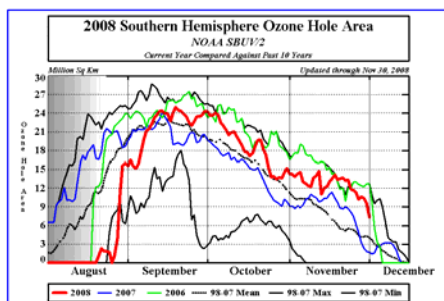


## An update on fluorocarbons and sulfur hexafluoride

**ISSUE 63 – January 2009**

### **OZONE HOLE IN 2008**

While the ozone hole reached 27 million km<sup>2</sup> in 2008 (red line on the diagram), against 25 million km<sup>2</sup> the year before (in blue), it was still under the 29 million km<sup>2</sup> recorded in 2006 (in green).



Because of the [ODS](#) (ozone depleting substances) phase-out mandated by the [Montreal Protocol](#), their stratospheric concentration has started to decrease, starting ozone layer recovery. However, due to their atmospheric [lifetime](#), it will still take decades before the ozone hole vanishes.

In the meantime, cold [temperatures over the pole](#) are the most important factor in the fluctuation of the size of the ozone hole from year-to-year.

The hole typically reaches its maximum extent in September or early October, and then dissipates in November.

Sources : [http://ec.europa.eu/research/headlines/news/article\\_08\\_11\\_06\\_en.html](http://ec.europa.eu/research/headlines/news/article_08_11_06_en.html)  
<http://www.eponline.com/articles/69129/>

### **FUNDING HCFC ACCELERATED PHASE-OUT WILL BENEFIT CLIMATE**

At the November 2008 MOP (Meeting of the Parties) of the Montreal Protocol, further funding has been decided to provide necessary resources to Developing Countries to help them to comply with the accelerated HCFC phase-out schedule decided last year at the September 2007 MOP.

Recognizing that this accelerated phase out could have a [significant climate impact](#) (more than 50 % of the Kyoto protocol target), funding was critical, as there is a growing understanding that the ODS phase-out also has a beneficial implication for the climate.

## An update on fluorocarbons and sulfur hexafluoride

Parties also discussed the destruction of stockpiles and banks of ODS stored in old equipment such as air conditioning units and foams, and agreed to undertake further studies on destruction and on initiating pilot projects including collection, storage and destruction.

Source :

<http://unep.org/Documents.Multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=550&ArticleID=5997&l=en>

### **WORLD'S LARGEST ALUMINUM ROLLING PLANT CONVERTED FROM HCFC-22 TO AN HFC BLEND**

The market availability of virgin HCFC refrigerants for service purposes will be suspended by January 1, 2010. Facing in particular the [HCFC-22 phase-out challenge](#), the German aluminum rolling plant Aluminium Norf, the world's largest aluminium rolling and remelt plant, [decided to convert](#) its three cooling systems, used to cool the hot and cold rolling mills of its aluminum rolling plant, to an HFC blend.



The factory operates three water chiller systems for cooling the hot and cold rolling mills. In the hot rolling mill there are two air-cooled water chiller systems of a total output around 800 kW, and the cold rolling mill is cooled by a water-cooled water chiller system with an output of 400 kW.

The company is the world's largest aluminum rolling and remelt plant and produces hot- and cold-rolled strips of aluminum for use in a range of applications including automotive body parts, or litho sheets.



# EFCTC NEWSLETTER

## An update on fluorocarbons and sulfur hexafluoride



### NEW ON FIGAROO.ORG

#### CONTINUOUS MONITOR FOR F-GAS LEAKS

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A key element of the [F-Gas Regulation](#) is to prevent and minimize F-Gas emissions. Leakages should be prevented and repaired once detected.

Leakage detection systems as required under Art 3(3) of the Regulation meeting all requirements to provide automatic leak detection are not available yet.

Fixed continuous gas detection systems however represent a useful solution. Installed in machinery rooms, they continuously measure F-Gas concentrations and will alert if a critical pre-selected concentration level in the room air is exceeded. Their accuracy and reliability will help to reduce inspection costs and to minimize the costs associated with leaks and/or system downtime.

Unlike mechanical devices, they are non-intrusive and will not interfere with the use of other equipment.

They will alert operators quickly and effectively, as soon as a leak has been detected. As they are calibrated, they can detect leaks and raise alarms at several different user defined gas concentration levels, enabling to recognise the difference between small and larger leaks.

In terms of record keeping, operators are further aided by the fact that a data logging facility can record and store information on alarms and gas concentration levels.



# EFCTC NEWSLETTER

## An update on fluorocarbons and sulfur hexafluoride

### **NEW ON FLUOROCARBONS.ORG**

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#### **Regulatory developments – Ozone Depletion Regulation**

A new page [Implementation](#) has been added, presenting the “Recommendations from the Industry Summit on Illegal Trade in ODS” - Brussels 2nd December 2008.

### **NEW LINKS ADDED**

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<http://www.refrige.com>

**Refrige.com** celebrates three years of “bringing the HVAC and Refrigeration community all into one place. There is also a [Spanish version](#)