



The Voice of European Air-Conditioning, Refrigeration and Heat Pumps Contractors

Training & certification on f-gases and alternative refrigerants

AREA internal survey

January 2021

These are the results of an internal survey AREA conducted with its national member associations in the period November-December 2020.

I- F-gas certified personnel by country covered by AREA

The table below shows the net numbers of F-gas certified personnel in the countries covered by AREA membership. Some come from official sources (national authorities, certification bodies) whilst others are estimates.

Table 1 - F-gas certified personnel by country covered by AREA

Austria	N/A	
Belgium	5.200	
Croatia	1.418	
Czech Republic	5.029	
Denmark	4.021	
Estonia	465	
Finland	7.552	
France	19.141	
Germany	44.000	
Greece	10.900	
Ireland	4.300	
Italy	73.400	
Netherlands	5.020	
Poland	23.986	
Portugal	5.300	
Slovakia	2.150	
Spain	127.000	(1)
Sweden	5.810	
Total EU	344.692	
UK	52.300	
Total EU+UK	396.992	
Turkey	32.000	
Norway	4.804	
Grand total	433.796	

(1) Based on national extrapolation from figures published by some regional authorities

Some members were unable to provide a breakdown by category. Consequently, it is only possible to show the allocation of F-gas certified personnel by category expressed as a relative percentage of the total of those members who were able to give the breakdown for their country.

Table 2 – Allocation of F-gas certified personnel by category (AREA EU countries)

Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
85,4%	8,5%	0,7%	5,4%

II- F-gas certified companies by country covered by AREA

The table below shows the net numbers of F-gas certified companies in the countries covered by AREA membership. Some come from official sources (national authorities, certification bodies) whilst others are estimates.

Table 3 - F-gas certified companies by country covered by AREA

Austria	N/A
Belgium	2.000
Croatia	1.745
Czech Republic	900
Denmark	1748
Estonia	N/A
Finland	3.397
France	35.289
Germany	3.500
Greece	100
Ireland	1.200
Italy	35.000
Netherlands	2.263
Poland	8.346
Portugal	1.558
Slovakia	1.924
Spain	15.987
Sweden	1.615
Total EU	116.572
UK	8.634
Total EU+UK	125.206
Turkey	N/A
Norway	1.141
Grand total	126.347

III- Personnel trained on alternatives

Almost no EU country has mandatory certification on alternative refrigerants in place. A few members were unable to provide an estimate of the proportion of F-gas certified personnel trained on alternatives. Consequently, it is only possible to show the proportion as a relative percentage aggregating all those members who were able to give an estimate.

Table 4 - Proportion of F-gas certified personnel trained on alternatives

Ammonia	CO ₂	HC (small)	HC (large)	HFOs
7%	6,9%	6,2%	5,3%	3,5%

About AREA

AREA is the European association of refrigeration, air conditioning and heat pump (RACHP) contractors. Established in 1989, AREA voices the interests of 25 national associations from 21 countries representing 13,000 companies employing 110,000 people and with an annual turnover approaching € 23 billion.