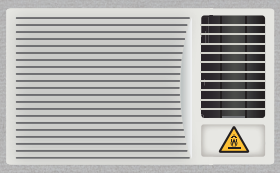
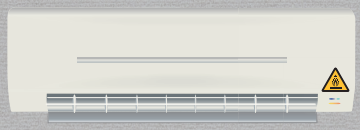
Voluntary Registration Scheme for Technicians Handling Mildly Flammable Refrigerant of Household Air-conditioners





HOW TO APPLY

03/2026
~~(04/2023~~ Version)

機電工程署
EMSD

HOW TO APPLY FOR REGISTRATION OF TECHNICIAN HANDLING MILDLY FLAMMABLE REFRIGERANT OF HOUSEHOLD AIR-CONDITIONERS

Purpose of the Registration Scheme

The use of mildly flammable refrigerant, with a flammability of class 2L according to the safety classification of the international standard ISO 817, in household air-conditioners is becoming common in the household air-conditioner market in Hong Kong. With a view to enhancing the practices and safety awareness of handling mildly flammable refrigerant of household air-conditioners, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department has introduced a voluntary registration scheme for technicians handling mildly flammable refrigerant of household air-conditioners for the air-conditioning and refrigeration trade. Technicians in possession of necessary qualifications and experience in connection with the installation and / or repair of household air-conditioners using mildly flammable refrigerant may register under the scheme, which is voluntary in nature at the present stage.

Registration as a registered technician handling mildly flammable refrigerant of household air-conditioners indicates that the technician has completed relevant training and possesses adequate knowledge on mildly flammable refrigerant, and has competence in carrying out relevant work in the registration class he / she applied for. In addition, registered technicians shall undertake to follow a set of code of conduct and be monitored under a performance monitoring system. The scheme recognises the competency of technicians handling mildly flammable refrigerant of household air-conditioners and encourages more technicians to receive relevant safety training, with a view to uplifting their professional image. The public can also check online the list of registered technicians under the scheme.

Registration Classes

Under the scheme, there are 2 registration classes for technicians handling mildly flammable refrigerant of household air-conditioners as shown below. An applicant shall only apply for either of the registration classes:

Class	Work that the technician is qualified to carry out
A	Installing window type air-conditioners using mildly flammable refrigerant Remark 1
B	Installing household air-conditioners using mildly flammable refrigerant Remark 1 and carrying out relevant work processes involving handling mildly flammable refrigerant Remark 2

Remark 1：Types of household air-conditioners using mildly flammable refrigerant covered by the registration scheme include window type, single split type and multi-split type, with cooling capacity not exceeding 12kW. The registration scheme does not cover variable refrigerant flow (VRF) system.

Remark 2：The work processes include installing split type air-conditioners and repairing refrigerant pipework of air-conditioners.

Registration Requirements

For registration under Class A, an applicant shall possess the following qualifications and work experience:

(a) Completed recognised training course(s) Remark 3 and obtained relevant certificate(s); and

(b) Possessing a minimum of 6 months of experience Remark 4 in installation of window type air-conditioners.

For registration under Class B, an applicant shall possess the qualifications and work experience under one of the following routes:

Route 1

(a) Completed recognised training course(s) Remark 3 and obtained relevant certificate(s); and

(b) Possessing a minimum of 2 years of experience Remark 4 in installation of single split / multi-split type air-conditioners and / or carrying out relevant work processes involving handling refrigerant of air-conditioners refrigerant Remark 2.

Route 2

(a) Completed recognised training course(s) Remark 3 and obtained relevant certificate(s);

(b) Completed a registered contract of apprenticeship under the Apprenticeship Ordinance (Cap. 47) in the air-conditioning and refrigeration trade; and

(c) Possessing a minimum of 1 year of experience Remark 4 in installation of single split / multi-split type air-conditioners and / or carrying out relevant work processes involving handling refrigerant of air-conditioners Remark 2 after completing the apprenticeship.

Route 3

(a) Completed recognised training course(s) Remark 3 and obtained relevant certificate(s);

(b) Passed the Refrigeration / Air-conditioning / Ventilation Mechanic (Unitary System) Trade Test (Skilled Workers) of the Construction Industry Council; and

(c) Possessing a minimum of 6 months of experience Remark 4 in installation of single split / multi-split type air-conditioners and / or carrying out relevant work processes involving handling refrigerant of air-conditioners refrigerant Remark 2.

Remark 3 : Recognised training course(s) includes courses on household air-conditioners using mildly flammable refrigerant organised by the suppliers of household air-conditioners using mildly flammable refrigerant or the Vocational Training Council. For information of recognised training, please visit the Department's website (www.emsd.gov.hk).

Remark 4 : Relevant work experience must be obtained in the past 4 years.

Registration Renewal Conditions

Registration and renewal for each time is valid for ~~3~~ 5 years. A technician applying for renewal of registration shall possess at least 1.5 years of relevant work experience in the registration class applied for and shall have a record of at least 10 hours of continuing professional development training within the last ~~3~~ 5-year registration period.

Who May Register

A technician who fulfills the above registration requirements may apply to register as a registered technician handling mildly flammable refrigerant of household air-conditioners. An applicant can apply for any one of the registration classes as long as he / she possesses the requisite qualifications and / or experience for the relevant registration class. Only one registration class shall be applied for.

How to Apply

For registration as a registered technician handling mildly flammable refrigerant of household air-conditioners, application should be made to the Registration Unit for Technicians Handling Mildly Flammable Refrigerant of Household Air-conditioners of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department. The application procedures are as follows:

(a) Obtain an appropriate application form (**Form 1** – new application for registration) by the following ways:

  (i) by downloading from the Department's website (www.emsd.gov.hk); or

  (ii) by writing to the Registration Unit for Technicians Handling Mildly Flammable Refrigerant of Household Air-conditioners of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department by post to 3 Kai Shing Street, Kowloon, Hong Kong, by fax to 2576 5945 or by e-mail to fr.safety@emsd.gov.hk (please provide contact telephone number and state the required application form, i.e. Form 1).

(b) Complete the application form according to the Guidance Notes for Completing Form 1 enclosed with the application form.

(c) Submit the completed application form together with supporting documents and materials by either of the following ways:

(i) post to the Registration Unit for Technicians Handling Mildly Flammable Refrigerant of Household Air-conditioners, Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, 3 Kai Shing Street, Kowloon, Hong Kong;

(ii) email to (fr.safety@emsd.gov.hk).

[Note: Renewal application should be submitted at least 1 month before and no earlier than 4 months before the expiry date of the current registration.]

Interview Arrangement

The Registration Unit for Technicians Handling Mildly Flammable Refrigerant of Household Air-conditioners may arrange an interview with an applicant to verify that the documents submitted are true copies of the original documents and confirm the qualifications and experience of the applicant.

Enquiries

For enquiries, please contact the Registration Unit for Technicians Handling Mildly Flammable Refrigerant of Household Air-conditioners.

Telephone No.: 3912 0625

Fax No.: 2576 5945

E-mail Address: fr.safety@emsd.gov.hk

Address: Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, 3 Kai Shing Street, Kowloon, Hong Kong

This leaflet is NOT a legal document and is prepared for general reference only.

~~(04/2023)~~
(03/2026)