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Manitoba Releases its' Report on Climate Change

The Province of Manitoba recently released their latest document entitled "*Manitoba's Report on Climate Change for 2010*".

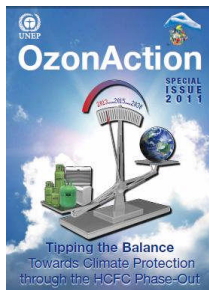
The report highlights some of the 60+ key actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions throughout Manitoba. The main success was the decommissioning of Manitoba Hydro's Brandon coal fired energy centre.

Manitoba continues to be a national leader in the installation of geothermal energy systems in homes, industrial and commercial buildings. Manitoba also implementing the Energy Act which mandated high efficiency (92%) gas furnaces (2009), supported several government and education and industry partnerships were projects including vehicle disposal stewardship, biomass and the establishment of a Centre for Emerging Renewable Energy. See their Report at:

www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/climate/pdf/2010_climate_change_web.pdf

Interestingly, not highlighted in their report, but known within our peers, MOPIA and your role will become more important in the years to come as many of the newer refrigerants tend to have significant global warming potentials. In fact, it is estimated that refrigerants will impact climate change more than any other in the years going forward.

Special Issue Released on HCFC's



UNEP's OzonAction Branch has available a recent publication: "*Tipping the Balance towards Climate Protection through the HCFC Phase-Out*". See it at:

www.unep.fr/ozonaction/information/mcfiles/7508-e-OASI2011_TippingtheBalance.pdf

Outreach Sessions Planned for June & July



MOPIA is pleased to announce a series of stakeholder outreach sessions will be offered across Manitoba during this coming June and July. These follow upon the success of previous years events. MOPIA will host a number of lunch or breakfast sessions in key urban centres such as Winkler, Steinbach, Brandon, Winnipeg, Dauphin, Thompson and select others locations.

The one hour info session is designed to provide the latest information on emerging and new industry technology, refrigerant stewardship, regulatory responsibilities and gauge participants on any pertinent issues or concerns. Your feedback helps us plan for the future and it influences our position on various issues.

MOPIA will be sending out the registration forms for the free to attend sessions with each technician renewal in May. They form will also be available for download via our website.

Next Training on February 28

MOPIA has confirmed our next certification training session date for Tuesday, February 28. The class is a one day event and runs from 8:30 am – 6 pm (approx.) and costs \$178.50/pp.

Contact MOPIA for a registration form or obtain it on our website.

The next training date will be on Saturday March 31 to accommodate those who can not make a weekday training session.



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Canada's Ozone Monitoring Cut



Canada is known as a world leader in ozone monitoring and support for efforts to eliminate ozone depleting substances. It has been since 1966 that Canada has deployed research balloons into the stratosphere to collect data on the ozone layer. Recent budget cuts by the federal government has put this initiative at risk.

CBC News is investigating and several leading scientists and professors are hopeful that this program will remain a priority with Environment Canada.

MOPIA's AGM is April 23 We Need You!

Do you want to be part of a unique and successful team? Are you interested in protecting the environment and helping to set the scene for future generations? Are you able to listen, communicate well and share ideas?

Well, MOPIA's volunteer multi-stakeholder Board of Director's is composed of representatives from several industry sectors affected by Manitoba's ODS and Other Halocarbon's Regulation. Namely, those sectors that purchase, sell, use or recover regulated refrigerants or products. Our Board has openings for candidates in the trucking, agriculture and educational institutional sectors. MOPIA's Board typically meets 5-8 times per year outside of normal business hours. Perhaps you are that person?

MOPIA's AGM will be held April 23 and candidates who'd like to qualify for the Board must first become a steward member (\$45) to be nominated and face election by our voting members. It is a painless process and there is no fundraising you need to undertake or harsh initiation rights to being a member of our Board. There is no pay or trophy, only frank discussion and some complimentary food. If you would more information, contact MOPIA. We'll welcome and encourage your involvement!

Secondary Distributor Permits

A Secondary Distributor Permit is required for those who import or purchase in the province regulated products from refrigerants to parts connected to the closed refrigerant loop. These include wholesalers, auto dealers, refrigeration companies, Agriculture implement franchises and the like.

The application form may be obtained from our website or call MOPIA for more information. The permit costs \$50 and is processed usually within a day.

New Minister of Conservation



Manitoba's Premier Greg Selinger shuffled his provincial government Cabinet and appointed (January 13, 2012) Winnipeg veteran NDP MLA (St. John's) Gord Macintosh as the new Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship.

A lawyer by profession, he has tackled environmental cases during his career and has also served as Manitoba's Minister of Justice (1999-2006) among other portfolio's.

MOPIA welcome's Minister Macintosh to this portfolio and looks forward to assisting him and his staff to further success in the ozone and climate protection file.

Regulatory Corner

MOPIA often receives questions regarding Manitoba's Ozone Protection Program and the Regulation 103/94.

Here are some quick Q&A's on common questions.

1. Can hydrocarbons be topped-up into a system?

Hydrocarbons (i.e. RedTek, Duracool and others) are A/C refrigerant alternatives that are typically not regulated for sale.



However, they may not be introduced into a system containing a regulated refrigerant without this refrigerant first being properly recovered. Certain equipment is also not designed for hydrocarbons, check with original equipment manufacturers, warranty or insurance underwriters for specifics.

2. Where does MOPIA obtain funds for operations?

MOPIA is an independent, not-for-profit multi-stakeholder association. We do not receive operating grants from government other than for special projects or staffing under programs available to any other organization. MOPIA's revenues are derived primarily from training offered to industry, technician certification fees, permits and special events. We are not funded by any corporate lobby or enterprise and as such do not advocate or solicit for any brand or product.