



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

F-gas: national registries of certified companies and individuals

- Austria** Only companies are registered (there is no registration of individuals). A written request must be submitted to the Ministry of the Environment. The Ministry will then issue the certificate – not electronically but in writing. Certificates are not available online in order to protect data security. Registration is not mandatory but most companies are registered.
- Czech Republic** A public register of all companies & individuals is at http://www.mzp.cz/cz/seznam_certifikovanych_osob. MAC certifications according to 307/2008 are not included. Registration is limited to certifications according to MAC 303/2008. It is an alphabetical list in pdf format so cannot be used for searching or filtering. It is not clear how often the list is updated. The Ministry is preparing a better register to comply with the new F-gas regulation.
- Denmark** KMO – Kølebranchens Miljøordning (<http://www.kmo.dk/default.aspx>) – registers all companies, installers and mechanics dealing with F-gases. KMO is managed by a private company which answers to the Danish EPA. The list includes every RACHP company and those which deal with F-gases and fall under the MAC directive. It is publicly accessible so every customer can find out if a company is certified and to what extent. KMO gathers information from wholesalers about the use of different F-gases. Wholesalers are not authorised to deliver F-gas to a customer unless he can supply a certificate. KMO is financed by wholesalers who charge a fee for each litre of refrigerant they sell.
- France** The register of companies is at <https://www.syderep.ademe.fr/fr/commun/gf/0/accueilrechercheoperateur/list>. This register is managed by a public authority - ADEME (Agence De l'Environnement et de la Maîtrise de l'Énergie). Every accredited body which issues F-gas certifications to companies must periodically provide an updated list. The category of the certificate and the date of issue appear for each company. Theoretically the list includes all registered companies but some accredited bodies are occasionally late in transmitting information. The Ministry of the Environment has been asked to ensure timely submission of data by accredited bodies in order to ensure that the list is reliable. The list is publicly accessible because end users are required to use certified companies and therefore need to know which companies they can contact. The list does not include individuals because certification of persons is one of the criteria for a company to be certified. A refrigeration craftsman must be certified as a company and for that he must be first certified as an individual. Operators are companies, not individuals.

Germany	There is no online register of companies or individuals but a regulation known as “Chemikalienklimaschutzverordnung”.
Italy	The register of all companies & individuals is at www.fgas.it . It is mandatory to be certified and listed in this register in order to work in Italy. The list is managed by the Chamber of Commerce together with the Ministry of the Environment and is publicly accessible.
Netherlands	There is no freely accessible centralised online register of F-gas certified companies. If an end-user/operator wants to know if a company he wants to contract is certified, he can send an email to the Ministry of the Environment. They have a confidential register of all certified companies (managed by a public authority - Rijkswaterstaat) in which they can check. There are two private registers of certified companies which are managed by inspection bodies (Vianorm and Stek) which only contain their own customers (approximately 25% of the market is certified by Vianorm and 40% by Stek). These registers are publicly accessible but only include a limited number of certified companies. Currently there is no online register of all certified individuals but the Ministry of the Environment is preparing one that should be operational in 2015 and will be publicly accessible.
Norway	The register of companies (managed by a private authority) is publicly accessible at http://www.returgass.no/Hovedmeny/F-gass%20forordningen/Kuldebransjen/~media/Files/Sertifiserte%20303%20%20bedrifter.ashx It does not include all registered companies – those which do not wish to be on the list can be excluded. There is no list of individuals.
Poland	There is no F-gas legislation in Poland and no online register of companies or individuals.
Portugal	The entity responsible for company certification and registration is CERTIF (http://www.certif.pt/homepage_eng.asp) which is under the supervision of the Portuguese Government – APA, Agência Portuguesa do Ambiente (Portuguese Environment Agency, http://www.apambiente.pt/index.php?ref=x178). CERTIF is accredited by IPAC (Portuguese Institute for Accreditation) for ISO/IEC 17021 and EN 45011 to Certification of Quality Management and Environment Systems, Products (including CPR), Processes and Services, and is a Notified Body under the CPR (Construction Products Regulation), Low Voltage and Individual Protection Equipment Directives. A list of all certified companies is available at http://www.certif.pt/pdf/lista_empresas_servico_certificado_regulamentos_ce.pdf . The entity responsible for certification and registration of individuals is CENTERM (http://www.centerm.pt/), which is also under the supervision of the Portuguese Government – APA (see details above). CENTERM is accredited by IPAC (Portuguese Institute for Accreditation) for NP EN ISO/IEC 17024. The current list of all certified individuals is at http://www.centerm.pt/listagens_tc.html .
Slovakia	Certified companies are listed according to their category of activity at http://szchkt.org/a/databaza/organizacie?locale=en_GB . See also www.cochkt.org (CO CHKT is an organisation authorised by the Ministry of the Environment). All registered companies are included (stationary and mobile AC, refrigeration, solvents, SF6...). The system also includes electronic logging, reporting and data processing. SZ CHKT offers the software LeakLog to certified companies. Data are reported on www.szchkt.org , www.cochkt.sk , where data is summarized, statistics are generated according to the need of IPCC 2006. Certified individuals are listed according to their category of activity at http://szchkt.org/a/databaza/odbornici?locale=en_GB . See also www.cochkt.org . The list offers the same possibilities and conditions as for companies.

- Spain** All companies and individuals in possession of an accreditation or certification are registered in the regional Industry Directorate of the province where they have their offices. The Spanish Industry Ministry has an Integrated Industrial Register on its website, where the 21 regional governments must update the information on all companies and individuals in their region. In this register it is possible to search for a company or an individual, or to see in a certain province or town the companies and individuals registered to manipulate F-gases. The link is <https://sedeaplicaciones.minetur.gob.es/RII/consultaspublicas/consultadatos.aspx>. It is important to mark “Diviion B” for F-gases.
- Sweden** The registers of all companies and individuals are at <https://www.incertonline.se/>. The accredited body SWEDAC has appointed a private company named Incert AB to be the certifying body for companies and individuals. The company register is publicly accessible. Details of individuals are only accessible if their name and certification number are known. If this information is submitted, the list will reveal the type & validity of their certificate. The reason for this procedure is to avoid misuse of information.
- UK** There are three separate bodies that hold separate registers of companies: REFCOM (www.refcom.org.uk), Quidos and Bureau Veritas. Refcom is the only agency with a searchable online register. The others can be consulted on request but not online. Each registration company is a private body contracted with the Government. Each company certification body controls its own register and gives quarterly reports to the regulatory agency for a consolidated list of total of companies and engineers. The consolidated list of names is not available publicly. Individual companies can “opt-out” of their name being shown on the Refcom online register. Having three separate and distinct optional registers makes it very difficult for equipment owners or in future suppliers to easily verify Company Certification compliance of contractors and their employees.
- There is no online register of individuals. There are two individual certification bodies who issue F-gas certificates - City & Guilds and CITB (CSkills). City & Guilds do not hold any details of individuals who have obtained a certificate, other than the candidate registration number and name – all personal contact details are held by 30+ different training providers only. CITB do hold personal contact details of certificate holders. There is no mechanism for verifying validity of certificates other than a) seeing a copy of the certificate or b) emailing the authority and asking them to verify the certificate holder details within an agreed time period. UK Industry operates a non-profit Voluntary Registration facility and database (The ACRIB F Gas Skillcard) which has been in operation for nearly 20 years and is well established. This low cost option (around 40 euro for 3 or 5 year registration), provides a photo identity card and checking of F Gas certification. Take up is fairly low however– around 10% of the market. Registrant details are not currently available online.