

Consultation Strategy – Handling Automotive Flammable Refrigerant Gases

This document describes the stakeholder consultation that AUSMASA will undertake during the review and update of the [AUR20220 Certificate II in Automotive Air Conditioning Technology](#).

The rise in use of new, more environmentally friendly refrigerant gases – many of which are more flammable and hazardous – has created a need to ensure that Training Products reflect the evolving skills landscape in the automotive sector. The review is to ensure the relevant units of competency addressing automotive flammable refrigerant gases reflect the range of skills and knowledge required for handling the new, more highly flammable refrigerant gases, and that the qualification is fit for purpose and meets current and future industry requirements.

Project overview

The project will examine how current training products address the safe handling of flammable refrigerant gases in automotive air conditioning work. It will focus on whether the qualification and related units provide learners with the practical skills, technical knowledge and safety awareness needed for contemporary industry practice.

The project will also review industry standards, regulations, and codes of practice relating to automotive air conditioning service and repair to assist in developing key themes and implications for reviewing and updating the current Training Products.

This project seeks to consult widely across the automotive sector to ensure a full and comprehensive understanding of the requirements for addressing the skills and knowledge required by:

- automotive air conditioning technicians
- automotive technicians
- automotive HVAC technicians
- EV technicians
- other relevant occupations.

The findings of this consultation will assist in updating the appropriate units of competency in the [AUR20220 Certificate II in Automotive Air Conditioning Technology](#) and skill sets relating to refrigerant gases. The review will include the following units and skill sets:

- AURETU102 Recover vehicle refrigerants
- AURETU105 Retrofit automotive air conditioning and HVAC system
- AURETU104 Diagnose and repair air conditioning and HVAC systems
- AURETU001 Install air conditioning systems
- AURETU007 Overhaul air conditioning and HVAC system compressors
- AURETU103 Service air conditioning and HVAC systems.
- AURSS00041 Vehicle Air Conditioning Install and Overhaul Skill Set
- AURSS00042 Vehicle Air Conditioning Installation Skill Set

The review and update will include the training products listed in [Appendix A](#).

The findings of this consultation will assist in updating the appropriate units of competency in the [AUR20220 Certificate II in Automotive Air Conditioning Technology](#) and skill sets relating to refrigerant gases. The review will include the following units and skill sets:

Activity timeline

This project will begin in October 2025 and is scheduled to be completed in December 2026 following the promotion, implementation and monitoring of the endorsed training products.

Activity	Timeframe
Commencement	August 2025
Establish a Technical Committee (TC)	October 2025
Stakeholder consultation to inform the development of draft training products.	October 2025 – March 2026
Draft 1 Training Products approved by TC for public and government consultation	April 2026
Feedback from public and government consultation reviewed by TC	May 2026
Draft 2 Training Products (if required) approved by TC for public and government consultation*	June 2026
Final version Training Products approved by TC	June 2026
Senior Officials Check	July 2026
Preparation and submission to the Assurance Body	August - September 2026
Upload the endorsed training products to the National Training Register following endorsement of the training products by Skills Ministers	October 2026
Post TPA Endorsement – promotion, implementation and monitoring of the endorsed training products	October - December 2026

*A second round of consultation will be determined following a review of feedback received from the draft 1 training products. If a second round of consultation is required.

Stakeholder consultation

Key stakeholder groups have been identified for this project, and we will ensure each is contacted to seek their participation and gather feedback on the draft training products. Through broad public consultation, interested parties will be invited to contribute their insights, which will inform targeted consultations and guide the strategic development of the training materials.

During consultation, the technical committee will help identify any additional stakeholder groups that should be included. The identification and consultation with these stakeholder groups will offer more opportunities for feedback before the draft training products are released.

Interested stakeholders can visit the AUSMASA website project page as the primary source of information regarding the project status and activities. They can subscribe to project updates and view

draft training products when they are available for consultation. Feedback is welcome at any time and can be submitted via the project page links.

To keep up to date with project developments and be notified of consultation opportunities, stakeholders are encouraged to:

- visit the website [project page](#)
- [subscribe](#) to project updates
- [subscribe](#) to The Journey newsletter
- [follow](#) AUSMASA on LinkedIn.

Key stakeholder groups

A wide range of stakeholders will inform the project. It should be noted that consultation is not limited to the organisations listed below. All interested participants are encouraged to engage in this project's consultation opportunities and provide feedback when the draft training products are available.

1. Automotive SWAP members

Our Strategic Workforce Advisory Panels (SWAPs) are a vital source of industry knowledge, ensuring vocational education and training (VET) programs remain aligned with employer needs.

The Automotive SWAP brings together leaders from across the sector to provide insights on workforce challenges and opportunities. Their expertise directly informs AUSMASA's Workforce Plan and guides improvements to automotive training products within the VET system.

Through consultation with a broad range of industry representatives, the panel helps us understand and respond to the workforce demands of this rapidly evolving sector.

SWAP membership details can be found on the AUSMASA [webpage](#).

2. Industry Stakeholders

The following stakeholders represent a diverse cross-section of the industry. Consultation with these stakeholders will form a key part of the project process.

