



COOLCHANGE

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Summer campaign makes 200,000 phones ring

ARC's annual Summer Campaign produced an amazing 200,000 consumer calls to local RAC businesses – and it's set to repeat the performance for the coming summer.

Each of those 200,000 connections is a direct investment in ARCTick licensed businesses. From the moment the campaign started in October consumers were visiting the *Look for the Tick* website in unprecedented numbers to find their local licensed businesses.

Compared to previous campaigns more than twice as many people contacted local businesses – *your* businesses – about their air conditioning installation and servicing needs. Each year this online promotion helps build your business by ensuring that people who are looking for air conditioning services are being directed to you, the licensed business in their local area.

This summer's campaign will again run from 1 October 2022 to 28 February 2023, targeting air conditioning and refrigeration consumers in the areas of purchase, installation, servicing, repair, maintenance and decommissioning (RAC and Auto).

The ads will be 'freshened up' for this summer while delivering the same key message: always go to your local ARCTick licence holder for all your air conditioning needs.

As in previous years, the four main digital channels used will be Google Search, Google Display (including Display Remarketing), Facebook Lead Ads and Facebook Website Click Ads.

Make sure you include the ARCTick symbol on your advertising, paperwork, your premises and vehicles, to maximise the recognition when potential customers see you in their *Look for the Tick* searches.



WA fridgie
on top of
the world
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New process for online applications on the way

A new online application and renewal process will soon make it easier to get a licence. You will be able to upload qualifications and photographs with your application, and then finalise payment by credit card online.

Scheduled trials will begin within a few months and be fully operational by the end of the year.

You will also be able to save your application at any stage during the process and come back later if you need to scan qualifications or photos (for an RHL) or collect your equipment and staff details (for an RTA).

The new process will allow you to update your ABN for your RTA permit as part of your application, reapplication or renewal.

Part of the switch to the new online system means payments will continue to be made online by credit card, but you will still have the option to pay by cheque or money order and make a hardcopy application by mail or in person if you prefer.

Watch for more details with your renewals once the new system is operating.

If at any stage you're not sure what to do, contact our ARC Customer Service people on 1300 884 483 or enquire@arctick.org and they will help you with it.

120,000 licences and growing



The Refrigeration and Air Conditioning licence scheme has been going from strength to strength. In the past year RHL and RTA numbers increased by 8,676.

At the end of March 2022, there were 96,070 refrigerant handling licences (RHLs) and 23,967 refrigerant trading authorisations (RTAs), for a combined total of 120,037.

Compared with the end of March 2021, these figures were up by 7,293 (8.2%) year-on-year for RHLs, and 1,383 (6.1%) for RTAs.

In the first three quarters of 2021-22, ARC conducted 3,515 permit checks and took 49,212 phone enquiries despite the challenges presented by Covid.

APER approved for engineers in Victoria

The Victorian Business Licensing Authority has approved the AIRAH Professional Engineer Register (APER) program under the Professional Engineers Registration Act 2019.

The Act gives professional engineers in Victoria a mandatory licensing scheme, and the inclusion of APER provides an assessment option tailored specifically to the needs of HVAC&R building services engineers.

This builds on the approval of APER in Queensland in 2021, and AIRAH has signalled plans to apply to become a recognised professional engineering body in NSW when the government opens applications.

AIRAH is also providing input about HVAC&R and building services engineering to the Western Australia government as it seeks to establish a professional registration scheme.

For more information, visit airah.org.au/APER.



AIRAH
PROFESSIONAL
ENGINEER
REGISTER

APER

IAQ monitors in demand

Increasing consumer concerns about indoor air quality, driven partly by concerns about Covid, are driving a worldwide growth in demand for Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) monitors.

A new report by Reportlinker.com predicts the market will top \$US5.5 billion by 2026, driven by deteriorating air quality and increased consumer focus on indoor air.

