

LEAK TESTING

The **F-Gas Regulation Requirement** for leak testing existing systems is based on the charge size in tonnes of CO₂ equivalent. So systems with higher GWP refrigerants will need to be leak tested more frequently than those with the same charge weight of a lower GWP refrigerant.

The GWP of refrigerants is provided in **A-Gas' Guide to Calculating CO₂ Equivalent**.

Frequency of leak checks

Fluorinated greenhouse gases (t CO ₂ eq)	Maximum Frequency of leak checks	
	No Leakage detection system	Leakage detection systems
5 - 50	12 months	24 months
50 - 499	6 months	12 months
> 500	3 monthly ¹	6 months

Leakage detection systems are mandatory when the equipment contains more than 500t CO₂ equivalent of refrigerant.

Note: As of January 1st 2017 leak checks are mandatory for systems < 3 t CO₂ eq.

Fixed leak detection must alert the operator of the system or the service company and must be checked once a year. The requirement for maintaining system logs changes from 3kg HFC to 5 tonnes CO₂ equivalent.

Example

Refrigerant	GWP	kg	t CO ₂ eq
R404A	3922		
		0.76	3
		1.27	5
		12.75	50
		127.49	500