



FACT SHEET 2016-3:

Ozone-depleting Substances and Halocarbon Alternatives Regulations: Requirements for the use of Refillable Containers

This fact sheet is not intended to replace the legal text of the *Ozone-depleting Substances and Halocarbon Alternatives Regulations* or to provide legal opinions. You are advised to retain a lawyer should you require a legal opinion.

Ozone-depleting Substances and Halocarbon Alternatives Regulations

The *Ozone-depleting Substances and Halocarbon Alternatives Regulations* (the Regulations) implement Canada's international obligations as set out in the *Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer*.

The Regulations will repeal and replace the *Ozone-depleting Substances Regulations, 1998* on December 29, 2016.

Environmental benefits of refillable containers

Non-refillable containers pose a risk of release to the environment because they are more likely to have leaking valves and faulty spot welds, and are more susceptible to corrosion at the base. Refillable containers are therefore more suitable for storing and transporting ozone-depleting substances and their halocarbon alternatives. The re-use of refillable containers provides additional environmental benefits by reducing their disposal in landfills.

New requirements for refillable containers

To further minimize risks of releases to the environment, the Regulations require that any hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC) and hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) refrigerants manufactured and imported be stored in refillable containers.

These provisions support and complement existing federal, provincial and territorial controls that prohibit the use, sale and storage of halocarbons in non-refillable containers.

Regulatory compliance

Enforcement of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999* and its Regulations will be undertaken in accordance with the Compliance and Enforcement Policy for *the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999*.

Environment and Climate Change Canada's Enforcement Officers may undertake inspections in order to verify compliance. Whenever a possible violation is identified, Enforcement Officers may carry out investigations. The range of possible responses to alleged violations include warnings, directions, environmental protection compliance orders, tickets, ministerial orders, injunctions, prosecution and environmental protection alternative measures. For more information, consult the Compliance and Enforcement Policy for *the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999* at <https://www.ec.gc.ca/lcpe-cepa/default.asp?lang=En&n=5082BFBE-1>.

For more information

Visit Environment and Climate Change Canada's Stratospheric Ozone website at www.ec.gc.ca/ozone for more information regarding the *Ozone-depleting Substances and Halocarbon Alternatives Regulations* and Canada's Ozone Layer Protection Program.