



# **THE ALLIANCE**

**for Responsible Atmospheric Policy**

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## **POLICY AND TECHNOLOGY CONSIDERATIONS FOR HFCs**

**Advancing Ozone and Climate Protection Technologies:  
Significant Progress, Continuing Challenges and Opportunities**

**September 2014 Update**

# AGENDA

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- **History of relevant policies**
- **Projected growth in HFC emissions**
- **New and proposed policy on HFCs**
- **Current technology development and potential barriers**
- **Regulatory challenges moving forward**

# HOW HAS THE SITUATION CHANGED IN 20 YEARS?

## 20 Years Ago

Fluorocarbons and equipment production was in the non-A5 countries

Market growth in A5 countries was slow

GWP was of little concern

## Today

Some A5 countries are major fluorocarbon producers

Rapid market growth in A5 countries

GWP is a major concern

The situation today remains the same for many non-A5 countries. Some A5 countries are now major producers of fluorocarbons and manufacturers of products and equipment.

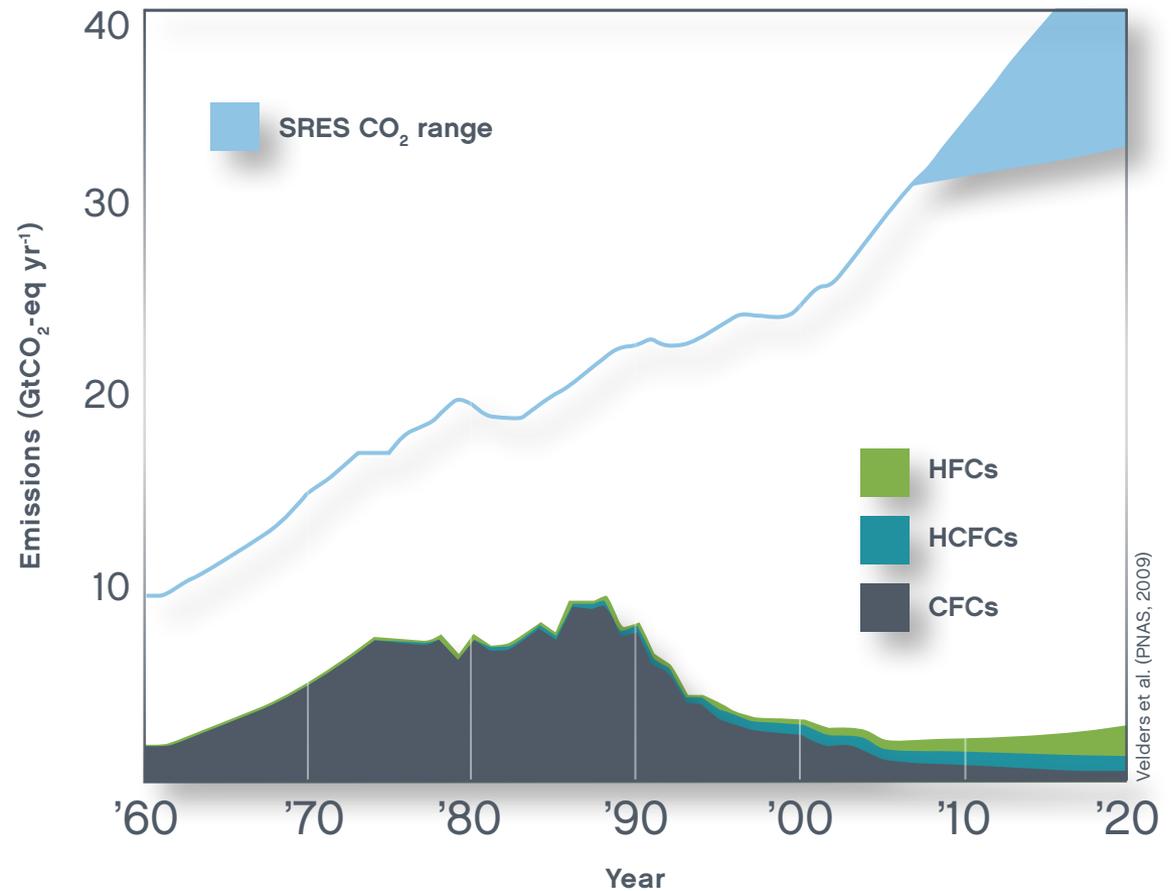


Great work has already been done to reduce the climate change impact of fluorocarbons

