

WEEELABEX Organisation - OFFICIAL STATEMENT	
Issue ID:	2024_002
Issue Category:	Conformity Verification scope Specific depollution requirements
Issue Name:	Air conditioning appliances, heat pumps and other class 6 and class 5 temperature exchange equipment
Issue Description:	Are the air conditioning appliances, heat pumps and other class 6 and class 5 temperature exchange equipment (TEE) within the scope of the WEEELABEX conformity verification process? Shall a TEE Specialist auditor be involved in the certification process of the air conditioning appliances, heat pumps and other class 6 temperature exchange equipment? What are the WEEELABEX reporting requirements? To which treatment stream do air conditioning appliances, heat pumps and other class 6 and class 5 temperature exchange equipment belong? Is it allowed to treat air conditioning appliances, heat pumps and other class 6 and class 5 temperature exchange equipment without removal and proper treatment of VFC/VHC refrigerants and oil? What are the applicable specific treatment and depollution requirements for air conditioning appliances, heat pumps and other class 6 and class 5 temperature exchange equipment? Are there any examples?
WEEELABEX Organisation Statement	This Statement is applicable for Step 1 treatment process of temperature exchange equipment (TEE) class 5 (refrigerators or freezers or combined refrigerators/freezers with at least one external dimension more than 2,20 m) and/or class 6 (air-conditioning equipment, equipment which automatically delivers cold products, dehumidifying equipment, heat pump, heat pump tumble dryer, other temperature exchange equipment using fluids other than water for the temperature exchange). Ad 1. Air conditioning appliances, heat pumps and other class 6 temperature exchange equipment (specifically air-conditioning equipment, equipment which automatically delivers cold products, dehumidifying equipment, heat pumps, heat pump tumble dryers, <i>radiators containing oil</i>, other temperature exchange equipment using fluids other than water for the temperature exchange) and class 5 (specially refrigerators or freezers or combined refrigerators/freezers with at least one external dimension more than 2,20 m) are in scope of WEEELABEX conformity verification process. Ad 2. Each General audit of an Operator that treats air conditioning appliances, heat pumps and other class 6 and class 5 temperature exchange equipment shall involve a WEEELABEX TEE Specialist auditor on site. During a Surveillance audit, the TEE Specialist auditor shall at least be involved in the final evaluation of data, audit report and information from the audit. That can be done on

remotely. ***During a Surveillance audit the respective Lead auditor (or the TEE Specialist auditor, if attending in person) shall observe:***

- ***the sampling of degassed oil from the refrigeration circuits, and the testing of residual oil in compressors.***

The oil samples must be sent to a WEEELABEX approved laboratory for analysis.

The results of the analysis and testing shall be included in the audit report.

The TEE Specialist auditor shall complete the **A 05.8b Temperature exchange equipment Specialist Audit Report** – specific for Step 1 treatment process of classes 5 and/or 6 appliances **every two years**.

Note: In case of combined audit for class 1 – 4 and class 5 and/or 6, the TEE Specialist auditor may use the general A05.8 Temperature Exchange Equipment Specialist Audit Report to cover all classes of TEE and all treatment processes performed on site.

Exemptions: ***The WEEELABEX TEE Specialist auditor does not need to be involved in the audit, and the Temperature Exchange Equipment Specialist Audit Report is also not applicable in the case of manual treatment of radiators containing oil (meaning manual removal of oil).***

Ad 3. Air conditioning appliances, heat pumps and other class 6 and class 5 temperature exchange equipment belong to the WEEELABEX treatment stream **“Temperature exchange equipment”**. Definitions and classes are specified in the CENELEC standard EN 50625-2-3.

Ad 4. The treatment of air conditioning appliances, heat pumps and other class 6 and class 5 temperature exchange equipment in the Step 1 process **shall include at least removal and proper treatment of:**

- **chlorofluorocarbons (CFC), hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFC), hydrofluorocarbons (HFC), hydrocarbons (HC) (hereinafter VFC/VHC) from the refrigeration circuit, and**
- **Oil from the refrigeration circuit.**

Both, the removal and proper treatment of VFC/VHC and the removal and proper treatment (degassing) of oil, shall be done in an encapsulated (meaning a “closed”) system(s).

Ad 5. The following **specific requirements are applicable** for treatment of air conditioning appliances, heat pumps and other class 6 and class 5 temperature exchange equipment (based on the EN 50625-1 clause A.7, EN 50625-2-3 and related CLC/TS 50625-3-4):

Specifically for TEE containing refrigeration circuits (oil and refrigerants):

- The residual mass of oil from 3 opened compressors shall be less than 15 g in average per compressor. Any value higher than 50 grams shall be evaluated as a Priority 1 non-conformance in Question #30 and considered non compliant depollution.
- Treated compressors must be non-dripping. The same test that is applicable for class 1-4 appliances applies to class 5 and 6 appliances

	(see the clause 3.3.2.3 of A10 WEEELABEX De-pollution monitoring specification for details). - The residual concentration of VFC/VHC in the degassed oil shall be less than 0,2 % of VFC/VHC. Specifically for radiators containing oil: - <i>The oil from radiators shall be removed in a way that radiators leaving the plant for further treatment shall have no oil to the greatest possible extend (non-dripping).</i> - <i>The oil which can contain PCBs shall be kept separately from oil from other sources.</i> Ad 6. Clarifications and Examples: - It shall not be allowed removing only VFC/VHC refrigerants in an encapsulated system and subsequent removing the oil from the opened compressor either via a dripping table or a direct transfer of the oil from the compressor into a vessel or any other direct non-encapsulated transfer of the oil from the compressor into a vessel. This <u>cannot</u> be seen as encapsulated system. - In general, the only acceptable solution is to treat the air conditioning appliances, heat pumps and other class 6 and class 5 temperature exchange equipment in a Step 1 plant (similar to the technologies used for class 1 - 4 appliances) adapted to the higher pressures in the circuit and adapted to the difficulties of handling the different constructions of these appliances concerning the removal of the oil. - It is also allowed to transfer the whole un-depolluted or partially depolluted cooling circuits for further treatment to an operator who is WEEELABEX certified for those types of TEE as long as all steps in the treatment process are carried out in encapsulated systems. - It is very unlikely that an operator receives complete depolluted appliances (so, describing the stream in the audit plan and audit report as already depolluted Air Conditioning Appliances shall not be allowed).
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