UEE11 Electrotechnology

**Training Package** 

# UEENEEJ102A Prepare and connect refrigerant tubing and fittings



Training and Education Support Industry Skills Unit Meadowbank



Product Code: 5624

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# **Table of Contents**

Introduction	
1. General Introduction	5
2. Using this learner guide	5
3. Prior knowledge and experience	7
4. Unit of competency overview	7
5. Assessment	8
6. References	9
7. Risk Assessment Terminology	10
Section 1 - Piping	
Skill practice 1.1: Piping	
Review questions	19
Section 2 - Cutting	21
Skill practice 2.1: Cutting and deburring.	22
Review questions	25
Section 3 - Bending	
Skill practice 3.1: Bending using a bending spring	
Skill practice 3.1: Bending using a bending spring Skill practice 3.2: Bending using a bending spring	
Section 3 - Bending Skill practice 3.1: Bending using a bending spring Skill practice 3.2: Bending using a bending spring Review questions	28 
Section 3 - Bending	28 
Skill practice 3.1: Bending using a bending spring Skill practice 3.2: Bending using a bending spring Review questions Section 4 - Joining Skill practice 4.1: Identify types & sizing of flare fittings	28 
<ul> <li>Section 3 - Bending</li> <li>Skill practice 3.1: Bending using a bending spring</li> <li>Skill practice 3.2: Bending using a bending spring</li> <li>Review questions</li> <li>Section 4 - Joining</li> <li>Skill practice 4.1: Identify types &amp; sizing of flare fittings</li> <li>Skill practice 4.2: Flaring copper tube</li> </ul>	27 28 31 34 
<ul> <li>Section 3 - Bending</li> <li>Skill practice 3.1: Bending using a bending spring</li> <li>Skill practice 3.2: Bending using a bending spring</li> <li>Review questions</li> <li>Section 4 - Joining</li> <li>Skill practice 4.1: Identify types &amp; sizing of flare fittings</li> <li>Skill practice 4.2: Flaring copper tube</li> <li>Skill practice 4.3: Flaring copper tube</li> </ul>	27 28 31 34 
<ul> <li>Section 3 - Bending</li> <li>Skill practice 3.1: Bending using a bending spring</li> <li>Skill practice 3.2: Bending using a bending spring</li> <li>Review questions</li> <li>Section 4 - Joining</li> <li>Skill practice 4.1: Identify types &amp; sizing of flare fittings</li> <li>Skill practice 4.2: Flaring copper tube</li> <li>Skill practice 4.3: Flaring copper tube</li> <li>Skill practice 4.4: Refrigeration system access valves</li> </ul>	27 28 31 34 <b>34</b> 
Section 3 - Bending Skill practice 3.1: Bending using a bending spring Skill practice 3.2: Bending using a bending spring Review questions Section 4 - Joining Skill practice 4.1: Identify types & sizing of flare fittings Skill practice 4.2: Flaring copper tube Skill practice 4.3: Flaring copper tube Skill practice 4.4: Refrigeration system access valves Review questions	27 28 31 34 
<ul> <li>Section 3 - Bending</li> <li>Skill practice 3.1: Bending using a bending spring</li> <li>Skill practice 3.2: Bending using a bending spring</li> <li>Review questions</li> <li>Section 4 - Joining</li> <li>Skill practice 4.1: Identify types &amp; sizing of flare fittings</li> <li>Skill practice 4.2: Flaring copper tube</li> <li>Skill practice 4.3: Flaring copper tube</li> <li>Skill practice 4.4: Refrigeration system access valves</li> <li>Review questions</li> <li>Section 5 – Soldering and Brazing Equipment</li> </ul>	27 
<ul> <li>Section 3 - Bending</li> <li>Skill practice 3.1: Bending using a bending spring</li> <li>Skill practice 3.2: Bending using a bending spring</li> <li>Review questions</li> <li>Section 4 - Joining</li> <li>Skill practice 4.1: Identify types &amp; sizing of flare fittings</li> <li>Skill practice 4.2: Flaring copper tube</li> <li>Skill practice 4.3: Flaring copper tube</li> <li>Skill practice 4.4: Refrigeration system access valves</li> <li>Review questions</li> <li>Section 5 - Soldering and Brazing Equipment</li> <li>Skill practice 5.1: Oxy-acetylene plant set up and shut down</li> </ul>	27 28 31 34 
<ul> <li>Section 3 - Bending</li> <li>Skill practice 3.1: Bending using a bending spring</li> <li>Skill practice 3.2: Bending using a bending spring</li> <li>Review questions</li> <li>Section 4 - Joining</li> <li>Skill practice 4.1: Identify types &amp; sizing of flare fittings</li> <li>Skill practice 4.2: Flaring copper tube</li> <li>Skill practice 4.3: Flaring copper tube</li> <li>Skill practice 4.4: Refrigeration system access valves</li> <li>Review questions</li> <li>Section 5 - Soldering and Brazing Equipment</li> <li>Skill practice 5.1: Oxy-acetylene plant set up and shut down</li> <li>Skill practice 5.2: MAPP gas equipment set up &amp; shut down</li> </ul>	27 28 31 34 <b>37</b> 40 40 40 40 40 43 46 45 46 49 57 57 61 64