**NOW  
WE ARE  
DOING  
MORE**

## Reduced GWP Impact of Fluorocarbons<sup>1</sup>

GWP-WEIGHTED EMISSIONS



Velders et al. (PNAS, 2009)

# HFC POLICY EVOLVING AT A RAPID PACE

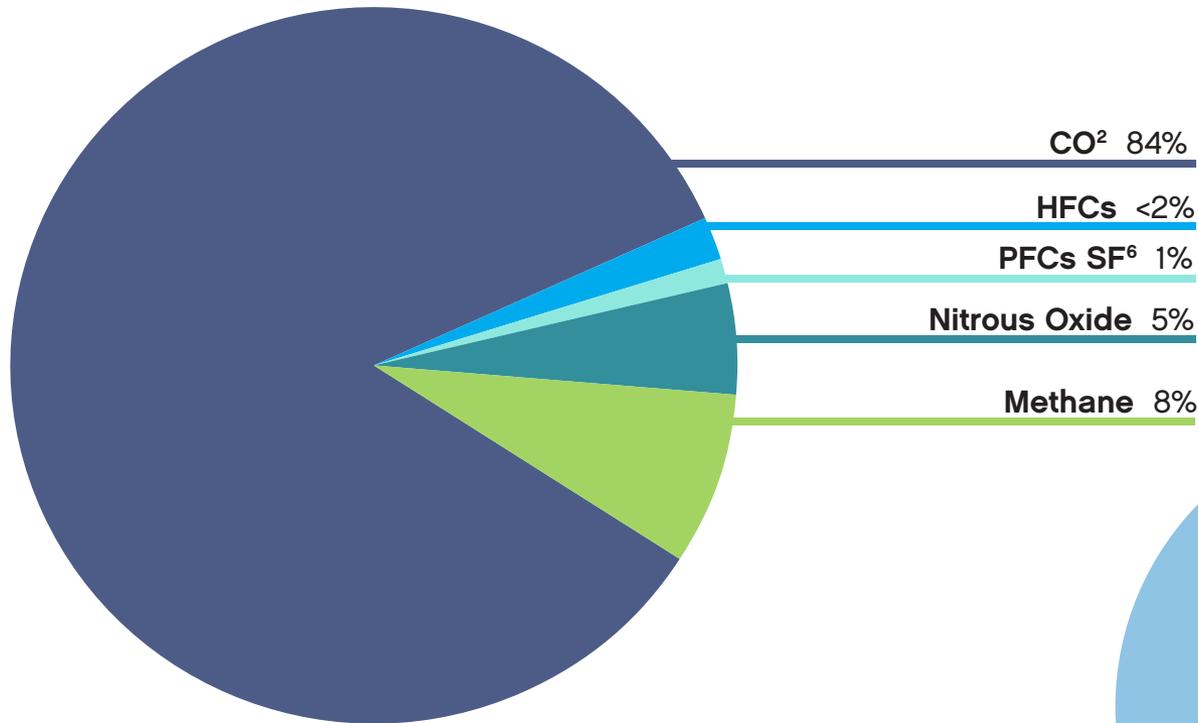
## WHEN WILL IT HAPPEN?

### Potential sharp growth in HFC emissions is driving new and proposed global and regional policies

- European Union approved F-gas regulation to phase down HFCs 79% by 2030 and ban certain applications using refrigerants above a specified GWP as well as aerosols and foams
- Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) pledges to reduce HFC use
- US Supreme Court continues to affirm US EPA authority to regulate greenhouse gas emissions
- MAC Directive in Europe and the US greenhouse gas CAFE incentive is causing a shift away from HFC-134a in automotive applications
- US is proposing a SNAP delisting of high GWP HFCs for consumer aerosols, various foam blowing end uses, commercial refrigeration and mobile AC
- Japan has passed HFC legislation and is preparing F-gas initiatives for a phase-down to begin in 2015
- Montreal Protocol: Multiple amendment proposals seek to reduce HFCs through the mechanisms of the successful ozone protection treaty
- A number of high level international statements have called for an HFC phase down under the Montreal Protocol

