

OZONNEWS

15 March 2014

Vol. XIV

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A fortnightly electronic news update on ozone and climate protection and the implementation of the Montreal Protocol

Achim Steiner to Head UNEP until June 2016 - The UN General Assembly (UNGA) has re-elected Achim Steiner to an additional two-year term as Executive Director of the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), following a nomination by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on 25 February 2014 (A/68/770). Steiner has served as UNEP Executive Director since 2006; his four-year term was renewed in 2010. By the UNGA's decision on 7 March 2014, Steiner's new term will run from 15 June 2014-14 June 2016.



▶ [United Nations General Assembly](#), 25 February 2014



GLOBAL

1. New Channel of Disseminating the Progress towards the Phase-Out of Ozone Depleting Substances through the “UNEP Live Platform”

The outcomes of Rio+20, adopted in 2012, included a strengthening of UNEP’s science policy interface especially with the multilateral environment agreements (MEAs) and a greater emphasis on capacity building at national and regional levels to keep the environment under review.

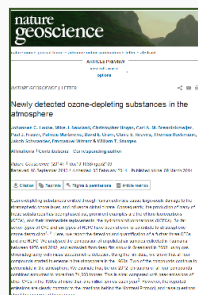


UNEP Live is a system-wide on-line platform that allows rapid access to recent and credible scientific information on the state of the environment. It is a web based application to keep environment and emerging issues under review by providing access to national, regional and global data sets and providing mapping and publishing tools that make the information more comprehensible and user friendly.

The Ozone Secretariat announce that at the upcoming Open Ended Committee of the Permanent Representatives to UNEP in Nairobi (March 22-29, 2014), the presentation of the UNEP Live platform will include the data flows on production and consumption of ozone-depleting substances (ODS) proved by Parties to the Montreal Protocol. This will be the first of the planned links with multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs). The production and consumption data on ODS are those which are already published via the Secretariat’s website <http://ozone.unep.org/> and via the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Indicators website <http://mdgs.un.org>. The data will be published as a live feed by UNEP but still secured under the Ozone Secretariat’s website. Making these data available along with other national, regional and global data services is an important step in providing up to date information for UNEP’s flagship assessment, the Global environment Outlook, and its work on measuring progress towards global environmental goals. The important milestones achieved by the Montreal Protocol shows in measurable terms its contribution in protecting our global environment.

▶ Excerpt from the [Ozone Secretariat](#) Executive Secretary Letter to the Montreal Protocol Parties, 14 March 2014

Learn more about [UNEP Live](#)



2. Newly Detected Ozone-Depleting Substances in the Atmosphere

Ozone-depleting substances emitted through human activities cause large-scale damage to the stratospheric ozone layer, and influence global climate. Consequently, the production of many of these substances has been phased out; prominent examples are the chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), and their intermediate replacements, the hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs). So far, seven types of CFC and six types of HCFC have been shown to contribute to stratospheric ozone destruction. [The study] reports the detection and quantification of a further three CFCs and one HCFC. [The study] analysed the composition of unpolluted air samples collected in Tasmania between 1978 and 2012, and extracted from deep firn snow in Greenland in 2008, using gas chromatography with mass spectrometric detection. Using the firn data, [The study] shows that all four compounds started to emerge in the atmosphere in the 1960s. Two of the compounds continue to accumulate in the atmosphere. We estimate that, before 2012, emissions of all four compounds combined amounted to more than 74,000 tonnes. This is small compared with peak emissions of

the composition of unpolluted air samples collected in Tasmania between 1978 and 2012, and extracted from deep firn snow in Greenland in 2008, using gas chromatography with mass spectrometric detection. Using the firn data, [The study] shows that all four compounds started to emerge in the atmosphere in the 1960s. Two of the compounds continue to accumulate in the atmosphere. We estimate that, before 2012, emissions of all four compounds combined amounted to more than 74,000 tonnes. This is small compared with peak emissions of

other CFCs in the 1980s of more than one million tonnes each year. However, the reported emissions are clearly contrary to the intentions behind the Montreal Protocol, and raise questions about the sources of these gases.

► [Nature Geoscience](#), 9 March 2014

See also >>

Quatre nouveaux gaz nocifs pour la couche d'ozone détectés dans l'atmosphère, [Le Monde](#), 10 mars 2014



3. The Precautionary Principle as a Provisional Instrument in Environmental Policy: The Montreal Protocol Case Study

Environmental studies identify possible threats to the health of the public or the environment when the scientific certainty of risk is low, but the potential cost is high. Governments may respond by invoking the Precautionary Principle, holding that scientific certainty is not required to take actions that reduce possible risk. EU guidelines suggest that precautionary measures remain provisional until sufficient scientific certainty is generated. Here I study the Scientific Assessments produced for the Montreal Protocol, and the scientific community that generates them, and ask whether a long-standing program of scientific investigation and monitoring can generate sufficient scientific certainty to move beyond dependence on the Precautionary Principle. When the Montreal Protocol was ratified, many scientists strongly suspected that anthropogenic substances like chlorofluorocarbons were depleting stratospheric ozone. Although the risk was uncertain, the perceived cost to public health of ozone depletion was high. A quarter century after formulating the Montreal Protocol, science can define the conditions for ozone depletion with great certainty, but uncertainty remains in determining the scale and distribution of the attributable increase in damaging ultra-violet (UV) radiation. Organisations, such as NASA, and scientists that contribute to the Scientific Assessments comprise the community in which the scientific consensus of risk is based. Many of these scientists act both as “honest brokers” and “issue advocates”, and through their shared interest in policy, may act to narrow the range of policy options. For example, modelled projections of low certainty are reported by Montreal Protocol contributing organisations to promote the importance of adhering to the Montreal Protocol. More comprehensive models of atmospheric chemistry incorporate more factors with interdependencies between variables. Consequently, outcomes projecting high risk and greater uncertainty are projected. As new reports of uncertain risk are propagated by studies from contributing organisations, continued application of the Precautionary Principle is required. The Montreal Protocol case suggests that when environmental studies introduce new concerns that trigger a policy response, the Precautionary Principle will act to perpetuate the research activity of contributing organisations, and extend the implementation of precautionary measures. Given the self-renewing nature this process, the precautionary measures are then not provisional.

