The Global Refrigerant Transition: Good Science, Good Judgment, Correct Choices

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The global refrigerant picture is murky, but getting clearer

- > Research is continuing, but narrowing
 - Solutions for some applications
- New regulations are being enacted
 - U.S. EPA Significant New Alternatives Program (SNAP)
 - F-gas regulation in Europe
- Process to modify safety and building codes to allow the use of refrigerants that have flammable levels higher than current refrigerants has begun
- > Training of technicians is vital and is being discussed





Industry Is Not Waiting for Regulators

- ➤ We know that we need to transition from high-GWP to lower-GWP refrigerants
- We are taking action
- Industry announced \$5 Billion R&D effort at White House last year
- Education and training must be key part of overall effort





But We Must Get This Right: Refrigerants Are Vital

- Used in air conditioning
 - Vital for personal health, comfort, and well-being
- Used in refrigeration
 - Prolong life of perishable food
 - Keep life-saving medicines safe
- Improve health, productivity, and safety
- > Save lives

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Challenges Ahead

- > There is no "magic" replacement for high GWP HFCs
 - Choices and tradeoffs must be made
 - LCCP and not just GWP should drive decisions
- U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology
 - Conducted comprehensive study of over 100,000,000 compounds to evaluate use as refrigerant
 - Found only 62 worth further consideration after screening for
 GWP, toxicity, flammability, stability and critical temperature
- ➤ AHRI-led Low-GWP Research Program should help provide a clearer picture of suitable alternatives for each application



Time is Still Needed

Commercial availability

- Refrigerants
- Components (e.g., compressors, valves, electronics) that are compatible with new refrigerants

Research and Production

- Time for equipment manufacturers to design and test equipment with new refrigerants and components
- Time to retool manufacturing lines to produce new equipment

Regulatory Approvals

- Approval to use refrigerants in specific applications
- Updates to standards and national and local codes to address the use of A2L and A3 refrigerants

> Training

- Curricula and certifications need to be developed
- Technicians need to be trained on proper installation, maintenance, and handling of new technologies and refrigerants





Education and Training – A Major Global Challenge







Global Refrigerant Management Initiative

- ➤ Launched in September 2014 by AHRI, the Alliance for Responsible Atmospheric Policy, and ABRAVA (Brazil)
 - Participation by refrigerant organizations in Australia, Canada,
 China, Colombia, the EU, Japan, Mexico, and S. Korea

> Objectives

- Build awareness
- Develop best practices
- Develop training and certification for technicians on proper management, servicing, and end-of-life practices









Proper Installation and Maintenance

➤ In addition to direct emission of the refrigerants, improper installation and lack of maintenance can result in a

40 percent loss of efficiency









Summary

> We understand and accept the need to phase-down use of high GWP refrigerants



- Adequate time needed to:
 - Properly research alternatives
 - Engineer products that can use alternatives safely and efficiently
 - Develop and implement education and training programs
 - Engage/educate government officials
- We have a good record as an industry
 - We must continue to work together to reduce emissions by making the right choices



Thank you!

