



EFCTC NEWSLETTER

An update on fluorocarbons and sulfur hexafluoride

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EU COMMISSION TO TACKLE THE DESTRUCTION OF BANKS OF ODS AND F-GASES

In order to minimize the emissions of [ODS](#) and [F-gases](#) from products and equipment at the end of their life, the Commission's DG CLIMA has launched a tender for an in-depth study on "Further assessment of policy options for the management and destruction of banks of ozone depleting substances (ODS) and fluorinated greenhouse gases (F-gases) in the EU", including policy recommendations.

Based on technical and economic data on ODS and F-gas banks, and on existing legislation and waste management practices at EU level and in Member States, the scope of the study is to evaluate policy options aiming at the effective management of ODS and F-gas banks, including their impact assessments.

The study will also include a full cost/benefit analysis of making recovery or destruction mandatory for a specific list of products and equipment containing ODS and F-gases, to be agreed with the Commission.

As potential options span a number of other policy areas, a Commission steering group and a key stakeholders advisory board will be envisaged.

The tenders will be open on July 14th, and a duration of 14 months is allowed for the report.

Source:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/climat/pdf/calls/specifications_en_10003.pdf

EUROPEAN HEAT PUMP ASSOCIATION PLEADING FOR KEEPING HFCs

In a paper titled "*In search of the perfect refrigerant*" and published in a recent [EHPA Newsletter](#), the director of the [Swedish Heat Pump Association](#) claims that a [ban on the use of HFCs](#) would not only be very difficult to handle for industry but might also jeopardise the ambitious targets for improving energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gases emissions.

The challenge is to find a refrigerant having a low GWP, meeting the technical and practical usual requirements, while safeguarding the present energy efficiency of the various systems in operation.

Considering that there is no perfect refrigerant for all types of applications, prospects for the future are that, in order to fulfill the different required needs, HFCs with a much [smaller refrigerant charge](#), alternative refrigerants and new chemical blends will all be necessary.



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The share of each of these refrigerants should be defined by specific applications needs, taking into consideration full environmental [life cycle assessments](#).

Source : http://www.ehpa.org/uploads/media/EHPA_Newsletter_10_2.pdf

US REPORT ON GLOBAL REGULATIONS AND ISSUES ON HFOs AND ALTERNATIVE REFRIGERANTS

The US AHRTI (Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Technology Institute - [Note](#)) has published a [Report](#) on Regulatory Review on Barriers to Use of HFOs and Other Low-GWP Refrigerants.

As concerns about the global warming potential ([GWP](#)) of HFCs are increasing, low-GWP refrigerants have been advocated (see also [EFCTC's position on HFOs](#)). Among the options being evaluated are CO₂, ammonia, hydrocarbons, and newly developed HFOs (hydrofluoroolefins). However, the flammability, toxicity, and [safety](#) of some of these alternative refrigerants limit their applicability.

Differences in regulation among regions and application and the diversity of relevant regulatory instruments create uncertainty and complexity for the industry.

The report presents the results of a comprehensive review of the regulatory issues in the United States, the EU and Japan, and specifically of the regulatory barriers and issues that may impact the use of CO₂, ammonia, hydrocarbons, and lower-flammability fluids such as HFO-1234yf.

The key findings are summarized by region for each refrigerant type, and within each region, the categories of stationary refrigeration, stationary air conditioning, and vehicle air conditioning applications are addressed.

[Note](#): The Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration Technology Institute (ARTI) has been renamed the (AHRTI).

Source : <http://www.ahrinet.org/Pages/ShowMeMore.aspx?src=single&lpk=1308>

EUROPEAN COLD CHAIN ALLIANCE BENCHMARKING STUDY COVERS ENERGY COSTS

In order to compare public refrigerated warehouses performances, the European Division of the Global Cold Chain Alliance ([GCCA](#)) is carrying out a benchmarking study for the European public refrigerated warehousing industry.

Besides general business and operations oriented data, the benchmarking will cover energy costs ([refrigeration](#), blast freezing and other).



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In order to increase its coverage and interest, the benchmarking will be open to members and non-members companies, which will have the opportunity to benchmark their own performance with the European cold storage industry on all major operational issues.

In the fall (probably 6-7 September in Brussels) we will set up a meeting and create the opportunity to discuss the results, decide if another analysis on the same input can/has to be made, and what the next step should be. ONLY benchmarking participants will be invited for this meeting.

Source : <http://www.gcca.org/hq/Europeanbenchmarking.html>

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