“I think it is fair to say that science and the consensus among scientists around the world were critical ingredients in the Protocol process. ... Even more important was the assessment and reassessment process in the Protocol, since this forced a review and was almost impossible for the Parties to discount”. (Tolba, 1998) Mostafa Tolba – Egypt, UNEP Executive Director, 1976–1992.

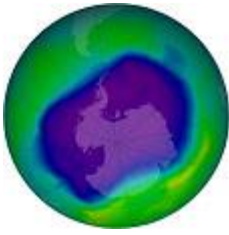
Author: J. Roger Jacobs, Department of Biology, McMaster University, Canada

► [Environmental Science & Policy](#), [Volume 37](#), March 2014, Pages 161–171



AFRICA

4. Govt Steps up Efforts to Protect the Ozone Layer (Tanzania)



The government is continuing with its initiatives of raising awareness concerning the appropriate use of refrigerators, freezers, and air conditioners for protecting the ozone layer that helps in preventing the global warming.

These remarks were made on Tuesday in Dar es Salaam by the Deputy Permanent Secretary in Vice-President's Office Engineer Angelina Madete during the opening of training forum to the tutors and assistant tutors from different vocational and training colleges in the country.

The two-day trainings are under the Vice-President's Office and include tutors from the vocational training colleges in Zanzibar, Kilimanjaro, Arusha, Kigoma, Mbeya and Mwanza.

"Hazardous chemicals are highly capable of destroying the ozone layer that lead to the increase in temperature all over the sky," Eng. Madete said.

"Due to this fact, the government in collaboration with other international communities, have agreed on working together and finding a solution to these hazardous chemicals, and if possible to remove them," Eng. Madete added.

It was further noted that, such chemicals includes methyl bromide, halons, and chlorofluorocarbons which are normally used in cooling instruments such as refrigerators, air conditioners, fire extinguishers, iron melting, during production of mattresses, and also used in preserving foods in various store.

"These chemicals cause a lot of damage to the ozone layer which in turn causes many effects to the human being, plants, as well as all living organisms," Eng. Madete said.

In the first phase Tanzania has succeeded to remove more than 269 tons of the hazardous chemicals being the implementation of the Montreal and Vienna conventions which Tanzania ratified in 1993.

► [Pesa Times](#), 11 March 2014

5. La douane ghanéenne saisit plus de 5 000 réfrigérateurs usagés



Les responsables des douanes ghanéennes ont saisi plus de 5 000 réfrigérateurs usagés, de différentes formes et tailles, importés dans le pays par le port de Takoradi, à 218 km à l'ouest de la capitale, a rapporté vendredi à Accra le quotidien étatique Daily Graphic. Les responsables des Services douaniers de contrôle et prévention (CEPS) et la division douanière du fisc ghanéen, le GRA, ont saisi cette cargaison illicite étiquetée comme biens et effets personnels. La compagnie d'importation, Richoss Enterprises Limited, domiciliée à Kumasi, capitale de la région d'Ashanti, à 270 km au nord d'Accra, n'a pas

jusqu'à présent identifié cette cargaison.

La Loi LI 1932 de 2008, entrée en vigueur en janvier 2013 interdit et rend illicite l'importation, entre autres, de réfrigérateurs ou climatiseurs anciens et usagés, ainsi que d'ampoules à forte consommation électrique.

Ces articles ont été déclarés illégaux et interdits car ils contiennent des niveaux élevés de substances nocives pour la couche d'ozone et autres caractéristiques néfastes pour l'environnement.

Bien que cette loi ait été adoptée dès 2008, sa mise en œuvre a été retardée afin de permettre aux importateurs de s'y adapter et d'écouler leurs articles interdits.

Le reportage cite comme exportateur présumé de ces biens la compagnie de gestion des déchets britannique Envirocom, qui aurait selon l'article été payée pour assurer la destruction de ces réfrigérateurs, « mais a tenté de gagner encore plus d'argent en les exportant à la place vers des pays en développement ».

► [AfricaTime](#), 22 février 2014



ASIA PACIFIC

6. New Zealand Port Company Adopts Recapture Technology for Methyl Bromide



New Zealand port company, CentrePort, has mandated fumigation contractors to implement recapture of methyl bromide fumigant from containers, following advances in the technology. The recapture equipment has been installed by Genera Limited, using technology made by Nordiko.

CentrePort is located in the capital city of Wellington - a busy trade hub in the centre of the country.

New Zealand's biosecurity requirements are unique and are guarded vigilantly by government agencies. New Zealand's ports are an essential border control site as part of the country's biosecurity system.

The fumigation process is monitored and regulated by New Zealand's Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The Nordiko equipment is able to capture the fumigant from multiple containers at the same time, and can be used with specially designed and patented plastic consoles that fit onto containers to be treated.

The end result is a modern, efficient and cost-effective emission control system.

Nordiko's GM WilGrullemans commented: "We are proud to have provided the technology enabling fumigators to control their emissions of Methyl Bromide to the atmosphere. This is ahead of the Environmental Protection Agency's mandate that fumigant recapture is in place by 2020."