Table 1: Industry Stakeholders

Organisation	Location	Stakeholder type
Australian Automotive Aftermarket Association	National	Peak Body
Australian Forklift and Industrial Truck Association	National	Peak Body
MTAA – Motor Trades Association of Australia Limited	National	Peak Body
VACC – Victorian Automotive Chamber of Commerce	VIC	Peak Body
Automotive Training Board NSW	NSW	Government
Manufacturing Skills Queensland	QLD	Government
ARC	National	Industry Association
AMWU	National	Unions

Organisation	Location	Stakeholder type
CMV Truck & Bus	VIC	Employer
VASA - Vehicle Air-conditioning Specialists of Australasia	National	Industry Association
Mud Crab Mechanical	QLD	Employer
Isuzu UTE Australia	National	Employer
Repco Service – Service	National	Employer
BOSCH Service – Service	National	Employer
Kuruma Auto Air-conditioning and gas	QLD	Employer
MyCar – Service	National	Employer
Refrigerant Reclaim Australia	National	Peak Body
313 Automotive	National	Industry

3. Registered Training Organisations (RTOs)

This project will also consult with RTOs who have the training products on their scope of registration.

Table 2: RTOs

Organisation	Location
All RTOs listed in training.gov.au with the training product on scope.	National

4. Senior Responsible Officers (SROs), regulators and other JSCs

Table 3: SROs

Organisation	Location	Stakeholder type
Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade	Commonwealth	SRO
Skills Canberra	ACT	SRO/STA
Department of Education NSW, Skills Policy	NSW	SRO/STA
Northern Territory Government, Training Package Development	NT	SRO
Department of Trade, Employment and Training	QLD	SRO/STA
Skills SA	SA	SRO/STA
Skills Tasmania, Department of State Growth	TAS	SRO
Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions (DJSIR)	VIC	SRO
Department of Training and Workforce Development (DTWD) WA	WA	SRO

Organisation	Location	Stakeholder type
Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade	NT	STA
Victorian Skills Authority	VIC	STA

5. Jurisdictional distribution of stakeholders

Table 4: Jurisdiction distribution

Stakeholder type	National	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA
RTO	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Employer	✓								
Union	✓								
Industry association/peak body	✓								
State and Territory Officials	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Key stakeholder consultation mechanisms/approaches

The consultation approaches have been designed to be accessible for all stakeholders and provide a variety of ways to interact with and provide input into the development stages.

Consultation type: Technical Committee (TC)

- Set up on commencement of the project with tripartite representation, including:
 - stakeholders experienced in Automotive Air Conditioning Technology
 - regulatory body or state training authority representatives
 - union representation
- Will meet via monthly meetings throughout the project to provide technical input and advice.
- Governed by TC Terms of Reference.
- Will consider public and government feedback received and provide advice on required revisions to training products.
- Ensure all feedback documented in the project consultation log has been considered and a response formed and documented.

Consultation type: Workshop

- Outlining project details.
- Inviting broad consultation.

Consultation type: Public Consultation

- Minimum 4 weeks as per the Training Package Organising Framework (TPOF)
- Draft training products will be available via the AUSMASA website for stakeholders to review and provide feedback
- Feedback is encouraged from all those with relevant expertise and knowledge from all sectors

- Feedback will be gathered and documented in the consultation log.

Consultation type: Senior Officials Check

- A minimum of two weeks as per the [Training Package Organising Framework](#) (TPOF)
- Feedback will be gathered and documented in the consultation log.

Consultation type: Workplace Functional Analyses

- Conducting WFAs across states and territories to identify and describe the work undertaken by automotive air conditioning technicians and related roles.

Consultation type: Interviews with targeted stakeholder groups

- To inform the consultation strategy and validate the technical writing of the training products.
- 1:1 interviews with Subject Matter Experts (SMEs), either online or face to face, as identified in initial consultations.

Contact

For further details regarding this project:

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Version control

Version number	Date	Author	Reviewed by	Approved by	Description of change
1.0	17/09/2025	Annie Barry	Deliah Boni	Annie Barry	Document creation
2.0	25/09/2025	Johnathan Van Leeuwen	Lynley Bidlake	Annie Barry	Stakeholder tables populated
3.0	25/11/2025	Annie Barry	Nikki Muscat	Nikki Muscat	Change to SRO table
4.0	15/12/2025	Annie Barry	Nikki Muscat	Nikki Muscat	Updated industry stakeholder table
5.0	22/04/2026	Bill Scown-Cook	Annie Barry	Annie Barry	Update contact and project lead
6.0	17/06/2026	Andinet Shiferaw	Annie Barry	Annie Barry	Update stakeholder list

Appendix A – List of training products

Product type ¹ (Q, U or S)	Training product National Code	Training product National Title
Q	AUR20220	Certificate II in Automotive Air Conditioning Technology
U	AURETU102	Recover vehicle refrigerants
U	AURETU105	Retrofit automotive air conditioning and HVAC system
U	AURETU104	Diagnose and repair air conditioning and HVAC systems
U	AURETU001	Install air conditioning systems
U	AURETU007	Overhaul air conditioning and HVAC system compressors
U	AURETU103	Service air conditioning and HVAC systems
S	AURSS00041	Vehicle Air Conditioning Install and Overhaul Skill Set
S	AURSS00042	Vehicle Air Conditioning Installation Skill Set

¹ Indicate whether this is a qualification, unit of competency or skill set.