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RE: Suspected Refrigerant Contamination in Reefer Containers

Since middle of October 2011, when the compressor rupture cases were known to the industry, Daikin has been conducting investigations to discover the root cause. Daikin analyzed the contents of the gas which was extracted from a compressor and R40(methyl chloride) was identified. The refrigerant was charged at Cat Lai Terminal in Vietnam recently.

R40 is a hazardous refrigerant which should never be used in a R134a refrigeration system. Due to the fact that boiling point of R40 is similar to that of R134a, it is very difficult to detect whether they are mixed in the refrigerant system.

R40 reacts with aluminum and creates Trimethyl Aluminum, and Trimethyl Aluminum is flammable.

Like other machine manufacturers, Daikin uses aluminum in some compressor components.

Therefore, Daikin recommends you not to perform any work on reefers, which had recently any refrigerant system work done in Vietnam, regardless of warranty repair or not.

Daikin provides a list of reefer machines which had any refrigerant system service work done in Vietnam under warranty, since January, 2011.

Please contact your Daikin sales representative if the data for a longer period is required.

Daikin is also investigating to find how to detect R40 in a refrigeration system and other safety solutions. We will advise when the details are available.

Yours Sincerely,

Syouhei Tsutsumi

Vice president Reefer Business
Daikin Refrigeration Division