### The complexities that come with an HFC phase down require a unified, global approach

# GREENHOUSE GASES: CONTRIBUTION TO GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

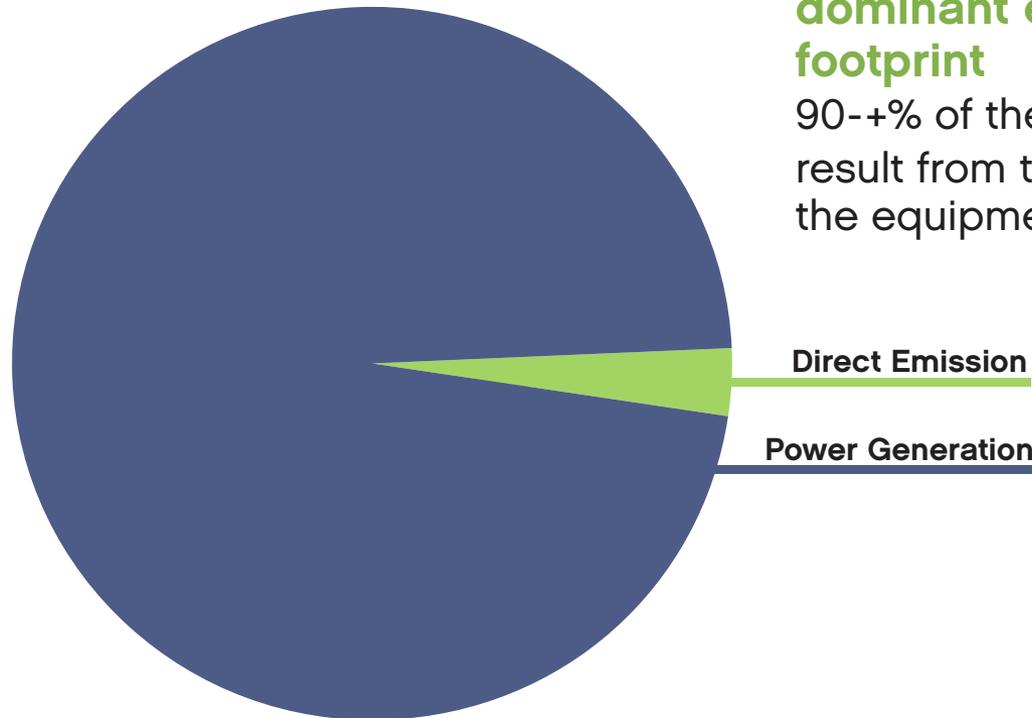


HFCs are potent greenhouse gases, but account for <2% of the total. Growth rate of HFCs is the largest concern.

# EFFICIENCY IS IMPORTANT

The indirect effect of HVACR equipment efficiency has a dominant effect on its carbon footprint

90-+% of the CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions result from the power generated to run the equipment



When choosing lower GWP refrigerants, the energy efficiency of the resulting equipment is critical.

# GENERATIONS OF REFRIGERANTS

## HISTORY OF REFRIGERANTS >

**1900s + EARLIER**  
Non-fluorinated refrigerants

**1920s**  
development of CFCs

1910s

**1930s**  
HCFC-22 invented

1940s

1960s

1950s

**1970s**  
concerns for ozone depletion grows

**1980s**  
HCFCs enable CFC reduction

**2000s**  
Re-emergence of non-fluorinated refrigerants

**1990s**  
HFC alternatives commercialized

**2010s**  
development of HFOs

**MAKING RESPONSIBLE PROGRESS >**



# HFCs ARE USEFUL GASES

Global recognition that HFCs are produced for specific purposes, have value, and should be regulated as products, not just emissions

- In HVAC&R applications, HFCs are contained and can provide advantages in performance and energy efficiency in certain applications
- Inclusion with “waste” GHGs in a cap-and-trade scenario could cause unintended price and availability problems
- Mechanisms of the Montreal Protocol have proven effective
- Phase-down, not a phase out is needed to ensure the best solutions and smooth market transitions while ensuring the availability of important HVAC&R services

Phasedown approach which allows time for industry transition is the best solution

# THE **ACHIEVABLE GWP LEVEL** WILL DEPEND ON EQUIPMENT TYPE, APPLICATION, AND RECOVERY

“High” and “Low” GWP are relative terms and dependent on:

