



ESPEC North America Inc. | Corporate Office
4141 Central Parkway, Hudsonville, MI 49426 USA

November 20, 2024

To: ESPEC Customers Operating within the State of California

RE: Compliance with California Senate Bill 1206: Refrigerants in Environmental Test Chambers

Dear Valued Customers,

The state of California has enacted Senate Bill 1206, introducing new restrictions on the use of certain refrigerants. These regulations are specific to refrigerants used within California and aim to reduce the environmental impact of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) with high global warming potential (GWP).

Overview of Senate Bill 1206:

The legislation prohibits the sale, distribution, or use of bulk HFCs or blends with GWPs exceeding the following limits:

- **Starting January 1, 2025:** GWP limit of 2200
- **Starting January 1, 2030:** GWP limit of 1500
- **Starting January 1, 2033:** GWP limit of 750

Furthermore, beginning January 1, 2025, the use of HFCs with a GWP greater than 750 for replenishment or servicing of stationary equipment owned or operated by the state must involve reclaimed refrigerants.

Refrigerants Used in ESPEC Environmental Test Chambers:

- **R-404A (GWP = 3943)**
- **R-449A (GWP = 1282)**
- **R-508B (GWP = 13,396)**
- **R-23 (GWP = 14,800)**

ESPEC's Plan to Address These Regulations:

For New Equipment:

- ESPEC has already transitioned away from R-404A in new equipment, replacing it with R-449A.
- Current California regulations allow continued use of R-508B and R-23 in new equipment as there are no commercially available low-GWP alternatives.



For Existing Equipment:

1. **Equipment using R-404A:**
 - Replenishment must use reclaimed refrigerant starting January 1, 2025.
 - Systems can be converted to R-449A, extending the use of virgin refrigerants until January 1, 2033.
2. **Equipment using R-449A:**
 - Replenishment with virgin or reclaimed refrigerant is permitted until January 1, 2033.
 - Starting January 1, 2033, only reclaimed refrigerants may be used.
3. **Equipment using R-508B or R-23:**
 - Replenishment must use reclaimed refrigerants starting January 1, 2025.
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Our Commitment to You:

At ESPEC, we are deeply committed to supporting our California customers during this transition. All refrigerant repairs conducted by our field service team will comply fully with California regulations. Furthermore, ESPEC is actively investing in next-generation refrigeration technology to deliver high-performance solutions with reduced environmental impact.

We are working closely with refrigerant suppliers and reclaimers to ensure the availability of compliant materials for maintaining existing equipment. Our extensive after-sales support team is ready to assist with refrigerant conversions, equipment updates, and compliance strategies tailored to your needs.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any specific questions or concerns. We value your partnership and are dedicated to helping you navigate these regulatory changes while continuing to deliver the quality and reliability you expect from ESPEC.

Sincerely,

Steven R. Wilkening
GM – Client Relations