Section 6 – Silver Solder
Skill practice 6.1: Silver solder alloys, fluxes and associated MSDS
Review questions
Section 7 – Soldering Techniques75
Skill practice 7.1: Dry nitrogen application77
Skill practice 7.2: Copper to copper soldering techniques
Skill practice 7.3: Copper to copper tube forming assembly job
Skill practice 7.4: Copper to dissimilar metal soldering techniques
Skill practice 7.5: Copper to dissimilar metal tube forming assembly job 92
Review questions
Sample Assessments
A. Sample Theory Test 1100
C. Sample Theory Test 2104
D. Sample practical test
Answers
Review questions
Theory Test 1
Theory Test 2
Successful Performance of Competency 123
Procedures in Completing Workplace Evidence
Resource Evaluation Form

UEENEEJ102A Prepare And Connect Refrigerant Tubing And Fittings



Notes:



Page 12 of 130 © TAFE NSW (Training & Education Support, Industry Skills Unit Meadowbank) 2012

# Section 1 - Piping

# Purpose

In this section you will learn to describe and identify various types of tubing and pipe insulation.

# Topics

- Refrigeration and water grade copper tube
- Maintaining cleanliness (always capped, do not blow out with mouth etc)
- Soft and hard drawn tube
- Tubing applications (soft, hard, pair coil, water grade etc)
- Tube qualities diameter, wall thickness (gauge) and pressure ratings (410A etc)
- Pipe insulation (types tube, slit tube, sheet etc and joining methods glue, tape etc)
- Other tube materials (bundy, steel, aluminium, brass).

# **Learning Objectives**

At the end of this section you should be able to:

- State the differences between refrigeration grade and water grade tubing
- Explain the need to maintain tube cleanliness
- Describe the terms "hard" drawn and "soft" drawn in relation to copper tube
- List suitable applications for the various types of tubing/piping
- Identify various tube diameters, wall thicknesses and their respective pressure ratings
- Identify the various types of pipe insulation and list approved methods of fixing and joining
- List other metals used for tubing in the trade and state their common uses.

# References

You will find the technical information to undertake this section in the following references:

# **Types of Tubing**

- ARAC, 4th Edition, Volume 1, Chapter 9 Specialised Tools
- AS/NZS 1571 Copper Seamless Tubes for Air Conditioning and Refrigeration
- AS 1432 Copper Tubes for Water, Gas and Sanitation
- Kembla Copper Refrigeration and air Conditioning tube brochure.

### **Tubing Cleanliness**

- ARAC, 4th Edition, Volume 1, Chapter 9 (See "Annealed Copper Tubing" for details)
- AS/NZS 1571 Copper Seamless Tubes for Air Conditioning and Refrigeration.

# Learner exercises

Skill Practice 1.1: Piping

# **Additional Information**

The most common types of refrigerant tubing are:

- **Annealed** (soft drawn) has been heated to a "cherry red" (approximately 650°C) and then allowed to cool or quenched which makes it flexible, and easy to bend and flare. Copper tube used for refrigeration purposes is capped and dehydrated, which is essential to ensure that no contaminants are introduced into the system during installation or repair. Sold in rolls/coils and needs to be rolled out carefully so as not to distort the tubing. Type B tubing (AS 1432) is used for most applications.
- **Hard drawn** used in commercial refrigeration and air conditioning applications. The tubing is hard and stiff and therefore should not be bent. Available in 6 metre lengths.
- **Steel** (bundy tube) used in domestic refrigeration and with ammonia systems because of ammonia's reaction with non-ferrous metals. Normally has a welded seam running down the centre of the tubing.
- **Stainless steel** is very strong and resistant to corrosion. Used extensively in connection with food processing (ice cream, milk handling). Can be used with ammonia refrigeration.
- **Flexible** is as it says, flexible. Used were refrigeration lines must be kept flexible or where there are large amounts of vibration/movement present. They are metal or nylon braded with a resilient outer covering of polyethylene (motor vehicle air conditioning).

