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# Agenda


1. Regulatory Drivers and HVAC Impact on Climate

2. Regulatory Updates

3. Alternative Refrigerant Choices

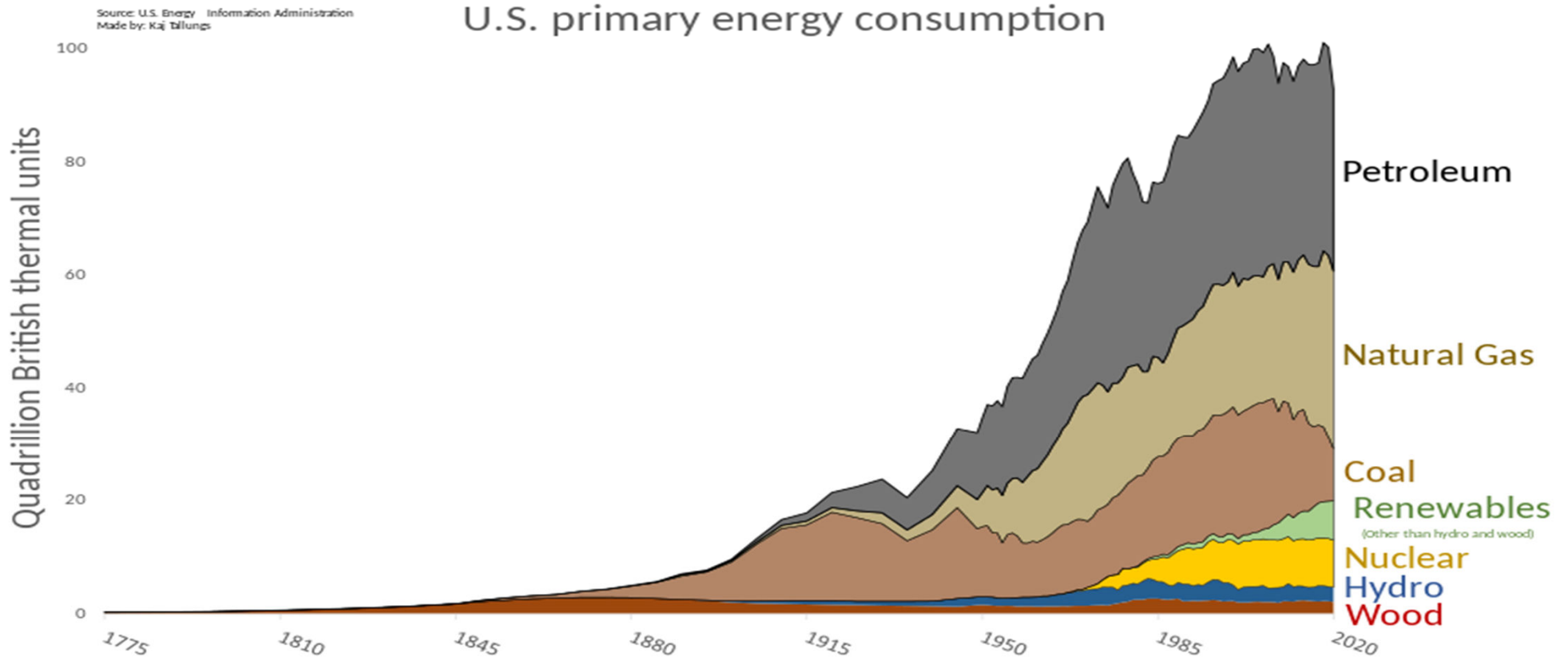
4. What Manufacturers are Doing

5. Challenges To Consider



# The Electric Power Sector will continue to Decarbonize

U.S. primary energy consumption



# How will the Building Sector continue to Decarbonize?



## **ENERGY EFFICIENCY**



## **CLEAN GRID**

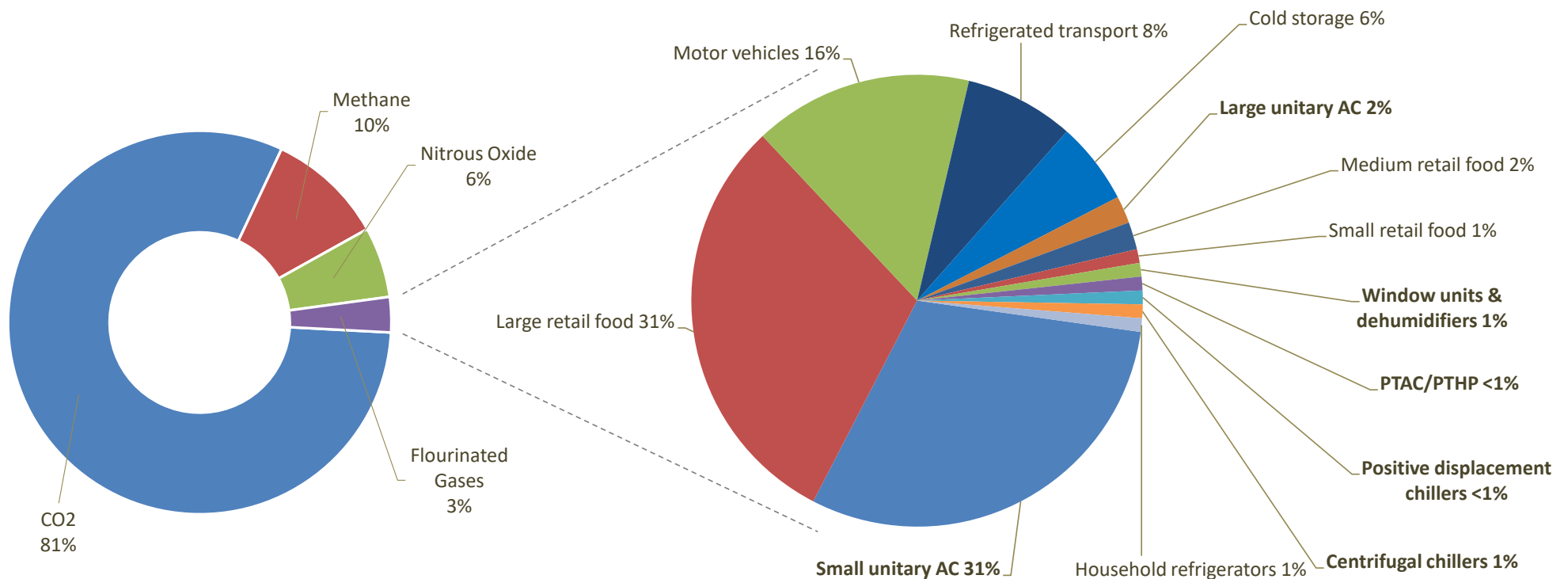


## **ELECTRIFICATION**

- Shifting from fossil fuel combustion to electric end-uses
- Can include:
  - Space Heating
  - Water Heating