- Applications (mobile or stationary)
- Average leak rate from the equipment
- Recovery rate at the end of life
- Safety requirement (flammability and toxicity)
- Performance requirements

95% of global HFC use is currently between 700 and 4000 GWP

New generation products generally have GWPs between < 1 and 700



# THE ROLE OF SAFETY STANDARDS AND CODES ON REFRIGERANT OPTIONS

## Safety and affordability are critical

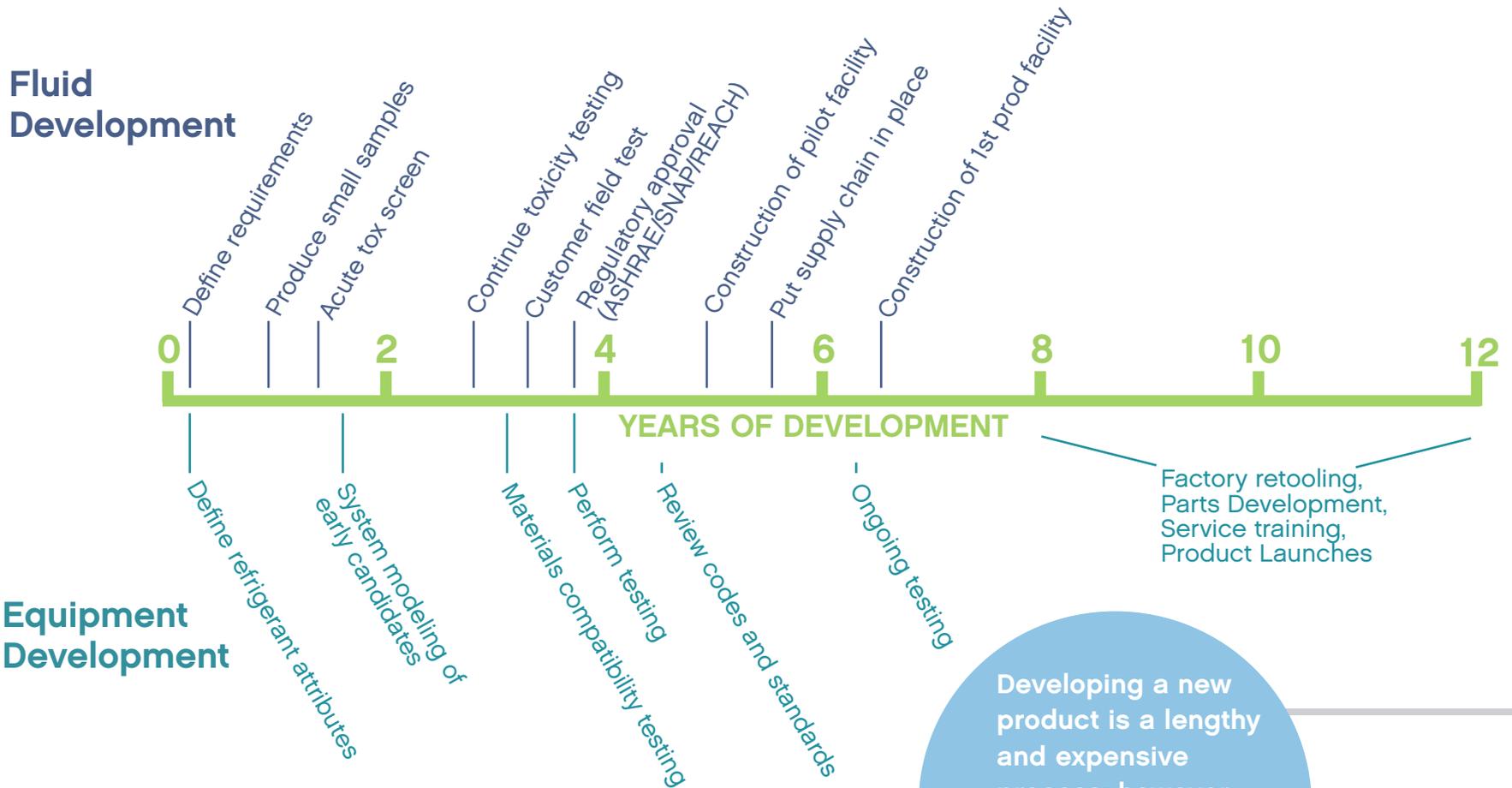
- Hydrocarbons (flammable) are safe and efficient in some applications
- Slightly flammable (2L) refrigerants are safe and efficient in some applications
- Non-flammable solutions are still needed for some applications

Choose the right refrigerant for each application. Industry and government cooperation is needed for quick and appropriate safety standard and code adoption.

