



MOPIA E-BULLETIN



STRATOSPHERIC OZONE LAYER & ATMOSPHERE PROTECTION

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Manitoba to Ban UV Sunbed Use for Children/Youth



Manitoba's Public Health Act is currently being amended to prohibit the use of commercial tanning equipment by minors. This effort is being applauded by The Canadian Cancer Society and others as studies highlight the use of tanning beds before age 35 is associated with a 75% increase in the risk of melanoma.

MOPIA was active on the original UV Committee of Manitoba Health in the late 1990's which first proposed actions to inform the public of the dangers of excessive UV exposure driven by concerns from the depleted ozone layer and by artificial means (sunbeds).

Manitoba first put in place restrictions for youth using sunbeds back in 2012. These required youth to obtain parental consent when using commercial UV beds/tanning equipment. These new steps further protect our children from increased exposure from ultraviolet radiation (UVR).

CFC Chiller Phaseout Nearing

Less than 20 days remain until all chillers operating with a CFC refrigerant must be decommissioned, retrofitted or permanently shut off never to run again with a CFC. December 31, 2014 is the deadline set in stone in the Manitoba Ozone Depleting Substances and Other Halocarbons Regulation 103/94, as well as, under Canada's Federal Halocarbon Regulation.

Building owners and contractors have had some 10 years to plan for this deadline and new and alternative chillers primarily with HCFCs and HFC's exist. While the cost to decommission or retrofit is expensive, the environmental cost to continue with CFC's outweighs any benefits.

26th Montreal Protocol Mtg. Held



MOPIA's Chair Meghan Johnson and Treasurer Michael Blackey at MOP 26
MOPIA kept busy at the 26th Meeting of the Parties (MOP) held last month in Paris, 17-21 November, 2014.

Besides attending the preparatory and high level segments of the 26th MOP, MOPIA's reps. attended the many side-events hosted by leading organizations on alternative technologies and environmental information. MOPIA liaised with industry leaders and various delegations to inquiry on emerging trends and opportunities to share knowledge. Much of this will be shared with our stakeholders through our website or other means (i.e. outreach sessions in 2015, E-Bulletin, etc.).

HFC's were nearly brought into the Protocol while intense discussion continues on how to move away from climate change (high GWP) halocarbons. In fact, a special meeting was set for Spring, 2015 to further discuss the path forward.

See the MOP 26 decisions/results at the United Nations Environment Program Ozone Secretariat website noted here:

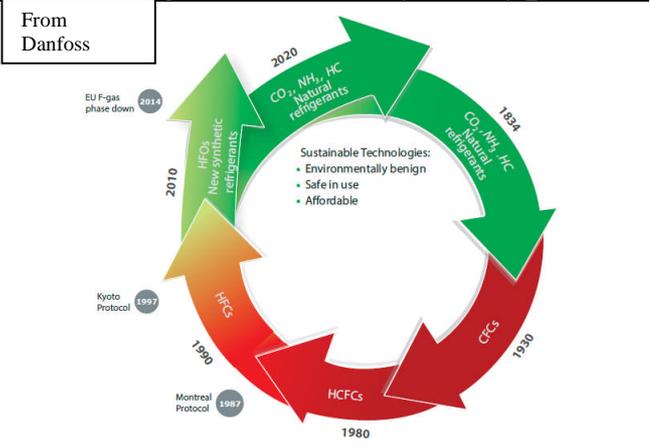


<http://conf.montreal-protocol.org/meeting/mop/cop10-mop26/finals/default.aspx>

Mark Miller with Mr. Rajendra Shende (TERRE Policy Centre) and Mr. Erik Pedersen (HTOC) (below left) at MOP 26, Paris.



Refrigerant History & Types



If you are in one of the various HVA/RC or air conditioning sectors, you should be aware of the different types of refrigerants. Here is a quick snapshot to refresh you.

- CFC's** (i.e. R-12)
- production is banned and so are most uses.
- HCFC's** (R-22, R-123)
- production is being phased down and eliminated.
- HFC's** (i.e. R-134a, R-410a, etc.)
- many have a high global warming potential (GWP) and some governments have restrictions on their use including Europe and some governments are proposing further controls including a phase-down similar to HCFC's.
- HFO's** (i.e. R-1234yf, R-1234ze)
- a newer generation of refrigerants typically with much less GWP and some flammability. They are gaining popularity but have a high price (at present).
- HC's** (i.e. propane, butane, isobutene, etc.)
- some have use (i.e. fire, building code, industry) restrictions as they have flammability cautions, but are becoming popular in refrigerators and smaller equipment use applications.
- CO₂** (carbon dioxide)
- becoming popular in use but have unique equipment characteristics regarding high pressure. Service industry is not well exposed to its technical function and use.

There are additional refrigerant options, such as ammonia and others. MOPIA will keep you informed of emerging ones.

2015 Secondary Distributor Permit Renewals Due

MOPIA recently began sending renewal notices to our stakeholders who hold a secondary distributor permit. The SD Permit is an annual requirement that requires renewal based on the calendar year. A payment of \$50 is necessary to renew the permit.

The SD Permit allows companies to import and purchase regulated refrigerants/halons and all parts and equipment attached to the closed refrigerant loop of a system.

If you require a renewal form or new to apply for the first time, you may do so by contacting MOPIA directly.

The SD Permit is aimed at companies that do not have an owner/operator who acquires regulated products for the business. Generally, all wholesalers, auto dealerships, HV/RAC shops, retail centres, re-sellers, parts distributors and the like should have an SD Permit.

Those persons or companies having in possession or acquiring regulated products even on-line (i.e. Kijiji, E-Bay, etc.) likely also require an SD Permit. Contravention of the Manitoba Regulation 103/94 comes with fines and penalties under the Act including significant financial and even prison time (incarceration).

If you know any anyone or any company operating potentially in contravention of the Regulation, you are encouraged to report them for investigation by a Government of Manitoba, Environment Officer.

Federal HFC Controls Proposed

While Manitoba has regulated certain HFC (i.e. refrigerant) uses for several years, Environment Canada is continuing their international leadership on HFC controls by proceeding with their mission to include HFC's into legislation in Canada's Environmental Protection Act. A "Notice of Intent to include HFC's" was recently published (December 6) in the Canada Gazette. For details:

www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2014/2014-12-06/html/notice-avis-eng.php

Stakeholders are encouraged to provide comments on the proposed approach directly to Environment Canada by January 16, 2015.

<http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=index&ctr.page=1&nid=912359>

