New F-gas regulation published

22.05.2014
The European Commission published the new regulation to cut the emission of fluorinated gases (F-gases). The new EU legislation [http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/f-gas/legislation/index_en.htm] will go into action on 1st January 2015 and is to reduce F-gas emissions in the EU by two thirds until 2030.

Especially the heat pump industry in Europe is happy about the finalisation of the regulation, since they now have a definite framework for future projects, which gives heat pump manufacturers planning security for new research and development programmes.

“Now it is official: the Regulation is published! And this happens at a perfect timing, namely during our annual European Heat Pump Forum in Berlin, where the majority of the European heat pump industry is present to talk about current and future trends and developments. As such, I could notice many smiling faces, since they know what they are up to for the upcoming years. The whole sector is committed to work hard towards delivering its contribution to the phase-down, which will trigger the usage of alternative refrigerants for product groups where this is feasible already today and it will kick-off research and development for those product groups, where the alternatives are still unclear”, Thomas Nowak, Secretary General of the European Heat Pump Association (EHPA) said.

Until the regulation is put into action in 2015, the Commission and the EU member states will need to work on its implementation. This means they have to modify administrative procedures so that new non-F-gas substances can be used. Additionally the EHPA asks the European Commission for their support in terms of assigning funds in Horizon 2020 for R&D on heat pump systems with lower-greenhouse warming potential (low-GWP) refrigerants.

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