SERVICE BULLETIN

Title: **Refrigerant Storage and Transfer**
Models Affected: **All Rotary Chillers**

Number: **C9627**
Date: **8/9/96**
Supersedes:
Date:

Purpose:

To provide information about safe practices for refrigerant storage and transfer.

File: Purge-Pumpout

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Background:

In the past, it has been common practice to use one refrigerant storage vessel for multiple machines, or to transfer charge between machines, with little risk as long as the operator was careful with wet, acidic, or dirty refrigerant.

Caution:

The relationships between refrigerants and oils has become more critical with the introduction of synthetic oils like alkyl-benzene's and POE's with HCFC-22 and HFC-134a. For example, a small amount of POE oil mixed with a charge of alkyl-benzene oil in an HCFC-22 compressor, will have very poor lubricating qualities. Also, the viscosity of the POE oil used in a 23XL HFC-134a compressor is much higher than the POE oil in a 19XL HFC-134a compressor.

Procedure:

Since oil residue will remain in a refrigerant storage vessel after it has been emptied, the vessel should only be used for machines with compatible oils. This rule also applies when transferring charge between machines. If there is a question about oil compatibility, the machine manufacturer(s) should be contacted. If it is necessary to use the same storage vessel for multiple machines with incompatible oils (although this is not recommended) all oil residue must be removed, and the vessel must be dehydrated between uses. If it is necessary to transfer charge between machines (also not recommended), both machines must have compatible oil, and the refrigerant in both must be tested for contamination. If these safe practices are not followed, premature machine failure may occur.