



As a **Service Contractor** for
Halocarbon-Containing Fire-Extinguishing Systems,
you need to know about the

Federal Halocarbon Regulations, 2003 (FHR 2003)

November 2008

What are the FHR 2003?

- Regulations under the authority of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999 (CEPA 1999)*.
- Their purpose is to prevent releases of ozone-depleting substances and other halocarbons, such as CFCs, HCFCs, HFCs, Halons, other BFCs or HBFCs, alone or in mixtures/blends.

Do the FHR 2003 apply to me?

- Yes, if you are a service person, technician or mechanic working on or caring for a halocarbon-containing fire-extinguishing system that is:
 - **owned by the Government of Canada (department, board or agency, a Crown corporation) or a Federal Work or Undertaking; or**
 - **located on federal land or aboriginal land.**

What are examples of a Federal Work or Undertaking?

- Banks, broadcasting and telecommunications corporations, airports, airlines, port authorities, ships as well as buses, railways, trucking, pipelines, and telegraph cables which operate interprovincially or internationally.

What is Not Allowed?

- Cannot release, allow or cause the release of a halocarbon, except to fight fires that are NOT set for training purposes.
- Cannot install systems that use CFCs, Halon 1011, Halon 1211, Halon 1301, Halon 2402, other BFCs or HBFCs, carbon tetrachloride or methyl chloroform, unless authorized to do so with a permit under the *FHR 2003*.
- Cannot charge a portable fire-extinguishing system with CFCs, Halon 1011, Halon 1211, Halon 1301, Halon 2402, other BFCs or HBFCs, except for use on aircraft, military vehicle or military ship.
- **Effective January 1, 2005, cannot charge a fixed fire-extinguishing system with CFCs, Halon 1011, Halon 1211, Halon 1301, Halon 2402, other BFCs or HBFCs, except for use on aircraft, military vehicle or military ship.**
- Cannot use CFCs, Halon 1011, Halon 1211, Halon 1301, Halon 2402, and other BFCs or HBFCs for leak testing.
- Cannot charge a leaking system.
- Cannot service a halocarbon containing fire-extinguishing system without notifying the owner of the intended service and affixing a notice on the control panel of the system to indicate that it is out of operation during the period of service.

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What else do I need to know?

- Work must be done according to ***The Servicing of Halon Extinguishing Systems (ULC/ORD-C1058.18)***.
- Halocarbons must be stored, transported and purchased in a refillable container designed to contain that specific type of halocarbon.
- An entry in the service log is required whenever a system is installed, serviced, leak tested, charged or if any other work is done that may cause a halocarbon release.
- Information to be contained in service logs and notices is outlined in Schedule 2 of the Regulations.
- Notices must be filled out completely and affixed to the system after a leak test, and/or before dismantling, decommissioning or destruction of the system.
- Notices that are affixed to the equipment cannot be removed except to replace with another notice.
- Before doing any work that may cause a release, the halocarbon must be recovered into a refillable container designed to contain that specific type of halocarbon.
- Only refillable containers designed to contain that specific type of halocarbon are to be used for recovering halocarbons.
- Before dismantling, decommissioning or destruction of a system, all of the halocarbon must be recovered.
- Recovery equipment used must have a transfer efficiency of at least 99% as defined in ***Halon Recovery and Reconditioning Equipment (ULC/ORD-C1058.5)***.
- A leak test is required before charging any system.
- Leak tests must be done at least once every 12 months for all fire extinguishing systems, except portable fire extinguishers and systems with a charging capacity of less than 10 kg located in military vehicles.
- If a leak is found or a release occurs, you must stop the leak immediately and notify the owner.

How can I find out more information?

This summary is **not** intended to replace the published Regulations, which must be consulted regarding full *FHR 2003* obligations. The *FHR 2003* is available from the following website:

Environment Canada's Stratospheric Ozone Website:
<http://www.ec.gc.ca/ozone>

Copies of *CEPA 1999* and *FHR 2003* are available online at:
<http://www.ec.gc.ca/ceparegistry/>

or contact the BC and Yukon Region representative:

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What about the BC Provincial Ozone Depleting Substances and Other Halocarbons Regulation?

The *BC Ozone Depleting Substances and Other Halocarbons Regulation* (BCODSR) has similar conditions to the *FHR 2003*. The BCODSR applies to those systems which are not covered by the *FHR 2003* (but in rare instances both regulations may apply). The BCODSR was last amended in July 2006. The BCODSR is available from the following website:

<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/air/ozone/index.html#2>

or

by calling Crown Publications Queen's Printer for British Columbia at:

1-800-663-6105

For more information about the BCODSR and its amendments, please contact:

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Disclaimer:

This document explains some of the requirements of the *Federal Halocarbon Regulations, 2003 (FHR 2003)*. However, in the event of inconsistencies between this document, the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999 (CEPA 1999)*, and the *FHR 2003, CEPA 1999* and the *FHR 2003* will prevail.