► [Nordiko](#), February 2014

7. Prison for Chinese Counterfeiter



The owner of a Chinese company has been jailed for three years after a second conviction for producing counterfeit refrigerants.

The sentence follows a co-ordinated raid on the Shanghai-based companies Changzhi Co and Yingpeng Co by Chinese authorities which revealed that the companies were fraudulently producing R410A and R407C counterfeit refrigerants for the Chinese market under the Honeywell Genetron brand name.

The companies were ordered by a Chinese court in Shanghai to pay \$52,000 in damages and make a public apology to Honeywell.

This was the second conviction for Changzhi. The company had been found guilty in 2011 of counterfeiting Honeywell's logo and Genetron trademark without authorisation on its refrigerant cylinders and packaging. In that conviction, the company was fined CNY200,000 (£20,000) and its principal sentenced to three years' probation under a suspended three-year prison sentence, and fined CNY30,000 (£3,000).

Honeywell first became aware of Changzhi's activities in June 2010. A task force set up by Shanghai Administration for Industry and Commerce Putuo Branch seized a total of 633 counterfeit products with a sales value of £48,000 in the 2011 raid. The refrigerant had been sold in five provinces and a fine of £130,000 was imposed on distributors.

Honeywell has not disclosed the amount of refrigerant seized in the latest raids.

► [CoolingPost](#), 5 March 2014

8. Flammables Being Sold in Illegal Cylinders (Australia)



Air conditioning and refrigeration engineers have been warned of flammable refrigerants being sold in illegal and potentially dangerous refillable cylinders.

The Western Australia Department of Mines and Petroleum has issued a dangerous goods safety bulletin alerting the industry that some refrigerant vendors have imported flammable refrigerants in refillable cylinders with non-

resealing burst discs.

Despite the fact that it is illegal to transport or supply flammable refrigerants in these refillable [cylinders], the Department maintains that a number have been sold to vehicle-servicing workshops and refrigeration mechanics across Australia.

In addition, if the cylinder over-pressurises and the burst disc opens, the disc will not reseal. This results in the total loss of flammable gas from the cylinder, creating a very hazardous and extensive flammable gas atmosphere.

Companies or people who have purchased flammable gas refrigerants in non-refillable gas cylinders are advised to use up the refrigerant in the cylinder and dispose of it appropriately or contact the supplier of the refrigerant to arrange transfer of the gas into compliant cylinders and appropriate disposal of the empty cylinder.

► [CoolingPost](#), 4 March 2014



EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

9. Cooling Without Climate Warming: Parliament Backs F-Gas Ban



The use of climate-unfriendly fluorinated gases should be banned in new air-conditioning appliances and refrigerators by 2022-2025, under draft rules approved by the European Parliament on Wednesday. These rules had already been informally agreed with EU ministers. Overall, the use of potent hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) greenhouse gases is to be reduced by 79% by 2030.

Following bans on chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) in the 1980s to slow depletion of the ozone layer, the new draft legislation targets use of several other fluorinated gases that are harmful to the climate. "F-gases" can

have a greenhouse warming effect up to 23,000 times greater than equivalent amounts of CO₂.

"This EU breakthrough sets the pace for a global phase-out of these 'super greenhouse' gases, which would otherwise account for 20% greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. F-gas emissions have risen by 60% since 1990 in the EU. Banning their use in refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment is therefore urgently necessary to reverse this trend", said lead MEP Bas Eickhout (Greens/EFA, NL).

"The EU will reduce F-gas use by almost 80% by 2030. Banning F-gases in new commercial refrigeration equipment from 2022 will spur innovation, to the immediate benefit of many innovative European firms, by stimulating demand for natural refrigerants" he added.

F-gas phase-outs

In negotiations, MEPs amended the Commission proposal to phase out the use of F-gases in several new sectors, where safe, energy-efficient and cost-effective alternatives are available.

The ban would apply to centralised commercial refrigeration equipment with a capacity of 40kw that uses HFCs. Small air-conditioning systems using HFCs with a global warming potential (GWP) more than 750 times that of CO₂ will be banned by 2025, and technical aerosols containing HFCs over 150 GWP would be banned from 2018.

Products such as extruded polystyrene and other foams using HFCs would be banned from 2020 and 2023 respectively.

The agreement also strengthened proposed provisions to reduce by-product emissions, and the legislation encourages member states to develop producer responsibility schemes for the recovery of all F-gases.

Next steps

The draft legislation was passed by 644 votes to 19, with 16 abstentions. The Council of Ministers is to vote

on the file on 14 April.

Contact: Baptiste Chatain, Press Unit, envi-press@europarl.europa.eu

► [European Parliament](#), Plenary Session Press release - Environment – 12 March 2014



LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

10. Panamá avanza en la implementación de su Plan Nacional de Eliminación de los HCFC

Talleres Nacionales para el Cumplimiento del Protocolo de Montreal



El lunes 24 de febrero de 2014 se realizó un taller teórico-práctico sobre el cumplimiento del Protocolo de Montreal en Panamá, dirigido a funcionarios de instituciones públicas del Cuerpo de Bomberos, el Sistema Nacional de Protección Civil, la Policía Nacional, la Autoridad Marítima y el Ministerio de Salud de las provincias de Herrera y Los Santos.

En su segundo día el taller incluyó una práctica en el uso del equipo detector de gases refrigerantes; esto con el fin de fortalecer las acciones de control y vigilancia de los mismos a nivel nacional.