# DEVELOPING NEW SOLUTIONS IS COMPLEX



# DEVELOPMENT TIME LINES FOR NEW PRODUCTS



Developing a new product is a lengthy and expensive process; however, tremendous innovation is underway.



# NEXT GENERATION LOW-GWP REFRIGERANTS

## Low GWP Fluorocarbons:

### HFO-1234yf

- Ultra-Low GWP (< 1), low toxicity, slightly flammable.
- Leading candidate to replace HFC-134a in mobile/ automotive applications
- Potential replacement for HFC- 134a in stationary AC and refrigeration
- Applications in HVAC

### HFO-1234ze/HFO-1233zd/HFO-1336mzz/Other HFOs

- Beneficial properties for foam blowing, waste heat recover, aerosols, and solvent applications
- Potential solutions in refrigeration
- Potential solution for chillers and other HVAC equipment

### HFC and HFO/HFC Blends

- Potential for lower-GWP fluids with better performance for many HVAC and foam applications
- Evaluations and trials ongoing for stationary air conditioning and refrigeration applications

## Non-fluorinated Refrigerants:

- Often referred to as “natural” refrigerants
- Great solution for the right applications, but not right for all applications. Use when appropriate.
- Safety/Efficiency/LCCP/Affordability need to be considered

Solutions exist.  
Flexibility is needed  
to ensure that the  
right solutions  
continue to be  
developed.



# LOW-GWP INNOVATION IN THE FOAM INDUSTRY

**Manufacturers and potential manufacturers of HFOs are reporting that their commercialization timelines are on schedule.**

**The gaseous blowing agent, HFO-1234ze is commercially available globally with most use currently in Europe**

- Extruded Polystyrene Foam
- One Component Polyurethane Foam

**Large scale commercial production of HFO-1233zd is taking place with several commercial uses announced**

- Appliances (US, China)
- Spray Foam (US, EU, Japan)

**HFO-1336mzz is expected to be available in small scale by the end of 2014 and larger commercial quantities by 2016**

- Spray foam

# WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF WHEN...

## Flammable refrigerants can be a good solution?

- Smaller charge application
- Industrial refrigeration and process cooling



## Non-fluorinated refrigerants can be a good solution?

- Low temperature refrigeration
- Locations where some safety risks can be mitigated
- Unique solutions for waste heat (absorption)
- Cascade systems



## HFOs and HFCs can be a good solution?

- Large commercial and unitary HVAC
- Refrigeration in populated areas where strict safety is required
- Conversion and retrofit
- Specialty device applications
- High performance foams where insulation is important (e.g. refrigeration, food transport)

Waste heat recovery  
Cascade systems  
Automotive  
Aerosols & solvents applications



# IS A 79-85% GWP WEIGHTED REDUCTION POSSIBLE FOR HFCs?

Large industries that use HFCs have already identified ultra-low GWP Alternatives:

- Automotive/Mobile AC: HFO-1234yf/HFO-HFC blends GWP = < 1–150
- Foam Blowing Industry: HFOs GWP < 1
- Solvents Industry: HFO-1234ze GWP <1

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**The appliance industry will likely use hydrocarbon and HFO refrigerants**

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**The HVAC&R industry will employ various solutions:**

- HFO, HFC, and HFO/HFC blends (GWP = < 1–700) for most new equipment and retrofit/service

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**The fire suppression, metered dose inhaler and certain technical aerosol applications may continue to use HFCs at some level**

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**Low GWP alternatives are now available for the solvents industry**

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**New technology continues to be developed and commercialized**

# SUMMARY

Significant climate change mitigation has already been achieved in fluorocarbon applications

Policy changes drive technology development

The complexities of an HFC phasedown require a unified, global approach

Significant innovation is underway in the HVAC&R value chain

Significant HFC reduction is possible, but we need:

- Adequate development time
- Flexibility in design and application
- Refrigerant management and supply for service over life of equipment
- Ability to use higher GWP solutions when the application needs it
- Montreal Protocol institutions provide the best model for effective HFC phasedown