



EFCTC NEWSLETTER

An update on fluorocarbons and sulfur hexafluoride

ISSUE 13 - May 2004

EP First reading of F-gas Regulation: EFCTC welcomes the overall outcome beneficial to the environment and the society

EFCTC notes that the [First Reading amendments](#) on the F-Gas Regulation, adopted on 31 March 2004 by the European Parliament have endorsed the Commission's approach aiming at regulating and controlling their responsible use and containment. Not only are F-gases are often the most energy efficient solution, but without them the objectives of the Montreal Protocol for the protection of the ozone layer could be missed, as could be the opportunity to decrease the climate impact of systems and applications where they are used.

However EFCTC regrets that the same emphasis on containment was not given for Mobile Air Conditioning (MAC). Alternative solutions will not be necessarily more efficient than the use of the energy efficient "enhanced HFC systems" and these alternatives have not yet been tested on a real car fleet.

EFCTC further welcomes the fact that the Regulation will be based on internal market legal base (art 95) as proposed by the Commission. This will help to harmonize European legislation, prevent market distortions and contribute to a better achievement of the regulation objectives

See [EFCTC Press Release](#) and the [Regulatory Page](#).

POLAND IMPLEMENTS MONTREAL PROTOCOL RULES ON CFCs

The Polish government has adopted a strategy to phase out ozone-depleting CFCs in freezers, air conditioning systems and aerosols, in line with its commitment under the Montreal protocol to phase out CFC consumption. Their use in freezers and air conditioning units is banned with immediate effect. Metered dose inhalers using CFCs could be phased out by the end-2005, the strategy suggests. A steering committee will supervise the whole process.

Polish Council of Ministers text (in Polish): http://www.kprm.gov.pl/441_11336.htm

WORKING PARTY ON REFRIGERANT SYSTEM

A Working Party on Refrigerant System Safety has been set up by the [International Institute For Refrigeration](#) (IIR). Indeed, although some refrigerants have been in use for 100 years, very little documented experience exists, which makes safety assessment an issue, and therefore safety standard a challenge. IIR also considers the interest for correlating existing safety requests with experienced accidents.



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The Working Party aim is to document the expertise gathered by experienced engineers and to record it in an objective way. For all types of systems and all refrigerants the real number of accidents should be investigated, and a database be set up for accidents involving injuries to humans and property damages.

Source : <http://www.iifiir.org/telecharg/safety.pdf>

See also EFCTC [Refrigeration Safety Page](#)

BUILDING INSULATION IN WARM CLIMATES: DRASTIC REDUCTION OF THE COLLING DEMAND

Insulation is one of the most efficient energy saving measures for buildings. [HFC blown Insulation Foams](#), having an excellent thermal effectiveness, will reduce the energy losses – and thus indirectly the CO₂ emissions of the application where it is used, as documented in published LCA assessments for Polyurethane (PU foams) foams.

A recent [EuroACE](#) Report shows how, in warm climatic zones, the cooling demand can be drastically reduced by a combination of lowering the heat loads and by insulation. Examples are given of a terraced house or an office building in Madrid. As shown in the case of a warmer city like Athens, the warmer the climate, the higher the benefit of additional insulation.

Source : http://www.euroace.org/reports/R_160204.pdf



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NEW ON OUR SITE

DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE IN POLISH

Two Brochures:

- [GREENHOUSE GASES EMISSIONS – What has led to their most significant reduction?](#)
- [HFCs, REFRIGERATION AND AIR CONDITIONING](#)

already available in English, French, German, Italian and Spanish, have been translated into POLISH.

Within soon, we will bring even more information on Fluorocarbons in Polish language on our website.

DRAFT EU HFC REGULATION

The page on [Climate Change Legislation](#) has been updated with the latest First Reading Amendments adopted by the European Parliament (31/03/2004). The page links to the accepted amendments, available in English, French, German, Italian, Spanish and Greek.