

NEWS & VIEWS

October 2021

The Pacific NW Heating Cooling Association
Serving Oregon and SW Washington



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Thursday, October 7th ORACCA meeting is virtual! 11:00AM

The October Refrigerants Update meeting will virtual, vis Zoom, at 11:00AM, Thursday, October 7, 2021

The link for the meeting is:

Join Zoom Meeting ORACCA October Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88436291825?pwd=TWZpMkYyL1k2MkZMc2VRdm5SODh0Q0J09>

Meeting ID: 884 3629 1825

Passcode: 217928

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,88436291825#,,,,*217928# US
(San Jose)

REFRIGERANTS UPDATE

Do you know what should be on your radar for refrigerant compliance in 2021 and beyond? Then, you should plan to log onto our October virtual present by Travis Smith, owner Sky Heating, Portland, OR.

Travis will review important refrigerant compliance trends that could impact your personnel, equipment, and materials in the year ahead.

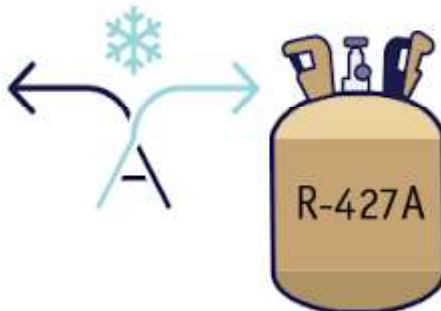
New HFC Phasedown Law: A Catalyst for Change Did you hear? The latest pandemic relief package includes bipartisan energy provisions, one of which is on an HFC phase-down in the United States.

Known as the American Innovation and Manufacturing Leadership (AIM) Act, the law sets out to phase down HFC refrigerants by 85% over the next 15 years. It establishes baselines; allowances; and a schedule for implementation.

Popular HFC Refrigerants Regulated

HFC refrigerants, such as R-410A, R-407C, R-134a, and R-404A, are listed as regulated substances. The AIM Act provides details around the management of such regulated substances. It states,

“Not later than 24 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall . . . promulgate regulations to control, where appropriate, any practice, process, or activity regarding the servicing, repair, disposal, or installation of equipment that involves a regulated substance.”



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What?

Refrigerant Update Virtual Meeting

October 7th

ORACCA Update 2021:

Upcoming changes for
Refrigerants.
Update on Medical
Coverage



This signals a major shift from trends of mixed messages on HFCs in the recent years prior. What once looked like regulatory uncertainty for HFCs level for the foreseeable future has changed.

This new HFC phasedown law will significantly impact the control and management of HFCs at the federal level. In fact, it could translate over into a revision or two of the EPA Section 608 program and the EPA SNAP Program.

The point is, HFC refrigerant compliance is heating up in 2021 both at the federal and state level, which brings us to our next point:

Spotlight on Fourth Generation of Refrigerants

Being at the onset of the gradual phasedown of HFC refrigerants in the United States means that there will be more spotlights on the fourth generation of refrigerants, such as HFO and HC refrigerants.

Rise of A2L Refrigerants

This does not come without additional new servicing requirements. For instance, two of the most widely known HFO refrigerants, HFO-1234yf and HFO-1234ze, are classified as A2Ls, or mildly flammable, per ASHRAE Standard 34.

Such flammable properties will heighten the health and safety aspect of refrigerant management.

What's to Come Can Lead to Better Refrigerant Management... If You're Prepared

As you can see, there are numerous changes we expect to happen to refrigerant compliance in 2021. While it is complex and fast-moving, the fact is that what's to come can lead to better refrigerant management... if you're prepared.

Make plans to join us on Thursday, October 7th for this important presentation.

The ORACCA Health Plan leverages over 4000 contractors in Oregon to secure stable, below market rates. This plan is a significant benefit to ORACCA Members and can easily result in tens of thousands of dollars in cost reduction on your health plan. Currently, most members of the ORACCA Health Plan are experiencing low-single digit price increases. The open market is averaging 13%.

How: Healthcare is priced on demographics. HVAC Contractors typically employ more young men than other industries. Young men are the least cost to insured. It follows that HVAC Contractors should also enjoy lower costs from the insurance carriers.

