

DEPARTMENT	OPERATING AREA
Environmental	Morenci
BMP NO.	BMP TITLE
109	Refrigerant Management



Air Releases



Exposure to
Hazardous
Substances - Chronic

Purpose and Scope:

US EPA has established standards for HVAC, MVAC, and MVAC-like appliances to prevent damage to the atmosphere's ozone layer.

Refrigerants are the substances used in heating, ventilation, and air conditioning units (HVAC), motor vehicle air conditioners (MVACs) and MVAC-like appliances, window air conditioning units, small appliances, soda machines, and transformer dielectric fluid. Morenci uses a variety of regulated refrigerants.

Safety: Exposure to Hazardous Substances- Chronic

Responsible Parties:

Certified Personnel	Obtain proper training and certification by a US EPA approved technician program. Follow BMP requirements for refrigerant handling.
Environmental Services	Arrange for refrigerant removal by a certified technician. Maintain training records.

Specialized Tools/Skills/Training:

Individuals repairing or servicing HVACs, MVACs, or MVAC-like appliances containing refrigerant must have proper training and certification by a technician program approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

Equipment Requirements:

All equipment must be certified by Underwriters Laboratories (UL) or an equivalent certifying laboratory. The equipment must comply with applicable federal regulations. Safety precautions, notices, or labels related to the safe operation of equipment shall be prominently displayed on the front of the equipment near the controls and should state "CAUTION—SHOULD BE OPERATED BY CERTIFIED PERSONNEL." All labels on the recovery equipment shall remain in place.

Portable refillable tanks or containers used must meet applicable Department of Transportation (DOT) or Underwriters Laboratories (UL) Standards and be adaptable to existing refrigerant service and charging equipment.

NOTE: HVAC units may have asbestos materials. Refer to **BMP 301 – Renovation-Demolition Notification** for proper procedures for managing these materials.

Disposal:

- All inoperable units must be delivered to the Environmental Yard for proper management and disposal.
- Environmental Services will arrange for refrigerants to be removed by a certified technician.
- Once refrigerants have been removed, the unit should be marked as "evacuated" and initialed by the certified technician.

- Equipment with evacuated refrigerants should be segregated from equipment still containing refrigerants and sent to the salvage yard.
- It shall be verified that the unit is empty by attaching the container to the recycle equipment until a vacuum is achieved in the container as evident by the gauge. Once the vacuum is achieved the container may be marked as “scrap” with the certified technician’s initials and sent to salvage for recycling.

Records:

Purchase records showing date, quantity, refrigerant type, and supplier must be sent to Environmental Services.

Copies of all personnel certifications shall be submitted to the Environmental Service Department, so documentation may be maintained within the office files. This documentation shall be updated as new employees are hired, or employees transfer.

QUESTIONS OR NEED HELP?

Contact your Environmental Representative or Environmental Services at (928) 865-6000

Revision Number	Revision Date	Revision Description	Reviewer	Final Approver
0	12/05/2018	Existing online format	Environmental Personnel	Environmental Personnel
1	9/8/2022	Update to new BMP format	MC	KRK
2	5/29/2024	Revised BMP	CM	CLW
3	7/24/2025	Reviewed	CM	CLW