



## PRESS RELEASE

**Brussels, 27 September 2007: Montreal, Canada – The European Fluorocarbons Technical Committee (EFCTC), commended the agreement reached on Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> September by the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. “This agreement is a step forward for this important environmental treaty,” said Nick Campbell, Chairman of EFCTC, “it introduces new wide-reaching environmental protection goals while providing the economic means to achieve them.”**

The Montreal Protocol celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties, held in Montreal, Canada. It was agreed to reduce remaining consumption of hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), important transition substances, by more than 20% in developed countries between the years 2010 and 2030. Furthermore, the Parties for the first time agreed to a consumption baseline and phase down schedule for HCFC consumption for developing countries that will reduce overall quantities of these compounds used by approximately 50% over the years 2010 through 2040.

*“The new HCFC reductions will assist the recovery of the earth’s ozone layer and also help to mitigate climate change,” said Campbell. “They will also allow for the more rapid introduction of important technologies relying on non-ozone-depleting substances.”*

The Montreal Protocol has been hailed as one of the most successful multilateral environmental agreements. First signed in 1987, it has resulted in the rapid reduction of ozone-depleting substances relying on an integrated system of scientific, technical and economic assessment processes and implementation by developed and developing countries, with the help of important multilateral funding assistance for the developing countries.

EFCTC member companies have played a leading role in the introduction of alternatives to ozone depleting substances. In many cases, for societally important uses such as in the refrigeration, air-conditioning, foam insulation and aerosol industries, these alternatives include the introduction of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) as low-toxicity, energy-efficient, drop-in replacements. Whilst these products have global warming potentials, although in general lower than the CFCs and HCFCs they replace, their containment and responsible use can lead to overall climate benefits.

**Ends.**

For further information contact:

Nick Campbell Chairman EFCTC <a href="mailto:nick.campbell@arkemagroup.com">nick.campbell@arkemagroup.com</a>	Véronique Garny CEFIC Tel. 0032 2 676 7232 <a href="mailto:vga@cefic.be">vga@cefic.be</a>
---	--