

Red Dot Joins EPA In Warning Against Hydrocarbon Refrigerants

Cheap A/C refrigerants not worth the risk

Red Dot Corporation joined the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency this week in warning commercial vehicle owners to avoid hydrocarbon refrigerants being sold as inexpensive substitutes for HFC-134a and CFC-12.

Hydrocarbon refrigerants, marketed under such names as OZ-12, DURACOOOL 12a, and HC-12a, may contain large quantities of propane, butane, or other highly flammable gases. The EPA says there is insufficient proof that hydrocarbon refrigerants are safe for mobile air conditioning systems, and that leaking air conditioning systems charged with hydrocarbons pose serious risks of fire or explosion under the hood or inside the passenger compartment.

"These products are sold online and at flea markets as direct replacements for EPA-approved refrigerants," said Gary Hansen, vice president

of engineering at Red Dot, which produces heating and air-conditioning systems, components, and replacement parts for commercial trucks, buses, and vehicles used in construction, mining, agriculture, fire and rescue, and military service. "Many buyers aren't aware of the potential hazards to themselves and technicians who service their vehicles."

At the very least, Hansen said, using hydrocarbon refrigerants will void the air conditioner warranty. No vehicle manufacturer has endorsed or authorized the use of hydrocarbon refrigerants in its current-production A/C systems.

"Hydrocarbon blends can degrade gaskets and hoses designed for HFC-134a or CFC-12, making leaks more likely," he explained. "If you suspect improper service, a trained, certified A/C technician can run a test to make sure your air conditioner has



*Gary Hansen,
VP of Engineering*

been serviced with the refrigerant it's designed for."

On Monday, the EPA and several trade associations and manufacturers including Red Dot issued a public service announcement about hydrocarbon refrigerants in cars, trucks, and other mobile A/C systems. They are banned as a replacement for CFC-12 in motor vehicles and are illegal in 19 states.

"With the summer cooling season upon us, it's a good time to remind everyone that cheap hydrocarbon refrigerants just aren't worth the risk," Hansen said.

More information is available from the EPA at www.epa.gov/ozone/snap/refrigerants/index.html or the agency's Ozone Protection Hotline, 1-800-296-1996.

New Additions to Red Dot's Marketing Department

As part of Red Dot's continued commitment to our Aftermarket please welcome our new team members...



Judy Patty has recently joined Red Dot in our customer service department. Judy comes to Red Dot with several years of experience in the customer service field. She will be looking after the West coast distributors.



Dennis O'Leary has taken the position of Marketing Specialist. Dennis' background includes outside sales, customer service as well as catalog development. Dennis will be concentrating on catalog improvements for the 2006 season and administering our Co-op advertising program.



Josh Fowler is our new administrative assistant. Josh will be assisting Bill Jewell with various program details as well as coordinating our marketing materials, show participation and apparel.

Aftermarket Customer Service Representatives

Scott Young

6:30am - 3:15pm Pacific Time
scottyyoung@reddotcorp.com
1-800-364-2696

Michael Hill

6:30am - 3:15am Pacific Time
michaelhill@reddotcorp.com
1-800-364-9557

Eddie Silva

7:45am - 4:30pm Pacific Time
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1-800-364-2708

Judy Paty

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judypaty@reddotcorp.com
1-800-364-2716