

FDECU...

CONTAMINATED REFRIGERANT A GRAVE RISK

UNITS THAT HAVE FIELD DEPLOYABLE ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL UNITS (FDECU), MODELS 2, 3, 4, 5 AND 9, NSN 4120-01-449-0459, PAY CLOSE ATTENTION!

YOUR FDECU COULD HAVE A REFRIGERANT CONTAMINATED WITH METHYL CHLORIDE, ALSO KNOWN AS R-40.

METHYL CHLORIDE IS SUSPECTED OF CAUSING CANCER.

IT'S ALSO FLAMMABLE AND EXPLOSIVE WHEN EXPOSED TO THE ATMOSPHERE OR ALUMINUM.

BOOM!

IT COULD DAMAGE THE FDECU.

WHAT'S WORSE, IT COULD INJURE OR KILL YOU OR OTHERS.

Bad Refrigerant

The root of the refrigerant problem is the source of supply. The FDECU uses R-134A refrigerant, which must be ordered only through the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA). R-134A ordered through DLA is considered safe. But R-134A purchased OCONUS from non-DLA sources may be contaminated with R-40.

Cylinders holding contaminated R-134A may have legitimate-looking vendor's labels that say the contents are R-134A. Don't be fooled. These labels are forged. You can't be sure of the contents of the cylinder just by looking at the label. You must check the supply records.

YOU CAN'T GO BY MY LOOKS ALONE!

Never purchase R-134A from non-DLA sources

Which FDECU's Are at Risk?

These FDECU's are suspected of having contaminated R-134A:

- FDECU's that have been deployed OCONUS in the last 36 months.
- FDECU's that have not been deployed OCONUS but have no records proving repairs and services were done using DLA-certified refrigerant.

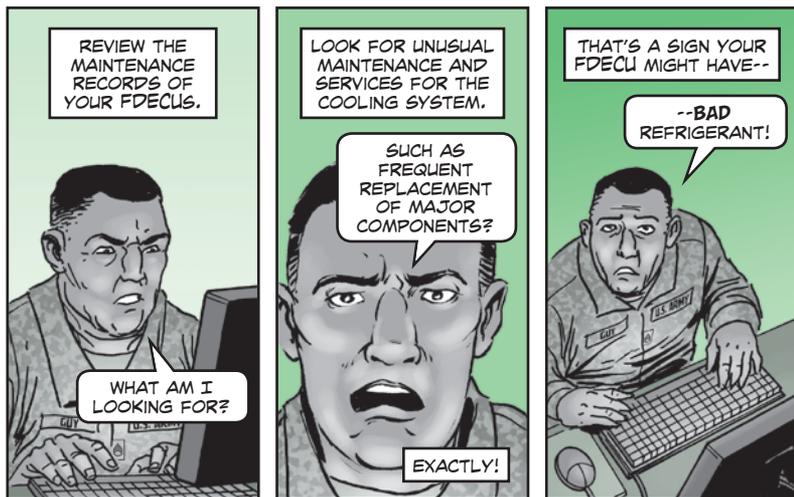
FDECU's that have not been deployed OCONUS and have records proving repairs and services were done using DLA-certified refrigerant are considered safe.

WARNING!

If you suspect your FDECU has contaminated refrigerant, do not service or remove the refrigerant from the FDECU. Do not perform preventive maintenance checks and services on the refrigeration system components, tubing, fittings and outside coil. Do not perform scheduled or unscheduled maintenance. Do not prepare the FDECU for shipment or storage.



Review and Report



Instead, identify the model, serial number and location of the suspect FDECU. Report suspect FDECU's and unusual maintenance and services to CW5 Bobby McQuaid, HQDA G-4, (703) 614-0747, or email:

bobby.mcquaid@conus.army.mil

Or contact Sydney Mapp, Integrated Logistics Support (ILS) Manager, CECOM Logistics and Readiness Center, DSN 648-4737, (443) 395-4737, or email:

sydney.w.mapp3.civ@mail.mil

Get the Real Thing



FROM NOW ON, ORDER R-134A REFRIGERANT ONLY THROUGH DLA.

DEPOTS AND CONTRACTORS MUST ALSO ORDER THROUGH DLA.

HERE'S A HANDY CHART OF THE AVAILABLE CYLINDERS OF R-134A...

Cylinder (in lbs)	Application	NSN 6830-
30	Non-automotive	01-390-9622 01-561-7307
30	Automotive	01-412-6362 01-534-3686 01-559-0817
43	Non-automotive	01-534-3775* 01-534-4652 01-559-0837*
43	Automotive	01-370-6207

*These NSNs are not on the AMDF. Order them on DD Forms 1348-6 and put "NSN not on AMDF" in the REMARKS block.

FOR THE COMPLETE STORY, GET CECOM SAFETY OF USE MESSAGE (SOUM) 2012-001.

THE MESSAGE DISCUSSES ROOT CAUSES, HAZARDS, INSPECTION, REPORTING AND MORE.

IT ALSO INCLUDES AN ATTACHMENT WITH TWO SPREADSHEETS...



- one for recording FDECU serial #, location, dates deployed and last date serviced
- another for recording cylinder size (lb), brand name and quantity on hand

You'll find the SOUM at the US Army CECOM Directorate for Safety website:
<https://cecomsafety.apg.army.mil/safety/safety%20messages/>