Por otra parte, en la ciudad de Colón, durante los días 19, 20 y 21 de febrero del presente año, en coordinación con la Autoridad Nacional de Aduanas y la Zona Libre de Colón empiezan las jornadas de capacitación a oficiales de aduanas en temas relacionados a la implementación del calendario de control y eliminación de HCFC. A la vez reforzando temas del Protocolo de Montreal y Convenios Medios Ambientales.

Inician Capacitaciones 2014 en Buenas Prácticas de RAC

La Unidad Nacional de Ozono inició el 5 de febrero de 2015, la primera capacitación de 3 días sobre Buenas Prácticas de Refrigeración y Aire Acondicionado (RAC), con el apoyo del Instituto Nacional de Formación Profesional y Capacitación para el Desarrollo Humano (INADEH).

Seguidamente, del 12 al 14 de febrero se realizó el segundo entrenamiento a técnicos de refrigeración y aire acondicionado.

La tercera ronda de capacitación en Buenas Prácticas de RAC se desarrolló del 19 al 21 de febrero. Un total de 31 técnicos provenientes del sector público y privado recibieron un entrenamiento teórico-práctico en la reconversión de equipos de HCFC a HFC. Además de estar manejando equipos y herramientas de última generación y los nuevos gases alternativos tal como el HFC-417A y HFC-422D.



Se realizarán un total de 7 capacitaciones entre los meses de febrero a abril en el centro de entrenamiento de INADEH en Tocumen.

Reunión con las Empresas Importadoras de SAO

La Unidad Nacional de Ozono realizó una reunión con las empresas importadoras de Sustancias Agotadoras del Ozono, el martes 4 de febrero del presente, en el salón de reuniones Rómulo Roux del Ministerio de Salud. El objetivo de la misma fue hacer entrega formal y por escrito del monto de las cuotas de importación, en kilogramos, de los gases refrigerantes, correspondientes al Anexo C, Grupo I del Protocolo de Montreal correspondientes al año 2014.

Asimismo se les agradeció su colaboración y esfuerzo, ya que el país logró cumplir con la meta de congelamiento del consumo de los HCFC en el año 2013. Se les enfatizó también que a partir del 1 de enero de 2014 está prohibida la importación al país del gas HCFC-141b, de acuerdo a lo establecido en los artículos 3 y 4 de la Resolución Ministerial N° 1236 del 27 de diciembre de 2012.

► [Unidad Nacional de Ozono de Panamá](#), 25 febrero 2014

11. Opción para las empresas: gas refrigerante ecológico que ahorra energía

Desde que se descubrió la forma en la que disminuía la capa de ozono, hace ya casi 30 años, el tema pasó a ser parte de la agenda urgente de los gobiernos de todo el mundo. No es para menos: el debilitamiento de la película protectora de la atmósfera, que actúa como escudo para proteger nuestro planeta de la radiación ultravioleta perjudicial proveniente del sol, amenaza directamente la vida en la Tierra. Entre los mayores responsables están los elementos químicos que utilizamos a menudo, entre ellos los clorofluorocarbonos, que pueden mantenerse activos en la atmósfera durante más de un siglo y que se utilizan en heladeras, congeladores, sistemas de aire acondicionado, aerosoles y espumas sintéticas.

Pese a los riesgos, su utilización en nuestro país experimentó un aumento continuo. El desafío de desacelerar esta curva de crecimiento no sólo es vital para el cuidado de la salud, sino para cumplir los compromisos internacionales asumidos con el Protocolo de Montreal (que contempla una reducción de su consumo de 97.5% en 2030 y eliminación total para 2040).

La Secretaría de Ambiente se hizo eco de la normativa mundial y prohibió la fabricación de equipos que requieran para su funcionamiento el gas R 22, una de las sustancias incluidas en el Protocolo de Montreal entre las que agotan la capa de ozono y que está presente en la mayor parte de los aires acondicionados.

Con nuevos estándares para cuidar el medio ambiente cada día más estrictos, las empresas comenzaron la carrera para desarrollar y comercializar productos ecológicos y menos nocivos para la atmósfera, que no destruyan la capa de ozono ni contribuyan al calentamiento global.

Como resultado, el R22 comenzó a ser suplantado por el 410A, aunque parece no ser suficiente. "El R22 está prohibido en todo el mundo, al no haber un reemplazante se decidió su reemplazo por el 410A, pero es un gas que sigue teniendo flúor y sólo llega a generar un ahorro de energía del 10%", describe en diálogo con ámbito.com el Ing. Alberto Bidart, responsable técnico de producto de la firma EcoAhorroEnergía, que comercializa en el país los gases refrigerantes ecológicos Eco22 y Eco134.

Doble beneficio: saludables y eficientes

"El 410 se puede reemplazar fácilmente por el Eco22, ya que no necesita adaptación", explica. A diferencia de sus antecesores, el producto ecológico "es una mezcla de gases naturales que se adapta a cualquier equipo, sin realizar cambios, y la carga la puede llevar a cabo un técnico con una mínima instrucción de la empresa. Es un gas líquido, no tiene cloro ni flúor", detalla.

Para el especialista, el reemplazo de los gases que se utilizan para la carga de aires acondicionados es vital porque "son los que causan mayor daño a la capa de ozono". Los análisis para verificar la eficiencia e inocuidad de los gases, informa, fueron realizados por la Universidad Tecnológica Nacional, en sus laboratorios de la ciudad de Córdoba, que constató que no contienen Flúor ni Cloro.

El cuidado del medio ambiente también obligó a repensar las cantidades de energía que se consumen. El doble beneficio de los gases ecológicos está centrado en su conformación saludable para el medio ambiente y su ahorro de electricidad. "Permiten entre un 17% y un 35% de ahorro, dependiendo del diseño del equipo", aseveró Bidart.

