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F-Gas & R22 Phase Out Environmental Solutions

Are you complying with the new European Refrigerant Legislation?

The new EC fluorinated greenhouse gas Regulation No 842/2006 became law in July 2006 and became effective in the UK from July 2007. In addition, all users of HCFC refrigerant gases should be aware of the phasing out of R22 and derivative blends by the end of 2009. This flyer is designed to help you meet these changes in a structured and cost effective way.

Call **+44 (0) 1224 702711** for further information or visit www.tycofis.co.uk and find out how we can become a vital part of your world.

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What is the New F-Gas Regulation?

The European Union's F-gas Regulation No 842/2006 aims to minimise emissions of these gases which affect global warming if they escape into the air. F-gases include HFCs which are the most common refrigerants in use today. The legal responsibility for the compliance with the Regulation lies with the operator. Operators are defined as the people or organisations that have actual power over the technical functioning of the equipment.

Any equipment small enough to plug in rather than have to be permanently wired is likely to be excluded from the requirements, other than an overall requirement to prevent leakage and to repair any leaks as soon as possible.

For stationary refrigeration, air conditioning and heat pump units over 3kg charge (6kg if hermetic), operators must:

- Prevent leakage and repair any leaks as soon as possible
- Arrange proper refrigerant recovery by certified personnel during servicing and disposal
- Carry out leak checks to the schedule shown below
- Ensure that only certified competent personnel carry out leakage checks
- Maintain records of refrigerants and of servicing

For non-stationary equipment (e.g. mobile units, refrigerated containers) and any other products containing F-gases, operators must ensure that appropriately qualified personnel are used to recover gases, as long as this is feasible and not excessively expensive.

R22 and HCFC Phase Out

EU Ozone Regulation EC2037/2000 covers the phasing out of ozone depleters such as the commonly used R22 and also includes some blends covered under the F-Gas Regulation.



Key Future Dates

- By the end of 2009 the sale and use of 'virgin' (i.e. newly produced) HCFCs for the service and maintenance of residential and commercial air conditioning will be banned.
- From Jan 2010 to Dec 2014 only the use of recycled / reclaimed (not stockpiled) HCFCs will be allowed
- From Jan 2015 there will be a complete ban on the use of HCFCs and they must be destroyed at the end of their life

What do you need to do now?

If you control a system that does not use HFC or HCFC refrigerant, you only need to ensure that correct maintenance regimes are in place and adhered to, so that optimum operational efficiency is maintained and equipment warranties are not compromised. If it uses an F-Gas or HCFC refrigerant THEN PLAN AHEAD!

- Ensure adequate leak-detection systems are in place in line with the regulation and review the maintenance schedules of this equipment to ensure that it will be regularly inspected
- Ensure that work carried out and records of inspections are carried out by suitably qualified and certified personnel either those directly employed or sub-contractors
- Investigate the relative merits of conversion against replacement - the replacement of an old inefficient system with more modern equipment will provide a dual benefit in terms of being compliant and saving money on operating costs.
- Ensure that either directly employed or sub-contracted personnel are carrying out activities
- Consider the implication of both regulations in the final equation and act early to spread the cost

Before January 2010 you should have...

- Made plans to upgrade or replace equipment using phased out refrigerant to minimise the impact on your organisation both operationally and financially
- Employed a specialist, professional provider to manage the transition, who will work in partnership with you to achieve the optimum result, both short and long term.

Should you have any further questions regarding F-Gas and R22 Phase Out, please do not hesitate to contact:

Tyco Fire & Integrated Solutions
Glover Pavilion
Science & Technology Park
Balgownie Drive
Aberdeen
AB22 8GW
Tel: +44 (0)1224 702711
Fax: +44 (0)1224 706498
Email: tfis.environmental.uk@tycoint.com
Web: www.tycofis.co.uk

