



# EFCTC NEWSLETTER

## An update on fluorocarbons and sulfur hexafluoride

**ISSUE 40 - November 2006**

### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE F-GAS REGULATION DISCUSSED AT AN EU COMMISSION WORKSHOP

A stakeholders' meeting was organized by the EU Commission to discuss measures to implement the new EU [F-Gases Regulation 842\(2006\)](#), which entered into force in July 2006.

A number of issues of concern were raised, for example, the labelling of products and equipment containing HFCs, or training and certification of operators of refrigeration equipment.

[EFCTC presented](#) some particularly important issues:

- **Consistency:** the Commission needs to ensure that the Regulation is implemented consistently in all its aspects, across Member States and with [ODS Regulation](#).
- **Transparency:** the Regulation is technically complex and stakeholders should be involved in the discussion of its implementation, both at Member State and at EU level.
- **Recycling:** F-gases should not be classified as waste when they are removed from equipment in order to be transported to recycling sites without too much administrative burden. Used refrigerants to be purified and reused (Recycled or Reclaimed) should qualify as products.
- **Labelling:** adequate provisions exist in the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR), via the [ASHRAE designation](#) (accepted industry nomenclature). The MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheet) is the appropriate place to provide information.
- **Review:** due to the complexity of the market (F-gases and alternatives; numerous very different applications and operating conditions), it will be appropriate to [focus on total system performance](#), taking into account energy efficiency, rather than singling out a GWP value. This would imply to use [LCA](#) (Life Cycle Assessments) in order to properly include energy related emissions.

Member States are currently in the process of implementing the Regulation (for example UK).

EFCTC PR: [Stakeholders meeting on F-Gas legislation: An important step for its implementation](#)



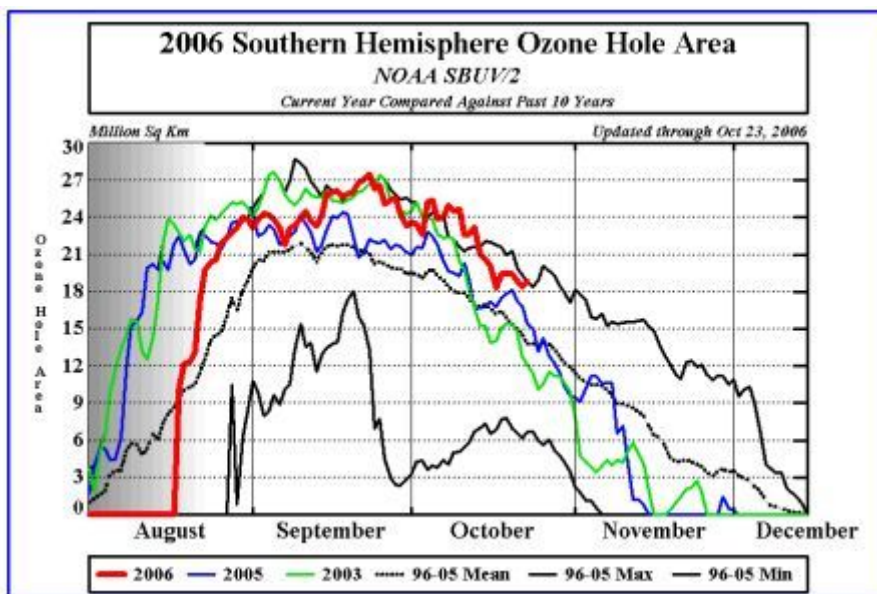
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### THE 2006 ANTARCTIC OZONE HOLE: A RECORD SIZE DUE TO UNUSUALLY LOW TEMPERATURES

As a result of the [Montreal Protocol](#), concentrations of ODS ([ozone depleting substances](#)) in the stratosphere have been decreasing since their peak in the late 1990s: [WMO Scientific Assessment 2006](#).

This year, the ozone hole started later than normal but grew rapidly from mid August; in the end of September its average area was 27.4 million square kilometres.

