



## Federal Halocarbon Regulations, 2022 (FHR 2022): Leaks and Leak tests

The **Federal Halocarbon Regulations, 2022 (FHR 2022)** establish leak testing and reporting requirements for refrigeration, air-conditioning, fire-extinguishing, and solvent systems and containers under federal jurisdiction.

### Frequency of leak tests

Under the FHR 2022, a leak test of its components that contain a halocarbon, must be conducted at least once every calendar year and no more than 15 months since the previous leak test by the certified person for a large refrigeration system or air-conditioning system, or by the responsible person for a large fire-extinguishing system or container (Section 17).

### Example of compliant and non-compliant leak test intervals

Date	Time interval	Compliance
one leak test every year on the same date		
January 1, 2022	12 months	<b>YES</b>
January 1, 2023		once every calendar year and no more than 15 months since the previous leak test
one leak test every calendar year		
January 1, 2022	1 <sup>st</sup> interval = 13 months	<b>YES</b>
February 1, 2023	2 <sup>nd</sup> interval = 11 months	once every calendar year and no more than 15 months since the previous leak test
January 1, 2024		
one leak test every 15 months		
September 1, 2022	1 <sup>st</sup> interval = 15 months	<b>YES</b>
December 1, 2023	2 <sup>nd</sup> interval = 15 months	once every calendar year and no more than 15 months since the previous leak test
<b>NO</b>		
<b>March 1, 2025 (not compliant)</b>		<b>does not meet requirement for every calendar year.</b> Leak test should be performed no later than December 31, 2024 to comply.



## Leak testing using a halocarbon is prohibited

The Regulations don't allow to charge an air-conditioning, refrigeration or fire-extinguishing system or a container with a halocarbon for the purpose of leak testing. The only exception is if this is done for the purpose of calibrating leak-detecting devices with equipment designed specifically for that purpose and if the manufacturer's recommended procedures are followed (Section 9).

## Action to take when a leak is detected

As soon as practicable after a leak from an air-conditioning, refrigeration or fire-extinguishing system is detected, and in any case within seven days, the person (certified person or person working on a fire-extinguishing system) must repair the leak or isolate the leaking portion of the system and recover the halocarbon from that portion, or recover the halocarbon from the system (Section 18 and 19).

If a leak is detected from an air-conditioning, refrigeration or fire-extinguishing system and it is necessary to charge it with a halocarbon to prevent an immediate danger to the environment or to human life or health (Section 11), then the following needs to be done:

- › the person who charged it must immediately notify the owner or person responsible for it; and
- › the owner of the system must, within seven days after being notified, submit a report to the Minister containing the information set out in Part 1 of Schedule 2.

Information to provide when a system needs to be charge to prevent an immediate danger to the environment or to human life or health:

1. type of equipment (air-conditioning system, refrigeration system, or fire-extinguishing system)
2. name and address of the owner of system
3. name of the responsible person for system
4. specific location of system on the site
5. serial number or the unique identifier assigned by the owner of system
6. type of halocarbon contained in system
7. charging capacity in kilograms of system
8. date of the charge
9. quantity in kilograms of halocarbon charged into the system
10. nature of the immediate danger to the environment or human life or health
11. circumstances that justify the charge in order to prevent the immediate danger
12. date of repair of the leak or recovery of the remaining halocarbon

### Template for the charging report

## Case examples of activities that could require charging with a halocarbon to prevent an immediate danger to the environment or to human life or health under the FHR 2022:

### Example 1

A fire-extinguishing system must be charged to ensure the immediate safety of occupants of a building, or

### Example 2

An air-conditioning system must be charged to protect electronic systems from overheating, the failure of which could pose an immediate danger to the environment or to human life or health.

## Good to know – other useful information

- › Overview of the *Federal Halocarbon Regulations, 2022*
- › Owner, responsible person and certified person
- › Size-dependent obligations for systems or containers
- › Leaks and leak tests
- › Maintenance of systems and containers
- › Reporting a release of a halocarbon
- › Prohibitions and permits

**For more information, visit our website [www.canada.ca/federal-halocarbon-regulations](http://www.canada.ca/federal-halocarbon-regulations).**

If the information you need is not available on our website, contact your regional office or the Halocarbon Program:

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Cat. No.: En14-488/5-2022E-PDF ISBN: 978-0-660-43341-7 EC22062

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