

F-GAS

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Promoting Compliance with F-Gas and Ozone Regulations

F-Gas Support

Compliance Timetable

June 2009

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Promoting Compliance with F-Gas and Ozone Regulations

- Background and who we are
- Contractors responsibilities
- What you need to do and when
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- Defra keen to ensure these Regulations are properly implemented
 - F-Gas Support set up to help achieve this
- Small team of F gas experts
- Helping end users understand obligations
 - targeting biggest emitters first
- Helping contractors and suppliers:
 - understand their own obligations
 - convince end users of importance of the Regulations
- Helping Regulators with enforcement activities
 - ensuring a consistent approach throughout UK

F Gas Regulation EC 842/2006

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- Covers HFCs hydrofluorocarbons
 - Nine “main” pure fluids and numerous blends e.g.:
 - pure fluids: 134a, 32, 125, 143a, 245fa
 - blends : 404A, 410A, 507
- Also covers PFCs and SF₆
- Mainly aimed at reducing leakage emissions
- Installation, repairs, refrigerant recovery & personnel training
- Depending on size, involves, regular leak checks and record keeping

F Gas Emissions in Perspective

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GHG	Typical Source	% of UK Emissions*
CO₂	Fossil fuels, process gas (e.g. cement)	80
Methane	Landfill, sewage, nat. gas, agriculture	10
N₂O	Agriculture, process gas (e.g. adipic acid)	8
HFCs	Refrigeration, aerosols, foams etc.	2.1
PFCs	Semiconductors, aluminium, refrigeration	0.1
SF₆	Magnesium, switchgear, trainers	0.2

* % of GWP weighted emissions in tonnes CO₂ equivalent, 2004 data

Relative Impact per kg emitted – 100 Year GWPs

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GHG	Global Warming Impact
CO ₂	1
Methane	21
N ₂ O	310
HFCs	140 – 11,700
PFCs	6,500 – 9,200
SF ₆	22,200

Key Sector – Stationary Refrigeration and Air Con

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- Emissions are 27% of 2005 total
 - now about 35% to 40%
 - because of reductions in fluid supply, magnesium etc.
- Vital sector in relation to Carbon Management
- Excellent potential to reduce “direct emissions”
 - through reduced leakage
- Even more potential to reduce “indirect emissions”
 - by improving the energy efficiency
 - lots of “stand alone” efficiency opportunities
 - and, a link between refrigerant leakage and efficiency

Contractors Responsibilities

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- **Training & personnel certification**
- **Company certification**
- **Records**
- **New equipment requirements**
- **Labelling**
- **Containers**
- **Import and Export**

Training and Certification

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- From July 2007 personnel must have a suitable qualification to work on stationary RAC equipment that contains or is designed to contain F gas refrigerants. This covers:
 - Leak checking,
 - Installation,
 - Recovery,
 - Maintenance,
 - Servicing.
- Obligation on equipment “operator” to ensure that internal staff or contractors staff are qualified.
- Qualification also referred to as “personnel certificate”

Interim Personnel Qualifications



For Stationary RAC:

- CITB J01
- City & Guilds 2078

In addition for those working on systems that contain or are designed to contain less than 3kg there are two other options:

- In-house certificate
- Apply for an interim personnel certificate - need to be issued by 4th July. Available from:
 - DASA
 - WTA

Full Personnel Qualifications

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There are 2 certification and evaluation bodies for the RAC sector:

- CITB
- City & Guilds

Each are offering qualifications that meets the minimum requirements:

- CITB J11-14
 - C&G 2079
- There is also the option to hold a European qualification recognised under EC F gas Regulation 842/2006

Training and Certification (2)

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- There are 4 categories of qualifications for RAC. Need to select the most appropriate one:
 - Category I: All relevant activities
 - Category II: Leak checking any plant plus all other activities on plants <3kg (or <6kg for hermetically sealed systems)
 - Category III: Recovery only from plants <3kg (or <6kg for hermetically sealed systems)
 - Category IV: Leak checking only
- Mutual recognition of national training courses across EU member states

Company Certification

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- From 4th July 2009, all companies (including sole-traders) undertaking work on stationary RAC must hold a company certificate if they employ personnel that carry out the following activities on RAC systems containing HFCs:
 - Installation.
 - Maintenance or servicing.

Company certification bodies

- Refcom has an agreement with Defra
- Others bodies may be appointed

Comment on 4th July 2009 deadline

“Given the difficulties encountered in designating an appropriate certification body.... it is likely that there will be a number of companies who may not have received either an interim or a full certificate by 4th July 2009. Failure to hold a certificate will however be an offence under the GB F gas Regulations 2009. All companies should apply for their certificate as soon as possible and no later than the 4th July deadline.”

Records

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- The onus is on operators to keep records about their systems – contractors may do this on their behalf.
- As a contractor selling your refrigeration expertise you must also keep records of:
 - Recovery of HCFCs that you intend to resell after 1st Jan 2010, no details are currently available on the format of these records
 - Records for any of your own in-house RAC systems

New Equipment & Labelling

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- **New equipment –**
 - All newly installed equipment should be checked for leakage immediately after installation
- **Automatic leak detection**
 - If you install stationery systems containing 300 kg or more of F gas then they will need to be fitted with automatic leak detection
- **Labelling –**
 - any new system placed on the market must be fitted with a label clearly stating the type and quantity of HFC refrigerant used.
 - label format specified in Regulation EC 1494/2007
 - If systems are installed and charged on site then the contractor has the responsibility to label the equipment with the quantity of F gas charged

Container, Imports & Exports

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Containers

- Placing on the market of non-refillable containers was banned from July 2007, except for those already filled at that time.
- The use of non-refillable containers for transporting or storing F gas refrigerants is banned
- Any containers should be returned so that any remaining gas can be recovered and if appropriate cylinders can be re-used.

Import and Export

- If you are importing F gases from outside the EC, the onus is on you to report any import of more than 1 tonne.
- The same applies to the reporting of exported product, further details and forms can be found on the BERR website.

Who will be Checking?

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- Local Authorities
 - EA
 - SEPA
 - Fluid Suppliers
 - Your Customers!
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- The regulators have a remit & funding to look at the F gases and ODS Regulations

Contacting F-Gas Support

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- **Telephone Help Line** **0161 874 3663**
- **Email** fgas-support@enviros.com
- **Website** www.defra.gov.uk/fgas
- **Post**

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PO Box 481, Salford, M50 3UD

Other Useful Contacts

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- REFCOM: www.refcom.org.uk, tel 01768 860409
email: info@refcom.org.uk
- Domestic Appliance Service Association (DASA),
www.dasa.org.uk, tel 0870 224 0343
email: office@dasa.org.uk
- Whitegoods Trade Association (WTA),
www.whitegoodstradeassociation.org, tel 0845 226 1272
email: admin@whitegoodstradeassociation.org