

Assessment: City and Guilds 2079-14 Refrigerant Handling, Category 4 (Level 2 certificate in F Gas and ODS Regulations)

Cool Concerns Ltd is approved by City and Guilds to assess candidates for the C & G 2079 refrigerant handling scheme. This is a practical skills test plus an online assessment to check knowledge.

It is a legal requirement that all engineers who leak tests systems containing more than 3 kg of fluorinated refrigerant (or 6 kg if in a hermetically sealed system) have at least the C & G 2079-14 qualification (or the Construction Skills equivalent) by mid 2011.

Practical assessment

Engineers are required to carry out the following procedures on a test rig:

- Examine pipe work;
- Visually inspect the system for leaks;
- Use gauges etc to indirectly assess leakage;
- Use an electronic leak detector to do a direct leak test;
- Complete leak test records.

The test rig is an industry standard air cooled condensing unit coupled with DX evaporator, an example is shown in the photo.



Knowledge assessment

Knowledge is assessed online using the City and Guilds GOLA (Global On Line Assessment) facility at Cool Concerns. The following topics are included in the multiple choice assessment:

- SI units of measure;
- Environmental aspects - direct and indirect - of HFCs and HFC systems, including energy efficiency;
- Required record keeping;
- Potential leak points;
- Refrigerant hazards.

The procedure for the online assessment is explained prior to the assessment.

Training

Most engineers will require some training / revision to reach the required standard for the practical and knowledge assessments. To minimise down time some of this training is in the form of a self study pack followed by just half a day of revision before the assessment.



Self study	A self study book is sent to candidates about a month before the assessment. This provides comprehensive coverage of the knowledge required, an outline of the practical assessment and sample questions to check knowledge. This must be read and absorbed before the revision and assessment session.
Revision session, morning	This half day session includes revision of the knowledge required, review of the sample questions and a practical demonstration. There is ample opportunity for candidates to ask questions about topics they are unsure of.
Assessment, afternoon	Online assessment and practical assessment. Immediate feedback is given to the candidate after each assessment regarding pass / failure.

The revision and assessment day is at our training facility in the West Midlands. The assessment is carried out in the afternoon of the revision session.

Cost

£275 plus VAT per person, including registration, self study pack, training, assessment and lunches.

Registration

We require full name and home address, date of birth, National Insurance number and contact phone number for each candidate at least 10 days before assessment.

We will send out an enrolment form to be completed and signed by each candidate before the assessment. **This form must be completed and signed by the candidate for data protection purposes** – successful candidates could go onto a publicly accessible data base of engineers who are qualified to the F Gas standard.

About Cool Concerns' Training and Assessments – for engineers by engineers

Training and assessments are carried out by the working directors – Jane Gartshore and Stephen Benton – and by specialist trainers / assessors. We are refrigeration engineers and have a wide and varied range of practical experience within the refrigeration and air conditioning industry.

We provide training that “hits the spot” – it is relevant, informative and fun with the emphasis on hands on practice mixed with high quality theory presentations.

All our training is designed to use trainees' time as efficiently as possible, thus minimising expensive down time. We draw on the wide range of experience of both trainers to prepare high quality training sessions.

Refrigerant Handling Legislation

Fluorinated Gases "F gases" are a family of chemicals that contain fluorine. Most "F gases" are very powerful greenhouse gases which contribute to climate change if emitted to the atmosphere. Many organisations have obligations under the EC F Gas Regulation. In particular, if you use, maintain or install refrigeration and/or air-conditioning equipment you are likely to be affected. Refrigeration and air-conditioning users may also be affected by the EC Ozone Regulation which is phasing out certain ozone depleting substances (ODS) such as R22.

One of the requirements of the F Gas regulation is a minimum standard of competency for engineers handling HFC refrigerants (such as R404A, R407C, R134a, R410A). City and Guilds 2078 and the CITB equivalent are acceptable until July 4th 2011. By this date all HFC handlers will have to have the new qualification - City and Guilds 2079 (or the Construction Skills equivalent).

For more information on the legal requirements contact Cool Concerns Ltd or visit F Gas Support at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/air-atmos/fgas/index.htm>