

COOL SOLUTIONS TO A HOT TOPIC

Air conditioning qualifications and accreditations

www.imiawards.org.uk



AIR CONDITIONING QUALIFICATIONS AND ACCREDITATIONS FROM IMI AWARDS

IMI Awards' commitment to growth and development within the industry means that our entire collection of air conditioning qualifications and accreditations contain a Defra approved refrigerant handling unit. All technicians working with Mobile Air Conditioning Units must, as a minimum requirement, have completed one of these units to fulfil the European Union F-Gas regulations.

ABOUT THE PROGRAMMES

The needs and regulations of modern vehicle air conditioning technicians are evolving. In response to these requirements, IMI Awards, in partnership with automotive expert working groups, have developed air conditioning qualifications and accreditations. Successful technicians will be certified as meeting European Union F-Gas MAC regulations (Commission Regulation EC 842/2006 and the annex EC 307/2008).

QUALIFICATION OR ACCREDITATION?

There are two options available for individuals interested in developing their skills within air conditioning:

Vocationally Related Qualifications (VRQs) are developed to Government approved frameworks and consist of a learning programme over a period of time. These are primarily aimed at individuals who are entering the industry and can be undertaken on a full or part-time basis.

IMI Accreditations (ATA) are a proof of current competence assessment. They are developed by the IMI, in partnership with the industry, to agreed sector standards. These are aimed at individuals who are already established within the industry.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS

Successful individuals receive industry recognition for their achievements, proving their skills and knowledge to employers.

Individuals who achieve a VRQ will receive an IMI Awards certificate that demonstrates to an employer that they are compliant to work with F-Gas.

Individuals who achieve IMI Accreditation will be issued with a certificate, providing proof of current competence and ability to work to F-Gas regulations.

WHAT IS THE PROCESS?

Like all IMI Awards qualifications and accreditations, they are assessed through a combination of online testing plus oral and/or practical assessments. These vary depending on the route taken. Air Conditioning qualifications or accreditations must be undertaken at an IMI Awards Approved Centre.

COSTS

In addition to the assessment cost, set by the approved centres, there is a single fee which covers registration and certification.

- ▶ Level 3 Award in Automotive Refrigerant Handling - £22
- ▶ Level 3 Award in Cargo Refrigerant Handling - £22
- ▶ Level 3 Award in Automotive Air Conditioning Servicing and Maintenance - £38
- ▶ Level 3 Award in Automotive Air Conditioning and Climate Control Diagnosis & Repair - £55
- ▶ IMI Accreditation - £55

VOCATIONALLY RELATED QUALIFICATIONS (VRQS)

Vocational Related Qualifications (VRQs) consist of knowledge and skills-based modules, to certify technicians' skills and knowledge across both practical and online assessments.

▶ Level 3 Award in Automotive Refrigerant Handling

(ref: 500/677/1/0)

This single unit VRQ is suitable for competent MAC technicians with certified experience. They must have a sound understanding of components and required system operations to carry out servicing procedures for air conditioning systems.

▶ Level 3 Award in Cargo Refrigerant Handling

(ref: 600/1954/2)

This qualification provides technicians with the opportunity to further develop their MAC skills. It is also suitable for competent cargo refrigeration technicians. Individuals must have a good understanding of components and system operations, in order to carry out necessary procedures.

▶ Level 3 Award in Automotive Air Conditioning Servicing and Maintenance

(ref: 600/4331/3)

This qualification offers technicians the opportunity to further their skills and development. It is suitable for those who wish to expand their breadth of knowledge in routine servicing and maintenance of MAC systems. It is appropriate for certificated MAC individuals and provides career progression for achievers of the Level 3 Award in Automotive Refrigerant Handling.

▶ Level 3 Award in Automotive Air Conditioning and Climate Control Diagnosis & Repair

(ref: 600/4336/2)

This qualification allows experienced automotive technicians to enhance their skills, particularly those who wish to expand their knowledge in the diagnosis and repair of MAC and climate control systems.

“As manufacturers of diagnostic, workshop and air-conditioning equipment, Texa are extremely proud to offer our customers a comprehensive technical training programme that is backed by IMI Awards”

Steve Ball, Texa UK

IMI ACCREDITATION (ATA)

IMI Accreditation provides proof of current competence for individuals within the retail automotive industry. Accreditation gives recognition of individual skills, whilst allowing customers to feel confident in the knowledge that they are dealing with a competent professional.

A series of comprehensive knowledge and practical assessments must be successfully completed in order to become IMI Accredited. Once achieved, individuals will be entered onto the IMI Professional Register. An accreditation is valid for three years upon which time re-accreditation is required to prove current competence.

www.theimi.org.uk/ata

IMI Accreditation Air Conditioning is available at three career levels:

▶ Refrigerant Handler

(ref: IMIA/AC/1)

▶ Service Technician

(ref: IMIA/AC/2)

▶ Diagnostic Technician

(ref: IMIA/AC/3)

REFRESHING THE INDUSTRY

To find out more about air conditioning qualifications and accreditations from IMI Awards visit www.imiawards.org.uk



WOULD YOU LIKE TO OFFER THESE QUALIFICATIONS?

If you are already an IMI Awards approved centre, simply visit www.imiawards.org.uk > Centres > Approved Centre Access > Web Portal 2 > Operating Manual Forms > Form 6 (Application to Offer Additional Qualifications).

If you are not an approved centre, but are interested in offering these qualifications, please visit www.imiawards.org.uk > Centres > Become a Centre.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN TAKING AN AIR CONDITIONING AWARD?

If you are an individual who would like to achieve an air conditioning qualification or accreditation, visit www.imiawards.org.uk to find your nearest IMI Awards approved centre.

IMI Awards is the leading awarding body for the retail motor industry. We offer an unrivalled range of qualifications that demonstrate skills and competence; the foundation of a successful career.

IMI Awards is part of the Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI). The IMI is the professional association for individuals working in the retail motor industry, and the authoritative voice of the sector. IMI is transforming the automotive industry by setting, upholding and promoting professional standards – driving skills acquisition, establishing clearer career paths, and boosting public confidence. Visit www.theimi.org.uk for more information.

For a supportive partnership, specialist experience and the full range of automotive qualifications and accreditations, choose IMI Awards. To find out more, or to speak to one of our experienced team, call 01992 519 038 or visit www.imiawards.org.uk

IMI Awards

Fanshaws, Brickendon, Hertford SG13 8PQ

Tel: 01992 511521

Email: info@imiawards.org.uk

www.imiawards.org.uk