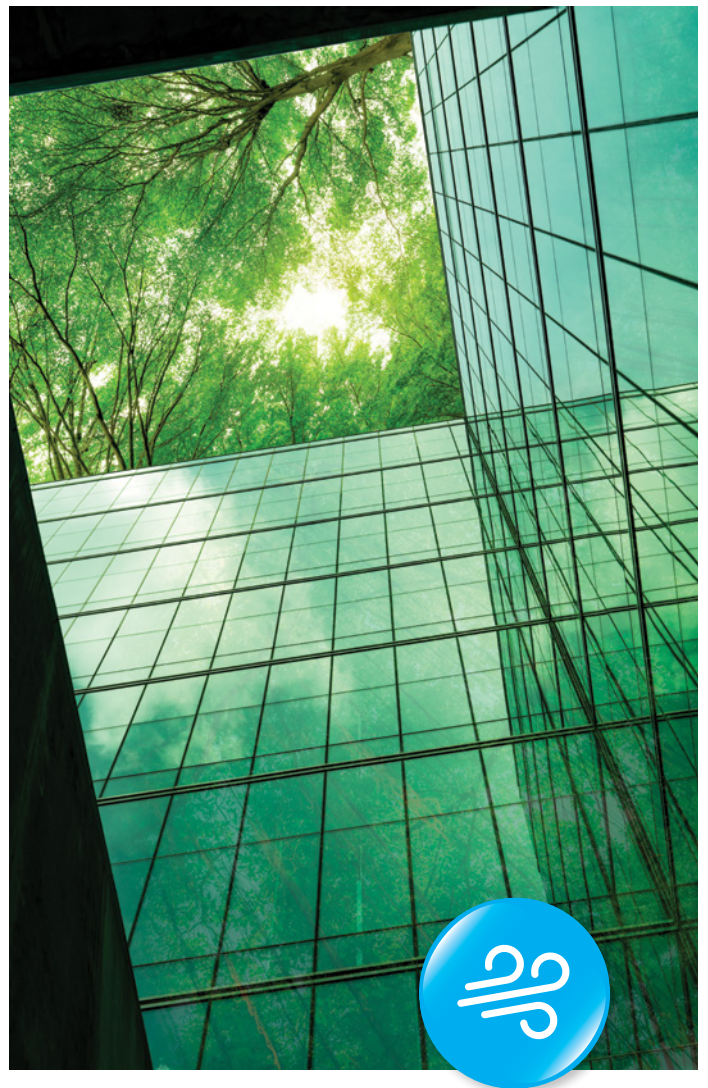
Indoor air quality is characterised by the ventilation conditions, humidity levels, ambient air temperature and the prevalence of chemical and biological contaminants within a building.

The report noted that demand is being driven by strict regulations related to monitoring and control of air quality, expanding application areas, and a growing focus among people to lower health risks.

“The market growth is further stimulated by emergence of new technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT) and automation that allow manufacturers to come up with advanced devices for real-time monitoring of indoor air quality,” it said.

“Indoor air quality monitors are enjoying immense attention amid the COVID-19 pandemic as various studies are linking enhanced air quality with fewer casualties.

“Regulations on environmental pollution for several industries such as food processing, chemicals and other process industries will generate long term demand for indoor air quality monitors beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.”



Buildings as safe havens

The Building Engineering Services Association (BESA) has completed its trilogy of free guides designed to help building owners and managers turn their buildings into safe havens that protect occupants from health risks linked to airborne contaminants and viruses.

Buildings as Safe Havens – a practical guide explains how to measure Indoor Air Quality and what questions to ask ventilation experts.

The foreword is written by Professor Cath Noakes OBE, Professor of Environmental Engineering for Buildings at the University of Leeds and a member of the UK government’s Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE).

She states that poor ventilation is the most overlooked building safety issue, and the guide will be an invaluable tool in raising awareness of the importance of good IAQ and making buildings more infection resilient.

The new BESA guide provides a step-by-step strategy for monitoring and maintaining good IAQ in offices, schools, and public buildings and provides advice and strategies for dealing with ventilation problems. It contains a building review spreadsheet to help building managers identify areas that require improvement.

All three BESA guides addressing indoor air quality (IAQ), plus an interactive risk assessment form, can be downloaded for free from: www.theBESA.com/iaq.

Refrigeration mechanic fined for causing burn injuries

A refrigeration mechanic has been fined \$33,000 for unsafe work practices at a food outlet shop, that caused significant burns to himself and the shop owner.

Mr Roberts pleaded guilty in the South Australia Employment Tribunal (SAET) for failing to comply with his duty under section 32 of the *Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (SA)*.

In September 2019, Mr Roberts was repairing the condensing unit of a refrigeration cabinet for a food outlet shop within a shopping centre. To complete the work, he was required to recharge the condensing unit with refrigerant gas.

A statement from SafeWork SA reported that Mr Roberts mistakenly used a flammable propane gas to charge the new condenser. His attempts to remove the flammable gas caused it to ignite, creating an uncontrolled explosion and fire.

The fire caused second degree burns to Mr Roberts and extensive burns to the shop owner who was working close by.

SafeWork SA investigations found that Mr Roberts commonly decanted hazardous chemicals into smaller, unmarked containers, which led to his selecting the incorrect cannister for the job.

