

## A3 Refrigerant Danger Safety Warning



**Do not use recovery machines to pump hydrocarbons, including A3 refrigerants.**

While most refrigerant recovery machines on the market can pump hydrocarbon refrigerants such as propane and butane, none of them can do so safely without creating an explosion hazard in the recovery tank.

A significant risk inherent with the recovery of hydrocarbon refrigerants is the potential to accidentally ingest air and pump this air into a tank with hydrocarbons. This compressed hydrocarbon and air mixture within the tank can create an explosion hazard. The accidental ingestion of air can come from many scenarios.

These scenarios include, but are not limited to the following:

- Faulty system components
- Improper system installation
- Improperly purged recovery hoses
- Worn hose gaskets
- Worn recovery machine compressor components

Industries that work with hydrocarbons avoid these risks by constantly venting air and hydrocarbon vapors while transferring in a pure liquid-only state. The transfer process only stops once the liquid hydrocarbon begins to spray out of the vent port of the receiving tank. This transfer process is the only way to make sure no air or other non-condensables are in the receiving tank.

The procedure explained above is not possible to perform when pumping hydrocarbon vapor with a recovery machine. Since there is no safe way to totally eliminate air being ingested during the recovery process, pumping hydrocarbons with any recovery machine should not be done under any circumstance.

**Always use “best practices” when it comes to safety and follow all proper training procedures!**