



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

SPECIAL NOTIFICATION FOR REFRIGERATION AND AIR CONDITIONING TECHNICIANS

Awarding National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Certificate Free of Charge through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Scheme for Informal Technicians

Sri Lanka is committed to phase out the use of refrigerants containing the hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) series as a party to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that deplete the ozone layer and to phase down the use of refrigerants belonging to the hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) series which contribute to global warming.

Accordingly, Sri Lanka will completely ban the import of HCFC series of refrigerants by 2030 and thereafter, only the quantities of HCFC series of refrigerants imported into the country will be allowed to use. In addition, the use of HFC series of refrigerants, an alternative refrigerant introduced to replace HCFC refrigerants, will also be controlled from 2024 and 80% from the baseline level is scheduled to be phased down by 2045. Hence, the awareness, knowledge and experience gained by the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning technicians are important to adapt technological changes, control the emission of refrigerants to atmosphere, and avoid the refrigerant shortage due to control of refrigerant import.

In this context, Air Resource Management and National Ozone Unit of the Ministry of Environment has initiated a programme to provide financial assistance and necessary training based on the "**Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)**" system and award National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) certificate in order to standardize the service of technicians who do not possess a recognized certificate and formal training in this field.

If you are an Air Conditioning and Refrigeration technician who would like to obtain this valuable Professional Certificate, you need to fill up the relevant NVQ - RPL Free Application form mentioned on the website of the National Apprentice and Industrial Training Authority (NAITA) (www.nita.gov.lk) and duly filled application form with necessary documents should be submitted to the National Apprentice and Industrial Training Authority. It is kindly informed that all the expenses for the technicians who intend to obtain a NVQ Certificate through this RPL system will be borne by the Air Resources Management and National Ozone Unit of the Ministry of Environment.

Further information in this regard could be obtained from the Air Resource Management and National Ozone Unit of the Ministry of Environment via Telephone: 011-2034221/ 011-2034222, Email: noulanka@gmail.com, or website: www.nou.lk / env.gov.lk

Secretary,
Ministry of Environment,
"Sobadam Piyasa"
416/C/1, Robert Gunawardena Mawatha,
Battaramulla