



## Maracoonda Automotive: Steering ahead of the industry's curve

Since 1980, Queensland's Maracoonda Automotive has been helping Australians get their hands on the look, feel and hauling power of big American pickup trucks, converting U.S. imports to right-hand drive.

As one of the longest-serving businesses in the field, the Maracoonda team has seen many technology changes over the years, however one of particular interest has been the arrival of next generation Hydrofluoroolefin (HFO) refrigerants in Australia.

The Australian Government recently announced a phase-down of the use of Hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) refrigerants and consequently HFOS have been introduced as the new industry standard. Most Australian cars still operate with R134a air conditioning systems, a HFC with a high Global Warming

Potential (GWP) of 1430. American and European manufacturers are considerably ahead of Australia, with HFO-compatible air conditioning systems already the standard.

Seeing an increasing number of imported vehicles with this new technology, Maracoonda decided to take action and embrace the future refrigerant. Managing Director and Head of Research & Development, Ross Anderson worked quickly with BOC to seek advice and order the HFO refrigerant Solstice® yf (R1234yf) for use in mobile air-conditioning systems.

"We purchased the first fully automatic recovery and charge station in Australia to handle R1234yf and are now using the new gas to service many of our cars," explains Ross. "It has a similar cooling capacity and energy efficiency to HFC gases, but is better

for the environment - with a significantly lower GWP of less than 1."

Adopting the new industry standard ahead of time has yielded a number of benefits for Maracoonda, giving them an edge over competitors, while reinforcing the company's commitment to best practice in the auto industry and looking for more sustainable solutions.

"I've learned that it's always a good idea to get ahead of the curve when it comes to technology and legislation," says Ross. "It's a good way to future-proof your business - and in this case, the shift to HFO R1234yf is a step in the right direction for the environment too."

**For more information on Solstice® yf (R1234yf) visit [www.boc.com.au](http://www.boc.com.au) or ring 131 262.**