

## *DOC'S BLOCKS*

# AUTOMOTIVE AIR CONDITIONING REPAIR

### **Question:**

Can there be a restriction in the receiver dryer?

### **Answer:**

The receiver dryer serves three purposes. It is a point of expansion for the refrigerant, may contain a sight glass, and has a drying agent for the refrigerant called desiccant.

One indication that the dryer is contaminated is the sight glass will be dirty on the inside of the dryer and flow can't be seen. The screen, inside of the dryer helps to prevent foreign material from passing through to the TXV. Discolored oil will cover the glass.

When a compressor grinds up, material will leave the compressor and enter the condenser. Usually, the condenser is flushed out and is assumed to be good. When the unit is reassembled, serviced, and run for a time, the receiver dryer will freeze up in a short period of time when the unit is turned on. That is because material has moved out of the condenser and into the dryer, restricting the screen.

In most cases, the technician will condemn the receiver dryer as being defective. It was not recognized that the contamination came from the condenser and the condenser needs to be replaced. Rarely will a receiver dryer be defective. If it doesn't rattle when taken out of the box, it isn't defective.

