

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