



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Pipeline and Hazardous
Materials Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

JUL 18 2013

Mr. Jerome A. Galante
Plunkett Cooney
38505 Woodward Ave.
Suite 2000
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

Ref. No. 13-0089

Dear Mr. Galante:

This responds to your letter requesting clarification of the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 CFR Parts 171-180) applicable to aerosols. In your letter, you state that one of your clients recently became aware that R-134a aerosol refrigerant recharge product was being shipped in Department of Transportation (DOT) Specification 2Q containers exceeding 180 psig at 130 °F. You ask whether the pressure in a DOT Specification 2Q container may exceed 180 psig at 130 °F.

The answer is no. The pressure in a DOT Specification 2Q container may not exceed 180 psig at 130 °F. Exceptions to this requirement may be authorized under the terms and conditions prescribed in a DOT special permit. A container authorized under a special permit bears a "DOT-SPXXXXX" mark in lieu of a "DOT 2Q" mark. You may wish to inform your client that they may file a complaint with our enforcement office at the following link: <http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/phmsa-ext/feedback/hazmatComplaintsRegsViolationsForm.jsp>.

I trust this satisfies your inquiry. Please contact us if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

T. Glenn Foster
Chief, Regulatory Review and Reinvention Branch
Standards and Rulemaking Division

PLUNKETT  COONEY
A CENTURY OF DISTINCTIVE SERVICE

Stevens
\$173.301
Cylinders
13-0089

April 18, 2013

Mr. Charles Betts
Director of Hazmat Standards
Office Hazardous Materials Standards, USDOT
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE East Bldg, Room E24-421, PHH-10
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Automotive Refrigerant Product in DOT 2Q Containers

Dear Mr. Betts:

I represent manufacturers and distributors of automotive servicing products. In late 2012, one of my clients became aware that R-134a aerosol refrigerant (R-134a) recharge products were being shipped in 2Q cans.

To our knowledge the regulations specified in 49 CFR 173.306(a)(3)(ii) only allows a 2Q metal container when the pressure does not exceed 180 psig at 130° F. Also to our knowledge, the only method to ship the material in question is by the use of a Special Permit (ref. SP10232, SP14188 and SP14286).

We have also recently noticed that certain vendors are currently using 2Q metal containers for limited quantity gases which exceed the 180 psig limit. If the industry were allowed to use the 2Q metal container, the benefit would be that the 2Q container is more readily available and less expensive than the containers authorized under the various Special Permits.

This issue is very important to my client. We respectfully request a Letter of Interpretation on this question from D.O.T. so that there can be no further confusion about whether shipping R-134a products that exceed 180 psig at 130° F in 2Q cans is permissible.

Very truly yours,

Jerry Galante

Jerome A. Galante

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