



# Changing State of Refrigerants – Digest 2025-1

**California has banned the sale of High GWP Refrigerants – What to do....**

## **On 1-1-2025 California SB1206 took effect:**

Currently, the sale of virgin refrigerants over 2200 GWP (Global Warming Potential) are banned in the state. The following commonly available refrigerants are impacted: **R404a**, **R421a**, **R422a**, **R422b**, **R422d**, **R434a**, **R438a**, **R507** and **R508b**. Other less common refrigerants are also subject to this rule.

**Additionally, systems owned and operated by the state of California** that employ refrigerants over 750 GWP Must be serviced with reclaimed refrigerants. **This includes R134a, R407c, R410a**

The supply of reclaimed refrigerants is very limited, with reclamation and recertification program in place for only the most popular products. Owner operators and service providers must employ strategies to manage this transition:

1. **Scheduled Equipment Replacement:** For systems that are approaching the end of their service life, proactive replacement with new equipment using new lower GWP refrigerant technology is encouraged.
2. **On the Fly Retrofits:** For systems that require sealed system service, recovering the existing refrigerant and retrofitting to a sustainable low GWP alternative is recommended. Retrofit considerations should include Capacity analysis, Component compatibility, and Lubricant choice.
  - a. **Most recovered refrigerant have Value that can be used to underwrite retrofit cost.**
  - b. **Recovered refrigerant can be used to service legacy equipment for the current owner/operator.**
    - i. Note that recovered refrigerant cannot be transferred between companies without first being recertified per AHRI Standard 700 specifications.

## **Most Popular Retrofit options include:**

R404a or R507: Use **R448a**, **R449a**, **R452a**

R421a, 422a, R422b, R422d, R434a\*, R438a: Use **R407c** or **R427a**

\*R407c and R427a are for DX applications only not suitable for flooded systems

For more info go to:

[www.rsd.net/refrigerantsuite/index.php](http://www.rsd.net/refrigerantsuite/index.php) or Call 800-245-8007 ex 00405, or Scan

