



# SURFACE VEHICLE RECOMMENDED PRACTICE

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Recommended Service Procedure for the Containment of CFC-12 (R-12)

## RATIONALE

R12 refrigerant has been out of use in new OEM vehicles since 1995. The technical report covers technology, products, or processes which are mature and not likely to change in the foreseeable future.

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1. **Scope**—During service of mobile air-conditioning (A/C) systems, containment of the refrigerant is important. This procedure provides service guidelines for technicians when repairing vehicles and operating equipment defined in SAE J1990.
2. **References**
  - 2.1 **Applicable Publications**—The following publication forms a part of this specification to the extent specified herein. Unless otherwise indicated, the latest version of SAE Publications shall apply.
    - 2.1.1 SAE PUBLICATIONS—Available from SAE, 400 Commonwealth Drive, Warrendale, PA 15096-0001.
      - SAE J639—Safety and Containment of Refrigerant for Mechanical Vapor Compression Systems Used for Mobile Air-Conditioning Systems
      - SAE J1771—Criteria for Refrigerant Identification Equipment for Use with Mobile Air-Conditioning Systems
      - SAE J1990—Extraction and Recycle Equipment for Mobile Automotive Air-Conditioning Systems
      - SAE J2296—Retest of Refrigerant Containers
3. **Refrigerant Recovery Procedure**
  - 3.1 Since the A/C system may contain another refrigerant, a combination of refrigerants or excess noncondensables (NCG'S), the system's contents should be identified before removing the refrigerant. Not identifying the refrigerant type prior to removal can result in contamination of recovery/recycle (R/R) equipment. Use of refrigerant identification equipment certified to SAE J1771 should be used to determine what refrigerant is in the mobile A/C system about to be recovered.
  - 3.2 Connect the recovery unit service hoses, which shall have shut-off valves within 30 cm of the service ends, to the vehicle air-conditioning system service ports.