What changes has RSES seen in the level of awareness of natural refrigerants?

Due to the number of inquiries, awareness is obviously growing, but we still have a long way to go.





What has been your experience in providing HC training?

- 1. Very receptive, both online and on-site.
- 2. Concern about flammability issues.





What has been your experience in providing HC training?

- 3. After training, they are more comfortable with safety and procedures.
- 4. They understand that some of their old established work techniques must improve.





Does RSES work with end users, and if yes, which ones?

Development and BETA testing procedures,

we worked with:

1. True Mfg. 4. Red Bull North America

2. Hussman 5. Leif Sundgaard

3. Accurate Ref. 6. Ben & Jerry's/Unilever





Does RSES work with end users, and if yes, which ones?

To date, the following manufacturers have directed their technicians towards the RSES training materials:

- 1. True Mfg.
- 2. Beverage Air
- 3. Minus Forty Technologies





Does RSES plan to extend/revise its HC training in the future?

RSES is constantly in the loop with regulations and technology changes. The HC training is presently on its 2^{nd} edition.





Can you comment on the market potential of HCs in the U.S.?

'EXPLOSIVE' and then add HFC R-32





Conclusion

RSES is currently the only independent organization that has an HC Training Program.

RSES has several manufacturers who use the Training as their approved manufacturer training.

RSES is interested in partnering with additional manufacturers, so we welcome your inquiry.





Thank

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