El gasto energético, sobre todo en el sector industrial, es una de las principales preocupaciones en el país y el mundo, lo que llevó a la Secretaría de Energía a implementar su "Proyecto de Eficiencia Energética". Su objetivo: incrementar el uso de la energía en forma eficaz para posibilitar un servicio "sustentable".

Luego de los estudios y consultorías de la Secretaría, respaldadas entre otras entidades por la Unión Industrial Argentina, se concretará un informe final con el detalle de las medidas para mejorar el desempeño energético. Entonces, la utilización de los gases ecológicos podría ser uno de los elementos imprescindibles a tener en cuenta ya que, a largo plazo, contribuirán a reducir los costos de la energía, los picos de consumo y mejorar la sustentabilidad del sector.

En la región, México (donde se fabrican los productos) y Panamá lideran la tabla de países con mayor adopción de los gases ecológicos. Su uso también se está multiplicando en Europa.

La firma EcoAhorroEnergía se orienta "a los grandes consumidores, como industrias y empresas, tambos, frigoríficos, hospitales, también a gobiernos provinciales y a la Nación", explicó Bidart. Y anticipó: "En Argentina recién estamos empezando, pero ya presentamos un ensayo y los estudios nos dieron un gran resultado. Incluso iniciamos tratativas para fabricar el producto en el país".

See also >>

[Propuesta de reducción de consumo de R-22 en Chile](#): Análisis, problemáticas y proyección nacional realizada por Víctor Andrade Cuadra, Ing. en Refrigeración y Climatización, Profesor de refrigeración USACH y consultor independiente.



NORTH AMERICA

12. Goodman Faces \$803m Class Action



Goodman could face estimated damages of \$803m in a new class action over the alleged sale of defective air conditioners.

The case filed last week in the District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania is the latest putative class action alleging that evaporator coils in the company's air conditioning units and heat pumps suffered from leaks and that the company had been aware of the problem since 2007.

Goodman, which was purchased by Daikin in 2012, is accused of falsely and deceptively representing on its website that its air conditioning units are reliable, durable, dependable, long-lasting, and that Goodman's manufacturing processes and the quality of its indoor comfort products either meet or exceed the highest standards in the heating and cooling industry.

The plaintiff also alleges that the evaporator coils in the units malfunction at a rate that far exceeds the industry average. It is also alleged that issue of leaking refrigerant had been exacerbated by the industry's recent shift from R22 to the higher pressure R410A.

Goodman faces a number of accusations including breach of warranty, deceptive business practices, misrepresentation, and failure to notify customers of defects.

The company is asking for the suit to be removed to federal court claiming that Goodman reports that it sold almost 400,000 units in Pennsylvania during the timeframe outlined in the complaint.

► [CoolingPost](#), 4 March, 2014

13. Chloropicrin Study Already in Progress

ALBERTON – Phase One of the monitoring study to determine the environmental effects of the use of chloropicrin in the pre-plant fumigation of strawberry runner production on groundwater in P.E.I. is already underway. An Environment Canada official confirmed Wednesday the contract was awarded to Fredericton-based Stantec Consulting Ltd. in November following a competitive bid process.

Westech Agriculture, an Alberton-based strawberry operation that grows strawberry runners for export, applied last fall for permission to use the fumigant chloropicrin in place of methyl bromide, the fumigant it has been using in recent years.

In accordance with the Montreal Protocol, methyl bromide has officially been prohibited in Canada since 2005 under the ozone-depleting substances regulations, but Canada has obtained exemptions because there were no known technically and economically feasible alternatives to it.

In its call for proposals, Environment Canada noted several strawberry runner growers in Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia have phased-out methyl bromide and are now using Chloropicrin 100 Liquid Soil Fumigant. It adds that, at this time, the P.E.I. Department of the Environment is not prepared to allow the use of Chloropicrin 100 until it is established that groundwater contamination is unlikely in P.E.I. soil conditions and for specific use patterns. EC's background information also indicates that currently, chloropicrin appears to be the only technically and economically feasible commercially available alternative to methyl bromide for the P.E.I. strawberry runner grower.

Thus the interest in field-testing chloropicrin.

The P.E.I. Department of Environment granted Environment Canada permission to test the fumigant in a test site of up to five acres. Westech Agriculture will provide the land for the study and is responsible for providing any information the contractor needs to better understand the site characteristics, such as previous pesticide use.

A P.E.I. Department of Environment official indicated last week the field-testing will be carried out in the Ascension area.

Some residents in and around Ascension have started a letter-writing campaign to federal and provincial politicians expressing their concerns about the fumigant's use in their communities.

The study started in late 2013 and is expected to run until early in 2015.

► [Journal Pioneer](#), 5 March 2014, By: Eric McCarthy

See also >>

[Pesticide Regulators Tighten cap on Cancer-causing Fumigant](#), Santa Cruz Sentinel, 24 February 2014, By: Donna Jones



WEST ASIA

14. 40,000 AC Units Seized in Energy Crackdown (Saudi Arabia)



(Photo: Ministry inspectors carry out checks for non-compliant air-conditioners)

Around 40,000 air conditioners have been confiscated by Saudi authorities in a crack-down on contraventions of tough new energy efficiency laws.

From the beginning of this year all imported and locally manufactured split system and window-type air conditioners being sold in the kingdom must comply with star ratings of 3-6 based on EERs of 8.5-10 and vendors must display energy efficiency cards stating their efficiencies. A minimum of four stars applies for split conditioners and three stars for window type conditioners.

Prompt inspections by Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MCI) officials in markets and shops in the first few days of the year have already led to the confiscation of 40,000 units.