Is this "guaranteed to be the best rate?" NO! The ORACCA Health Plan is underwritten. Each group will have unique rates. There will always be groups that are not a good fit. Any plan that promises to be the best rate for everyone is either 1) not being truthful or 2) about to go out of business.

With the ORACCA Health Plan, you should expect to see rates averaging 15% under market over the long term.

Perhaps you have looked at the ORACCA Health Plan in the past and rates were better elsewhere. Should you pass?" No. The rating algorithm is changed annually as the carriers attempt to make the best pricing decisions. We have seen many members being offered very favorable proposals this year that were not a fit in past years.

Interested? Click here or enter this link into your browser for more information on the this money saving subject.

Here is the link to the page:

<https://oracca.org/oracca-is-medical-safety-risk-management/>





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TRAINING/ TESTING

On-Demand Training /Testing. This means the tests are scheduled with both your availability and that of the the Proctor in mind. Once you feel comfortable to take the test, a date and place are set up through the ORACCA office. Call 360-824-3805 for information.

These on demand training/testing sessions include the following:

EPA 608 CFC Training/Test - Now Available!

NATE Training/Test Core, Gas Heat and Heat Pump

Brazing Certification Test,

October 15, 2021, at Mar-Hy Distributing. 8:00AM to Noon, on the hour. <https://oracca.org/brazing-certification-testing-signup-form/>

The written retest is available on-line for those needing to retake just the written portion of the test. Use this link to access via the website. <https://oracca.org/on-line-brazing-re-test-signup/>

You can also register by contacting the ORACCA office for a form. 360-834-3805

Not a member? We'd love to serve you, too.

For additional information visit www.oracca.org or call 360-834-3805. Email dick@oracca.org

PRESIDENT <u>Mark DeFrancisco</u> Heat Relief 503/261-9915	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Planning Ahead</h2>	BOARD OF DIRECTORS <u>Mark DeFrancisco</u> <u>Clyde Burton</u> <u>Dennis Klink</u> <u>Dan Pfau</u> <u>Travis Smith</u> <u>Loren Watts</u> <u>Kelly Wilhite</u>
VICE-PRESIDENT <u>Dan Pfau</u> 360-448-8329	<h3 style="text-align: center;">MEETING DATES 2021</h3> <h4 style="text-align: center;">Upcoming ORACCA Events 2021</h4>	
SEC-TREASURER <u>Loren Watts</u> Watts Heating 360-786-2858	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · January 7th - Virtual Meeting - Samba - NATE CEU (1.0), CCB CE (1.0) · February 4 - Virtual Ductwork Presentation Travis Smith - NATE CEU (1.0), CB CE (1.0) · March 4- Zoom Meeting Utility Update - NATE CEU (8.0), CCB CE (1.0) · March 12th - Brazing Test, date TBD · April 1 - Codes Update - NATE CEU (8.0), CCB CE (1.0) · May 6 - TBD - NATE CEU (1.0) CCB CE (1.0) · June 3 - TBD · June 11 - Brazing Test, TBD · June 12 - Shoot Out - Canby Rod & Gun Club · July 12 - Golf Tournament - Oregon City Golf Course It is on! · August - No Meeting · Sept. 16 - TBD- NATE CEU (1.0), · October 7 - Refrigerants NATE CEU (1.0) & CCB CE 2.0 · October 15 - Brazing Test, mar-Hy · Nov. 4 - TBD - NATE CEU (1.0), CCB CE (1.0) · Dec. 2 - TBD - NATE CEU (1.0), CCB CE (1.0) · Dec. 17 - Brazing Test, site to be determined 	ASSOC. BOARD MBRS <u>Keith Barrow</u> <u>John Erickson</u> <u>Eric Falk</u> <u>Larry Johnson</u> <u>John Karasaki</u> <u>Jeff Schmidt</u> <u>Richsrd e Stilwill</u>
EDUCATION/ APPRENTICESHIP TRADE SHOW/ PROMOTION	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em;">Visit our Website for information on the association's activities.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em;">www.oracca.org</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Dan Pfau Association Management 360/834-3805 Fax: 503/914-1999</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"We Meet on Thursday !</p>



ORACCA

Oregon Air Conditioning Contractors of America
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ORACCA
October 7th @ Virtual Meeting

To: _____

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