REFRIGERATORS

Gas/electric refrigerators need at least 24 hours continuous running before they will attain their maximum operating temperatures. It is essential that you always have your refrigerator level when operating from either gas, 240 V or 12 V. Whilst the vehicle is travelling and is slightly out of level this will affect the amount of refrigeration produced but the affect should be minimal. When you are parked beside the road or in a camping spot it is essential that your vehicle be level while it is operating. If you cannot level your vehicle then you should switch the refrigerator off as continual operation of the refrigerator in an out of level condition can damage some parts of the refrigerator. You should refer to the warranty and instruction manual as supplied with your vehicle for further information on refrigerators.

When your RV is stored for any period of time your refrigerator should be completely dry inside and the door should be left slightly open to allow air circulation in the refrigerator otherwise mould could build up on the inside surfaces of the refrigerator. It is important that the ventilation fitted to your RV refrigerator must at all times be clear of any blockage and these vents must not be taped over or blocked for any reason. In the case of camper trailers and poptops, the refrigerator should not be operated whilst the vehicle is stored with the top closed. It is allowable to operate the refrigerator whilst travelling when the top is closed as air pressure will allow circulation of air inside the vehicle. However, when the vehicle is stored with the top down it may be possible for a build up of heat inside the vehicle which is undesirable.

The refrigerator must be operated in a reasonably level position. The cooling process of your refrigerator is dependant upon the refrigerator being level in both directions. It is important that when stationary the vehicle should be levelled as close as possible to level in both directions. If the vehicle is not level in both directions the performance of the refrigerator will be seriously impeded or it may not operate at all.

The refrigerator in your Recreational Vehicle is usually designed to operate from LP Gas, 12 V or 240 V. In the case of these absorption refrigerators it is extremely important to ensure that all ventilation to the refrigerator is maintained in a clear and unblocked condition. Overheating of the refrigerator components can lead to poor refrigeration in the cabinet.

When operating your refrigerator on 12 V ensure that a 6mm wire is connected from the plug on the back of your car to the battery of your towing vehicle. ANYTHING LESS THAN A 6MM may cause a build up of heat in the wire and a loss of refrigeration in your RV.

The vehicle must be level in both directions (length & width) for your RV refrigerator to operate efficiently. If parking your vehicle for more than 15 minutes ensure that the vehicle is level. If it is not level then switch off the gas or 12 V supply as the refrigeration system will not operate. Never allow the refrigerator to operate from 12 volt for more than 30 minutes with the engine of your car switched off otherwise you could flatten the battery of your car.

Heat Pump or Compressor Refrigerators

These refrigerators draw less 12 V current than absorption refrigerators and therefore they can be left switched on for longer periods of time. However with most 12 V refrigerators the running time on a fully charged battery varies depending upon the temperature of the day and a 12 V battery can last between 24 and 48 hours before it needs recharging. Compressor refrigerators will operate up to 30 degrees out of level.