Authorities confiscated 3,000 units on the very first day of the new law coming into force, seizing 10,000 on January 2 and 15,433 on January 4.

These included over 5,000 splits lacking the necessary energy efficiency card and over 20,000 splits having less than four stars. In addition, 10,595 window-type air conditioners were confiscated, including 3,531 conditioners lacking the said cards, and 7,064 units having less than three stars.

The MCI says that the next phase of enforcement will include withdrawing samples of air conditioning units for testing to check compliance with the new energy efficiency standard.

In the weeks running up to the implementation of the new law, shops were selling units that failed to meet the new specification at up to 50% discounts. Estimates suggested that there were almost 1,000,000 non-compliant air conditioning units stockpiled at the time.

In addition to a number of local factories and indigenous manufacturers, Saudi Arabia also imported over 2.5 million residential air conditioners in 2012.

Saudi Arabia's primary energy consumption per capita is 3.6 times higher than the world average and has been growing rapidly since 1990, propelled by demand in the residential and service sector.

► [Cooling Post](#), 15 January, 2014

15. EPA, UN Bodies Discuss Ozone Depletion (Kuwait)

The Environment Public Authority (EPA) is gearing up for various meetings with UN organizations to discuss

developing the unified system on ozone depleting substances in accordance with the Montreal Protocol.

Chairman of Air Quality Monitoring Department in the Authority Ayman Bojbara told KUNA Monday that the meetings will be held with the UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) in a matter of days.

The meetings will discuss legal aspects to guarantee interests of all parties related to the Montreal Protocol, he said, and prepare for GCC coordination in this regard. The meetings will also discuss implementation mechanisms, and the authority's experts will present their ideas and proposals, relying on Kuwait's experience in adhering to the Protocol.

The authority is cooperating with public and private sector organizations to guarantee the implementation of the amendments to the system, said the official. Furthermore, the prohibition on use or setting of quotas for ozone depleting substances will be of positive impact on the environment, he stressed. The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer is an international treaty designed to protect the ozone layer by phasing out the production of numerous substances believed to be responsible for ozone depletion. The treaty was opened for signature on September 16, 1987, and entered into force on January 1st 1989. Since then, there had been seven revisions, the last adopted in 1999 in Beijing.

▶ [Kuwait News](#), 17 March 2014



FEATURED

OZONE SECRETARIAT

Highlights: http://ozone.unmfs.org/new_site/en/index.php

- ▶ **Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States**
 - [Submission by the Ozone Secretariat](#)
 - [Statement by the Secretariat at the first Meeting of the Preparatory Committee](#)
- ▶ **OEWG-34:** Scale of assessments for contributions by parties to the 2015-2017 replenishment of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol - Note by the secretariat ([E only](#))
- ▶ [9th Meeting of the Ozone Research Managers of the Vienna Convention](#)
- ▶ [Consultations on the 2015 - 2017 funding requirement for the replenishment of the Multilateral Fund: \(Français, Español\)](#)
- ▶ [Submission by Parties on stockpiles of pharmaceutical-grade CFCs potentially available for export \(Decision XXIV/3\)](#)
- ▶ **25MOP:** Report of the meeting of the Bureau of the Twenty-Fourth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer – UNEP/OzL.Pro.24/Bur.1/3 - ([A](#) | [C](#) | [E](#) | [F](#) | [R](#) | [S](#))

[Montreal Protocol Meetings](#) Dates and Venues **2014**

[TEAP - Evaluation of 2013 Critical Use Nominations for Methyl Bromide and Related Matters - Final Report](#)

[Assessment Panels Meetings](#) - Dates and Venues **2014**

THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL

- ▶ The **72nd Meeting of the Executive Committee** is scheduled to take place in Montreal, Canada from 12 to 16 May 2014.

NEW

The following Booklet was launched during the High-Level Technical Workshop, Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, 23 February 2014

Phasing-out Methyl Bromide in Developing Countries: A success story and its challenges



This booklet addresses the efforts undertaken to phase-out Methyl Bromide in developing countries, the lessons learned and what is pending to reach final phase-out. It further analyses factors that may impact or put at risk the continuity of the phase-out and possible ways to mitigate them. It aims to promote the south-south and north-south-south cooperation, facilitate information exchange on advanced technologies for materials, varieties, rootstocks, etc. and raise awareness on risk of reversibility of MB uses and encourage policy to avoid it happening.

Third Edition of the Training Manual for Customs and Enforcement Officers is updated to reflect the evolving role of Customs and enforcement officers in implementing their commitments under the Montreal Protocol. It includes additional information on all the substances now controlled under the Montreal Protocol, with a focus on hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) which are primarily used as refrigerants and foam blowing agents. HCFCs replaced chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) which were phased out by 1st January 2010. As most ozone depleting substances are also potent greenhouse gases, the section dealing with linkages between ozone layer depletion and global warming has been extended to include new scientific findings...



See also the updated Poster **“Customs Quick Tool for Screening ODS”**

OzonAction Branch Publications and Video launched During MOP 25



OzonAction Special Issue 2013 (OASI): **“A Healthy Atmosphere: the Future we Want”**. A special issue dedicated to stratospheric ozone and climate change related issues and the implementation of the Montreal Protocol, providing the most recent information on ozone protection activities from industry, governments, NGOs and international organizations. OASI is devoted to current topics of particular interest to Article 5 countries.



Achievements & Highlights: 10th Anniversary of the Regional Ozone Network for Europe & Central Asia The 10th anniversary brochure of the ECA network reflects a decade of network operation and aims to share major achievements, case studies and highlights to provide inspiration for countries within and outside the region. Government officials, refrigeration and enforcement experts, building planners and academia, Montreal Protocol secretariats, implementing agencies and bilateral partners, private sector companies and trade associations as well international organizations contributed more than 85 exciting articles and quotes to this bilingual English -Russian brochure.



