

## Company certification is a mandatory requirement



It is now a legal requirement<sup>1</sup> for all businesses that install, maintain or service stationary refrigeration, air-conditioning or heat-pump (RAC) equipment that contains or is designed to contain F gas refrigerants<sup>2</sup> to hold a Company Certificate issued by an appointed Company Certification Body. **It is an offence to carry out these activities without a Company Certificate.**

This new legal requirement applies to RAC maintenance contractors and installers, including sole traders, and to RAC end users and facility managers that employ their own qualified staff to carry out the activities described above.

**Defra has designated three bodies that can issue a Company Certificate: Refcom, Bureau Veritas and Quidos.**

### To Obtain a Company Certificate

The purpose of a Company Certificate is to ensure that businesses employ appropriately qualified engineers in sufficient number to cover the expected volume of activities.

**Relevant businesses and sole traders must either have an interim or a full Company Certificate.**

Interim certificates are valid until July 2011. Full certificates are valid for 3 years from the date of issue.

- **Apply for an interim Company Certificate if your engineers hold one of the following qualifications:**
  - City & Guilds 2078 or 2079 or CITB J01 or J11-14.
  - Or, if your engineers only work on equipment containing less than 3 kg of F gas then they can use an in-house qualification or apply for an interim personnel certificate .
- **You may apply for a full Company Certificate if all of your engineers hold one of the following qualifications:**
  - City & Guilds 2079 or CITB J11 - J14 (or have an equivalent European qualification).

### Application and Further Information

To apply for a Company Certificate contact one of the following:

**Refcom:** Website: [www.refcom.org.uk](http://www.refcom.org.uk), telephone: 01768 860409 or email: [info@refcom.org.uk](mailto:info@refcom.org.uk)

**Bureau Veritas:** Website: [www.bureauveritas.co.uk/fgas](http://www.bureauveritas.co.uk/fgas), telephone: 0207 661 0726  
or email: [fgas.mail@uk.bureauveritas.com](mailto:fgas.mail@uk.bureauveritas.com)

**Quidos:** Website: <http://fgasregister.com>, telephone: 01225 318400 or email [fgas@quidos.co.uk](mailto:fgas@quidos.co.uk)

**Contact F-Gas Support for general queries related to the EC F Gas and Ozone Regulations.**

- Website: [www.defra.gov.uk/fgas](http://www.defra.gov.uk/fgas), helpline: 0161 874 3663 or email: [fgas-support@enviros.com](mailto:fgas-support@enviros.com)

<sup>1</sup> A Company Certificate is required under EC F gas Regulation 842/2006, Commission Regulation 303/2008 and the 2009 GB F gas Regulations SI no. 261

<sup>2</sup> Common F gas refrigerants are HFCs such as R134a, R404A, R407C, R410A; a full list of F gases can be found at [www.defra.gov.uk/fgas](http://www.defra.gov.uk/fgas). Users of F gases are affected by the EC F gas Regulation as these refrigerants have a very high global warming potential that is up to 3,000 higher than CO<sub>2</sub>.