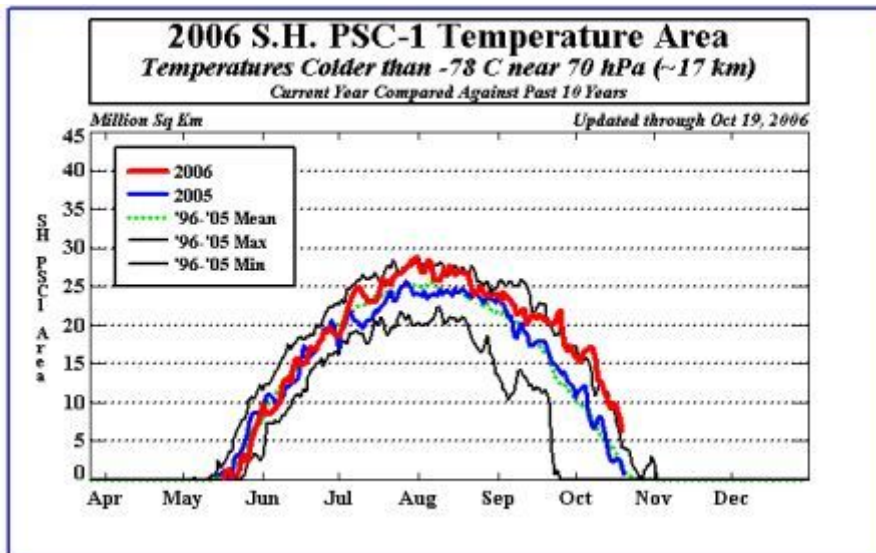


Commenting the fact that the [temperature over the Antarctic](#) was unusually low this year, NASA added that, "The temperature of the Antarctic stratosphere causes the severity of the ozone hole to vary from year to year. Colder than average temperatures result in larger and deeper ozone holes, while warmer temperatures lead to smaller ones."



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The [EFCTC Factsheet on the Recovery of the Ozone Layer](#) explains that recurrence of the Antarctic ozone hole should cease by the middle of this century.

Source : [http://www.nasa.gov/vision/earth/lookingatearth/ozone\\_record.html](http://www.nasa.gov/vision/earth/lookingatearth/ozone_record.html)

### REPLACING CFC CHILLERS WITH HFC CHILLERS SAVES ENERGY AND REDUCES PEAK ENERGY DEMAND

Besides the positive contribution of [replacing CFCs with HFCs](#), CFC chiller replacement projects can lead to considerable energy savings by combining three factors:

- Significant improvements in chiller efficiencies have occurred in the last 20 years (*"Today's chillers use about 35% less electricity compared to average chillers produced just two decades ago and the best chiller today uses half the electricity of the average 1976 chiller."* – [UNEP Report of the TEAP Chiller Task Force](#) - May 2004).
- Cooling load reduction measures such as lighting retrofits as a result of considerable improvements in the performance of commercial fluorescent lighting systems.
- Thermal energy storage, for example by storing ice, can be used to shift the demand to off-peak hours.



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As a result of these direct energy savings, CFC chiller replacement projects benefit the climate by reducing peak demand, which is most often from low efficiency power plants and therefore generates higher CO<sub>2</sub>/kWh. Indeed, [commercial air conditioning](#) is a major contributor to peak demand in many countries.

Source:

<http://www.calmac.com/downloads/Oct05%20Chillers%20+%20Lighting%20+%20TES.pdf>

### ENERGY EFFICIENT COLD STORAGE CELLS, ESSENTIAL IN MANY FIELDS

Cold storage is an essential link in the [Cooling Chain](#), for the storage of perishable or frozen goods and products.

Cold storage cells or refrigerated cabinets must be optimized already at the design stage, paying special attention to [energy efficiency](#) by specifying high quality components and an intelligent control system for the refrigeration system, and [high performance insulation](#) for the walls.

Cold storage cells are very versatile in use. They can provide the right temperature and humidity, even in very warm production areas.

The use of cold storage cells allows food, drugs, temperature-sensitive goods to be kept for long periods of time or ready for transport. This starts at the producer site, in large distribution centers, and finishes in supermarkets, shops, or in the catering trade.

They are also used for drug storage, for example, in hospitals or pharmacies, or to protect expensive computer technology in server rooms.

Source: [http://www.ikk-tradefair.com/english/pressreleases/download/ikk\\_2006\\_07\\_4.pdf](http://www.ikk-tradefair.com/english/pressreleases/download/ikk_2006_07_4.pdf)

### NEW ON OUR SITE

[Press Release](#) - Stakeholders meeting on F-Gas legislation: An important step for its implementation.

Press Release - EFCTC urges further action to prevent illegal imports of CFCs and products regulated by the Montreal Protocol.



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## **NEW LINKS ADDED**

### **EUROPE – EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS**

#### **Action Plan for Energy Efficiency**

[http://ec.europa.eu/energy/action\\_plan\\_energy\\_efficiency/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/energy/action_plan_energy_efficiency/index_en.htm)

DG Energy & Transport dedicated web page