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27th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol

With the 27th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (MOP 27) being held 1-5 November in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, many opportunities exist to advance the protection of the climate system.

The MOP 27 Agenda is set and includes several critical amendments to the Montreal Protocol which, if adopted, will have major positive effects in reducing greenhouse gases going forward internationally. Proposals include phasing-down or out the use of HFC's globally. If adopted, the thrust of the amendments will affect chemical and equipment manufacturers, building owners, service companies and ultimately service technicians using various refrigerants, among other applications.

"Reducing and eliminating the production and use of HFCs is among the most important efforts Parties could embrace to reduce our human footprint on the Earth. There is no excuse or rational for delay as greener alternative options exist and should be encouraged by leaders and policy makers within the Montreal Protocol forum" states Mark Miller. "Posturing and the motives of those who are aiming to let someone else (i.e. Kyoto or UNFCCC) deal with HFCs and portray that practical HFC alternatives do not exist is a tactic to delay and impede global progress on climate change."

The Montreal Protocol is the World's most successful climate and ozone treaty with all 197 Nations being signatories.

MOPIA's Chair of the Board of Directors, John Kubilanski (seen below left) and Executive Director, Mark Miller will be in attendance to foster cooperation and information sharing.

See: http://ozone.unep.org/en/ http://ozone.unep.org/en/meetings



MOPIA Proposes Regulatory Ban on HFCs as Aerosol Propellant



MOPIA is continuing to raise awareness and advocate for the control and ban of aerosol products that contain HFCs.

Many common consumer aerosol products including antiperspirants, air horns, asthma inhalers and computer keyboard dusters contain HFCs as the products carrier gas or propellant within the container (Primarily HFC 134a or HFC 152). These products, while used in small amounts in each container, collectively add to global warming.

These products are under the radar for policy makers and legislators as they are not always clearly labelled and do not have the same focus as large air conditioning or refrigeration equipment. But they should not be taken out of the equation.

Releasing HFCs intentionally into the atmosphere should be banned for these discretionary consumer products (except for health applications where alternatives do not presently exist). The public is largely unaware of the impact.

MOPIA is encouraging each nation (or state, province, territory) to implement a regulatory ban on the use of any and all HFC as a carrier or propellant gas in aerosol containers by 2017 (or sooner). Collectively, this will have a direct and positive impact by eliminating this indiscriminate release of HFCs to the atmosphere and our environment.

MOPIA a Global Leader

MOPIA continues to be a leader for innovation and advancement of ozone and climate protection strategies. From first developing and continuing to offer certification training programs for technicians using regulated refrigerants (and halons), proposing unique regulatory strategies/plans to identify and control refrigeration and fire protection equipment and sterilants. MOPIA has collaborated with The World Bank and also UNEPs' OzonAction Division supporting study tours and outreach materials to many Nations. MOPIA offers our expertise to the World, and as a not-for-profit organization, we do it cost effectively and to advance ozone and climate environmental solutions. Contact MOPIA if you need support or guidance on any climate or ozone related initiative.



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You <u>can't</u> just "top up" your air conditioner

Air conditioning refrigerant leaks, in any kind of equipment or systems are potentially harmful to the equipment and the environment. When a system is low on refrigerant, the cause is potentially from a small leak from a seal, hose or other source that needs to be identified and repaired permanently.

It is against the law to "Top-Up" refrigerant into an air conditioning It is against the law to -lop-up -remperant into an air conditioning system. Purchasing a drop-in refrigerant from a retailer may appear to be an easy fix, but A/C systems are designed to operate with specific refrigerants and cross mixing or cocktailing systems is illegal and potentially harmful to your equipment. Just adding refrigerant to an A/C system is not a permanent repair, and allows the continued release of regulated refrigerant gases to the atmosphere, which is also illegal and potentially harmful to human health and the environment. The A/C systems refrigerant must be properly recovered (not released) with specialized refrigerant recovery equipment before introducing any alternative refrigerant by a ODS certified service technician.

Certified service technicians are trained and responsible for the permanent leak repair of an air conditioning system. They will perform the proper leak test, recover the refrigerant and repair the leak before recharging your A/C system. They must record details of the leak including the use of regulated refrigerants. Ask to see a technician's "Manitoba ODS certification wallet card" and ensure it is valid (expiry date is specified).

Penalities for the wrongful release of refrigerants (or the improper repair) are up to \$50,000 and/or imprisonment for persons on a first offense and \$500,000 for companies.

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