**Note:** All these tubing materials are suitable for use with all common refrigerants, except that copper and brass must not be used with ammonia, because in the presence of moisture, ammonia will attack non-ferrous metals.

Actual Metric Tube size (mm)	Safe Working Pressure (kPa)	Safe Working Pressure (kPa)	Safe Working Pressure (kPa)	R410A Compliant
Outside Diameter x Wall Thickness	@ 50°C	@ 65°C	@ 75°C	
6.35 x 0.81	10 635	9 545	8 820	Yes
6.35 x 0.91	12 140	10 900	10 070	Yes
7.94 x 0.81	9 430	8 465	7 820	Yes
9.52 x 0.81	6 800	6 105	5 640	Yes
9.52 x 0.91	7 720	6 930	6 400	Yes
12.70 x 0.81	4 995	4 480	4 140	Yes
12.70 x 0.91	5 655	5 075	4 685	Yes
15.88 x 0.81	3 945	3 539	3 266	Yes
15.88 x 1.02	5 030	4 515	4 170	Yes
19.05 x 1.14	4 670	4 190	3 870	Yes
19.05 x 1.22	5 015	4 500	4 160	Yes
22.22 x 1.63	5 795	5 205	4 805	Yes
28.58 x 1.83	5 015	4 500	4 160	Yes
34.92 x 2.03	4 <b>52</b> 5	4 065	3 755	Yes @ 3800 kPa shut off Limit
41.28 x 2.41	4-550	4 080	3 770	Yes @ 3800 kPa shut off Limit

### PIPE WALL THICKNESS AND SAFE WORKING PRESSURES

R410A Pressure  $@65^{\circ}C = 4131kPa$ 

### Table courtesy of Kembla Tube and Fittings

# Skill practice 1.1: Piping

# Task

To identify and list various tubing types and their suitable applications.

# Objectives

At the completion of this skill practice, you should be able to:

- Describe the difference between "soft" drawn and "hard" drawn copper tube
- Identify various tube diameters •
- List suitable applications for various types of tubing/piping •
- List other metals used in the industry and state their common uses.

# **Planning the Skill Practice**

# Equipment

Your teacher will provide you with the details of the equipment to be used, for example:

- Copper tubing both "soft" and "hard" drawn in a variety of sizes. (E.g. 9 mm, 12 • mm, 16 mm, etc)
- Copper tubing suitable for high pressure refrigerants (R410A etc) •
- Various examples of pipe insulation (tube, slit tube, sheet etc) •
- Pipe insulation glue and tape .
- Various examples of other metals at least three examples to be identified (e.g. • bundy tube, aluminium tube, brass tube, flexible tube).

# Safety

### **Remember:**

- In the workshop always wear: safety glasses, safety • boots, hair protection and suitable clothing
- Know where the First Aid station is •
- No running or horseplay
- Be careful how you lift heavy objects •
- Be careful of tools with sharp points •
- Keep work area and floor area clear: then there will be fewer • accidents.



# **Risk Assessment**

Identify any hazards, list the supervision level (D, G or B), list the risk class (A, B or C) and list control measures required in the table below:

Hazard Identification	Supervision Level	Risk Class	<b>Control Measures</b>

# **Carrying Out the Skill Practice**

### **Procedures**



Copper tubing sample	Soft or hard drawn	Diameter	Wall thickness	Suitable for R410A	Common application
А	YES	9 mm	0.9 mm	NO	Domestic Air Conditioning
В					
С					
D					
E	U	2			
F					

Other metal samples	Common application
A	
В	
С	
D	

# **Completion of the Skill Practice**

1. List and describe any safety hazards which may have occurred during the skill practice that were NOT identified during the risk assessment and the actions used to control the risk.

2. List and describe any unforeseen event that occurred during the skill practice.

3. Describe the key points you have learnt while carrying out this skill practice.

# UEENEEJ102A Prepare And Connect Refrigerant Tubing And Fittings Review questions These questions will help you revise what you have learnt in this topic. 1. Name four (4) commonly used refrigerant piping materials? •

3. Copper tubing can not be used with ammonia refrigerant. In your own words, please explain why.

- 4. When measuring the diameter of refrigerant copper tube, do you measure the inside or outside diameter of the refrigerant tubing?
- 5. How should copper tube be stored?
- 6. Why is refrigeration grade copper tubing dehydrated and capped during manufacture?

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