National Ozone Officers Guide. This guide introduces and summarizes the many important issues about the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer that Ozone Officers (NOOs) need to know to perform their job effectively. Presented in an easy to understand format, the guide is designed to provide new NOOs and their assistants with the critical knowledge needed to quickly understand the Montreal protocol system and the country’s obligations under the Montreal Protocol.



Putting a face to ozone depletion in Africa: HPMP Implementation in Africa, a special case study of Senegal. This guide introduces the implementation of Montreal Protocol in Africa. It describes the HCFC phase-out management plans (HPMPs) in selected African countries, especially in Senegal. It focuses on ozone, climate and energy efficiency aspects.




OzonAction Publications Catalogue 2014. Information on science, policies, and technologies forms the base of technology support and capacity building. Since 1991, the information clearinghouse of UNEP DTIE OzonAction has been helping developing countries to make informed decisions about phase-out by providing quality reviewed, need-based information services. Never before has such a power tool been so badly needed

as now, when the Montreal Protocol is entering the second phase and when the climate benefits of its implementation are becoming so clear and evident. Showcased in this catalogue - sector-wise, as well as function-wise - are more than 145 publications, CD ROMS, videos, posters, TV spots, radio spots, DVD and other awareness materials to help National Ozone Units (NOUs) and other stakeholders in industry and governments to build their capacity to implement the Montreal Protocol and at the same time derive climate.



📺 **“The Arctic and the Ozone Layer”**- background: In 2011, extremely low ozone levels were recorded in the Arctic region. This episode in the North Pole - the Arctic - has triggered concerns on the trend of the ozone layer's recovery, expected to fully happen by mid century. With the support of the Government of Norway, UNEP is investigating the causes of this depletion and the scientific explanations for such an unexpected episode in the Arctic. This 16-minute documentary reports the impacts on the region's ecosystem and the changes' foreseen risks in the Arctic that may affect human life also in mid-latitudes. This video output is jointly branded by the WMO (World

Meteorological organisation) and brings to light some of the so much discussed inter-linkages between the climate and ozone issues on the voices of internationally know scientists. 🔗 Click [here](#) to view video



EVENTS

2014



[16th European Conference on Air Conditioning and Refrigeration](#), Milan, Italy, 20 March 2014



[AIRAH's first Solar Cooling Workshop](#) will be held at the CSIRO EcoSciences Precinct in Brisbane, Australia, Thursday, 27 March 2014



Krakow Pest Management Around the world – [11th Fumigants and Pheromones Conference](#), 2-4 June 2014, Krakow, Poland



[3rd Annual ATMOsphere America 2014](#), 18-19 June 2014, The Westin Market Street, San Francisco, The United States

🔗 Find all ATMOsphere Summary Reports [here](#)



[3rd IIR International Conference on Sustainability and the Cold Chain](#), 23-25 June 2014, St Mary's University College, Twickenham, London, UK



[ASHRAE 2014 Annual Conference](#), 28 June-2 July, Seattle, Washington, US



[The Future of HVAC 2014 Conference](#), July 2014, Sydney, Australia. Abstract / submissions for this conference are open



[5th International Biofumigation Symposium](#), 9-12 September 2014, Harper Adams University, UK

2015



[ASHRAE Announces Call for Papers for 2015 Winter Conference](#), 24-28 January, Chicago, ATLANTA –



[FRIGAIR Africa 2015 is a go!](#) 3-5 June 2015, Gallagher Estate, Midrand. South Africa. FRIGAIR 2015 Showcasing the crucial role played by the HEVAC&R industry and the rapidly developing technology in eco-friendly efficiency.

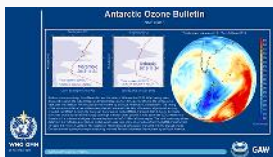


READING



[Read / Download this publication for free](#)

Greenleaf Publishing is pleased to make its book **“Ozone Connections: Expert Networks in Global Environmental Governance”** authored by Penelope Canan and Nancy Reichman, freely available to the UNEP and its National Ozone Units worldwide for one year, beginning on 16 September 2013. [▶ Read more](#)



WMO Antarctic Ozone 2013 Bulletins - The World Meteorological Organization Secretariat issues bulletins containing information on the state of the ozone layer in the Antarctic at roughly two week intervals from August to November. The bulletins are based on data provided by WMO Members which operate ozone monitoring stations in the southern hemisphere and satellites to observe ozone globally. [▶ WMO Antarctic Ozone Bulletins: 2013](#)



[Final Report – 1st Meeting of the INTERPOL Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Committee](#)

From 4 to 8 November 2013, the Environmental Security Sub-Directorate (ENS) at the INTERPOL General Secretariat hosted, in conjunction with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), a week-long series of meetings and events to address the international community’s responsibility to tackle environmental crime. The Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Events brought together senior law enforcement officials, as well as representatives from non-governmental organizations, academia, and the private sector.

See Below Excerpts Related to Ozone Depleting Substances:

Illegal Trade in Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) - Supporting Montreal Protocol Compliance through Cooperation and Enforcement

81. During the International Environmental Compliance and Enforcement

Conference held by UNEP and Interpol, UNEP Ozon Action ROA/CAP held a special event on Illegal Trade in Ozone Depleting substances (ODS) – Supporting Montreal Protocol Compliance through Cooperation and Enforcement. The event provided participants with the opportunity to discuss and identify strategies to address the phase-out of Ozone depleting substances (ODS), which may include surge smuggling of illegal ODS. Some effective tools identified for combatting illegal trade in ODS are informal Prior Informed Consent (iPIC), a voluntary agreement between countries to exchange information on import and export licenses prior to export, as well as making ODS trade control part of customs officers training, and providing training workshops where officers are adequately trained to monitor importation of banned substances.

