

COMPLIANCE BULLETIN

Installation of Heat Pumps

The demand for residential heat pumps has been growing, and with it so has the concern for proper installation and maintenance of the systems.

Ductless split heat pump systems that require the installation of interconnected refrigerant (ACR) piping between the indoor and outdoor components require the work of a certified Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanic.

This is a compulsory certified trade. Under the authority of the *Apprenticeship and Trades Qualifications Act* (Act), a trade that is specified as compulsory certified means that the person performing the work of the trade must:


- be a registered apprentice in that trade;
- hold a certificate of qualification in that trade;
- hold a temporary permit issued by the Director; or
- hold a certificate recognized by the Director pursuant to the regulations.

Other trades that may be involved in the installation and maintenance of these systems include Construction Electrician - to make the electrical connection to the main electrical panel, and Plumber - to connect the drain tubing lines to the building drain waste vent system.

Over the past several months we've become aware of a number of instances where this work is being completed by individuals without the proper certification. It is important to note that anyone found to be doing so is subject to a penalty of up to \$5,000 for a first offence and \$10,000 for a second offence.

Please ensure this information is shared with your staff.

If you have any question regarding this or any other matter relating to apprenticeship, please contact us at 1-800-494-5651 (within Nova Scotia), apprenticeship@novascotia.ca or visit our website at www.nsapprenticeship.ca.

 Please visit the Heat Pumps Set You Free website for more information, and a video about asking for a contractor's certification card: heatpumpssetyoufree.ca