Mr Roberts also failed to adequately identify the hazards and manage the risks associated with correcting his mistake, and had no exclusion zone in place which could have prevented the shop owner from being harmed.

The SAET imposed a fine of \$33,000 (\$50,000 before 40% discount for early guilty plea) for the s 32 offence and \$2000 (\$3,000 before discount) for a regulation 342 offence plus legal costs and the Victim of Crime Levy.



See the full SafeWork SA statement at

<https://safework.sa.gov.au/news-and-alerts/news/news/2022/refrigeration-mechanic-fined-for-causing-burn-injuries>

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WILL PAY YOU FOR YOUR
USED AND UNWANTED
REFRIGERANT?**



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- 1 Collect a recovery cylinder from your refrigerant gas supplier,
- 2 Fill it with used, contaminated and unwanted refrigerant from systems you service, repair, or decommission.
- 3 Return it to your refrigerant supplier and collect your rebate



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WA fridgie on top of the world

West Australian refrigeration and air conditioning technician Tom Clancy is on top of the world after being selected to represent Australia at the 46th WorldSkills International Competition in Shanghai in October.



Perth-based Tom won the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning category in a tight two-day skill off with Ryan Hanns from the ACT, held at TAFE Queensland's Acacia Ridge campus and judged by WorldSkills Australia expert Carl Balke. His winning margin was just 2.85%.

He is now training for the WorldSkills International competition, building on an already impressive record in the industry. He has previously participated in the Kirby Scholarship Program and was named one of Australia's top 20 refrigeration and air conditioning technicians under 25 at the 2020 NextGen Awards.

ARC is an Industry Partner for the refrigeration and air conditioning skill in WorldSkills Australia, while Kirby and Refrigerant Reclaim Australia are major sponsors.

This strong industry support over a long period has enabled young trades people to demonstrate and promote their skills on the regional, national and international stage.

ARC's own Technical and Training Manager, Noel Munkman, is WorldSkills International's refrigeration and air conditioning Skill Competition Manager responsible for organising and managing the Shanghai competition.

The WorldSkills National Championship is Australia's biggest vocational education and excellence competition, and the skills-based WorldSkills competitions are aligned to national training packages, Apprenticeships Australia and Jobs Australia schemes.

More information from worldskills.org.au.

New industry pathway for disadvantaged apprentices

A new alliance between the Institute of Automotive Mechanical Engineers (IAME) and not-for-profit Apprentices Are Us is spearheading a drive for improved educational diversity through new industry pathways for young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

The venture focuses on inclusion and diversity in the automotive apprenticeship sector for young people from community cohorts in need of support.

Among the groups supported are young people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds, youth at risk of long-term unemployment, early school leavers and people with a disability.

Apprenticeships Are Us employment managers are trained in working with young people in preventing drug and alcohol abuse, dealing with anxiety and depressions, domestic violence and prevention of suicide.

For more details visit www.apprus.com.au.



World Ozone Day – we love an *unburnt* country

World Ozone Day on 16 September should be a day of quiet satisfaction and reflection for Australia's refrigeration and air conditioning sector – a day to which our industry has made, and continues to make, a greater contribution than most.

The ozone layer sits about 15-30 km above the earth's surface (way above where airliners fly) and acts as a giant sunscreen, absorbing the sun's ultraviolet-B (UV-B) radiation and protecting humans, animals and crops.

Without a healthy ozone layer, UV-B radiation can lead to skin cancer, genetic damage and immune system suppression in humans and animals, and lower crop production.

About 50 years ago, scientists found that chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) were thinning the Earth's ozone layer – and CFCs were used as refrigerants in fridges and air conditioners, in aerosol spray cans, as blowing agents for foam and packaging materials, and as solvents.

Australia was in more danger than other countries because the ozone layer had thinned over the Earth's mid-latitudes which stretch right across Australia.

Although Australia is fond of Dorothea Mackellar's famous "I love a sunburnt country", chemicals like CFCs have changed the world dramatically since she wrote those immortal words in 1908. The time would come when Australia needed to become an unburnt country.

In 1987, the United Nations (UN) created the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, and soon afterwards Australia introduced the Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Act (1989) to reduce emissions of environmentally harmful refrigerant gases.

Fast forward to 2022 and our RAC industry can be proud of its contribution to reducing these emissions by phasing out of those chemicals.

Thanks in no small part to more than 120,000 ARC permit holders, the ozone layer is now expected to recover by the middle of this century.

