



## PRESS RELEASE

Brussels, 8 November 2012

### **EFCTC welcomes the Commission Proposal for a revised F-Gas Regulation**

EFCTC, a trade association of European Producers and Importers of Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases, considers the Proposal of the European Commission for a revised F-Gas Regulation an ambitious effort to reduce the climate impact of these compounds with a relatively high Global Warming Potential (GWP), while at the same time enabling their use to continue where appropriate.

“The proposals challenge the entire value chain to use HFCs more efficiently and to develop lower GWP solutions that will achieve equal or improved energy efficiency and maintain the safety record in a wide variety of applications”, commented Nick Campbell, Chairman of EFCTC. In particular, by cutting back the quantity of F-Gases that can be sold in the EU in progressive increments, the proposal introduces a market based approach in which the EU can achieve its environmental goals while respecting technology neutrality. It is also in line with the European Commission’s Better Regulation approach which seeks to avoid regulation that may have unintended consequences, lead to overly burdensome administrative obligations and might discourage innovation.

EFCTC notes that the revised regulation also builds on the experience of the current F-Gas Regulation, placing a strong focus on containment and emission prevention. Data collected in the context of the F-Gas Regulation confirm that these provisions have started to deliver emission reduction as demand for F-Gases show a stabilization or a slight decline.

The trade association also stresses that the new F-Gas Regulation should ensure that the functioning internal market for products containing or relying on F-Gases will be guaranteed. Equally, regulatory overlap with for example the Eco-design regulations should be avoided. For example some F-Gases are recognized as delivering the lowest overall environmental footprint of some types of equipment. In this context technology neutrality is vital, as differences in climate zones in the EU require the use of different type of fluids, both F-Gases and their alternatives.

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EFCTC will actively participate in the legislative process and offer its views on further improving the proposed regulation. In the interest of all those who are dependent on F-Gases, EFCTC hopes that Council and Parliament can reach consensus in a single reading, thus providing legal certainty in a relatively short time frame. “It would be disappointing if the new regulation would be delayed significantly due to the 2014 EP elections”, said Dr. Campbell.

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