82. WCO/RILO encouraged information and intelligence sharing between the officers and WCO/RILO using the Customs Enforcement Network (CEN), a WCO information gathering and communication system for intelligence. Its functions allows for data mining essential to define strategies, prepare risk indicators, or identify trends.

83. A common challenge faced was that of porous borders, mislabelling of containers as non-ODS products, inadequate public awareness on the ODS control regulations and frequent turn-over or redeployment of trained enforcement officers.

Research and Markets: [Walk-in Refrigeration Market in the US 2014-2018](#): Estimations Reveal that Restaurant Industry Sales are to Reach US\$683.4 Billion in 2014



See also >> [Refrigerant Market \(HCFC, HFC, HC\) Worth \\$15.7 Billion By 2018](#)



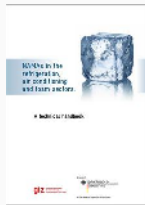
[GUIDE+: HFC taxes & fiscal incentives for natural refrigerants in Europe](#), a comprehensive overview of existing and proposed fiscal measures aimed at reducing the HFCs use and emissions in HVAC&R sectors, while encouraging the switch to climate-friendly technologies, in key Europe countries.



[UNIDO & shecco launch first GUIDE on Natural Substances in Developing Countries](#) - The report, summarizing results from the ATMOSphere Technology Summit and global surveys gathering perspectives from emerging economies, is another clear step to strengthen shecco's involvement in international project activities helping developing countries seize additional climate benefits from natural refrigerants and foams.



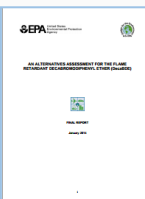
[Primer on Hydrofluorocarbons](#), Fast action under the Montreal Protocol can limit growth of HFCs, prevent up to 100 billion tonnes of CO₂-eq emissions by 2050, and avoid up to 0.5°C of warming by 2100. IGSD, January 2014, Lead authors: Durwood Zaelke, Nathan Borgford-Parnell, and Danielle Fest Grabiell. Contributing authors: Stephen O. Andersen, Xiaopu Sun, Dennis Clare, Yuzhe Peng Ling, and Alex Milgroom.



A technical handbook by GIZ Proklima on **Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMAs) in the refrigeration, air conditioning and foam sectors** (RAC&F) is a comprehensive guideline for the preparation and implementation of cost-effective mitigation actions on that particular sector. The handbook was produced as part of a global project on NAMAs on RAC&F, financed by the International Climate Initiative of the German Environment Ministry.



Global Fluorochemicals Industry, This report analyzes the worldwide markets for Fluorochemicals in Thousand Metric Tons by the following Product Segments: Organic Fluorochemicals, Inorganic Fluorochemicals, and Fluoro-polymers. The report provides separate comprehensive analytics for the US, Canada, Japan, Europe, Asia-Pacific, Latin America, and Rest of World. Annual estimates and forecasts are provided for the period 2010 through 2018. Also, a six-year historic analysis...
[▶ ReportLinker](#)



An Alternatives Assessment for the Flame Retardant Decabromodiphenyl Ether (DecaBDE) provides detailed hazard information for 29 substances and mixtures that have been identified as potentially viable alternatives to decabromodiphenyl ether (decaBDE) in a variety of polymers and applications...



2013 Milestones; 2014 Opportunities in Enforcement & Compliance, The International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (INECE)



UNODC study: **Border Control in the Greater Mekong Sub-region**
See: **Trafficking of Hazardous Waste and ODS**: pages: 4, 18 and 19.



Green Cooling for a Warming World. A new [video](#) by Proklima - explains how cooling technologies are linked to our climate and what it needs to ensure that they are truly environmentally friendly. Together with the Film Academy Ludwigsburg, GIZ Proklima has created a video for the Green Cooling Initiative (GCI). The video shall enhance awareness on the harmful effects of f-gases on the ozone layer and the climate. Exemplarily, our “green cooling-family” discovers various practises of cooling in their life and learns about the use of natural refrigerants as an environmentally-friendly alternative to chemical refrigerants.



Magnets Bring Refrigerators to the Brink of Revolution- The developers of a new magnet-based cooling system claim their invention has brought the refrigeration industry to the “cusp of revolution.”



MISCELLANEOUS



Micro-Distributed Advanced Refrigeration Technology- Micro-distributed refrigeration is an integration of the refrigeration system and display case. Attendees will learn about how this new technology utilized propane as a refrigerant, some compliance and safety requirements, as well as design and benefits of the technology.

USEPA Webinar | Date: Tuesday, March 25, 2014 | Time: 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm (Eastern time) – To join the webinar Go to: https://epa.connectsolutions.com/advanced_selfcontained/
Then Select "Enter as a Guest".



European Research Center Backs Climate-Friendly Coolant for Car Air Conditioners, Global Automakers Moving Forward. David Doniger's Blog, SwitchBoard, Natural Resources Defense Council Staff Blog

Fire Suppression for Petrochemical, Oil and Gas Infrastructure, [Energy Global News](#), 25 February 2014



MONTREAL PROTOCOL
WHO'S WHO

The Montreal Protocol Who's Who

*Learn more and nominate Ozone Layer Protection
Champion from your Country /Region >>*

<http://www.unep.fr/ozonaction/montrealprotocolwhoswho>

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