  - Cooking

# Global HFC emissions by application type

## *% of GWP-weighted emissions*



Source: US EPA, Global Mitigation of Non-CO2 Greenhouse gases: 2010-2030. September 2013, EPA-430-R-13-011

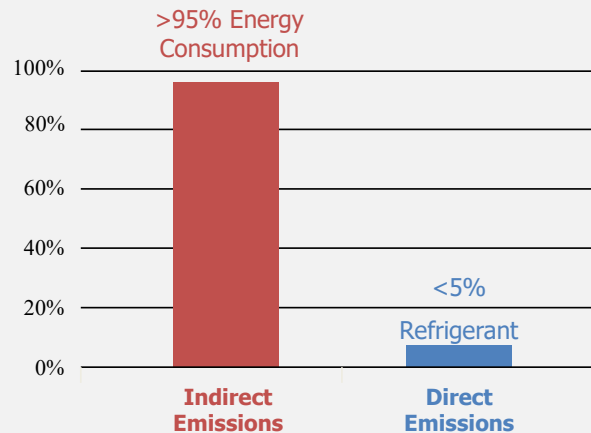
# HVAC Equipment Carbon Footprint

- Refrigerant emissions are insignificant when compared to the indirect emissions from energy production needed to power HVAC equipment

## Indirect emissions

- Annual kWh used
- CO<sub>2</sub> emissions / kWh generated

Chiller CO<sub>2</sub> emissions footprint



## Direct emissions

- Refrigerant leaks
- Escape during servicing
- Refrigerant not recovered at end-of-life

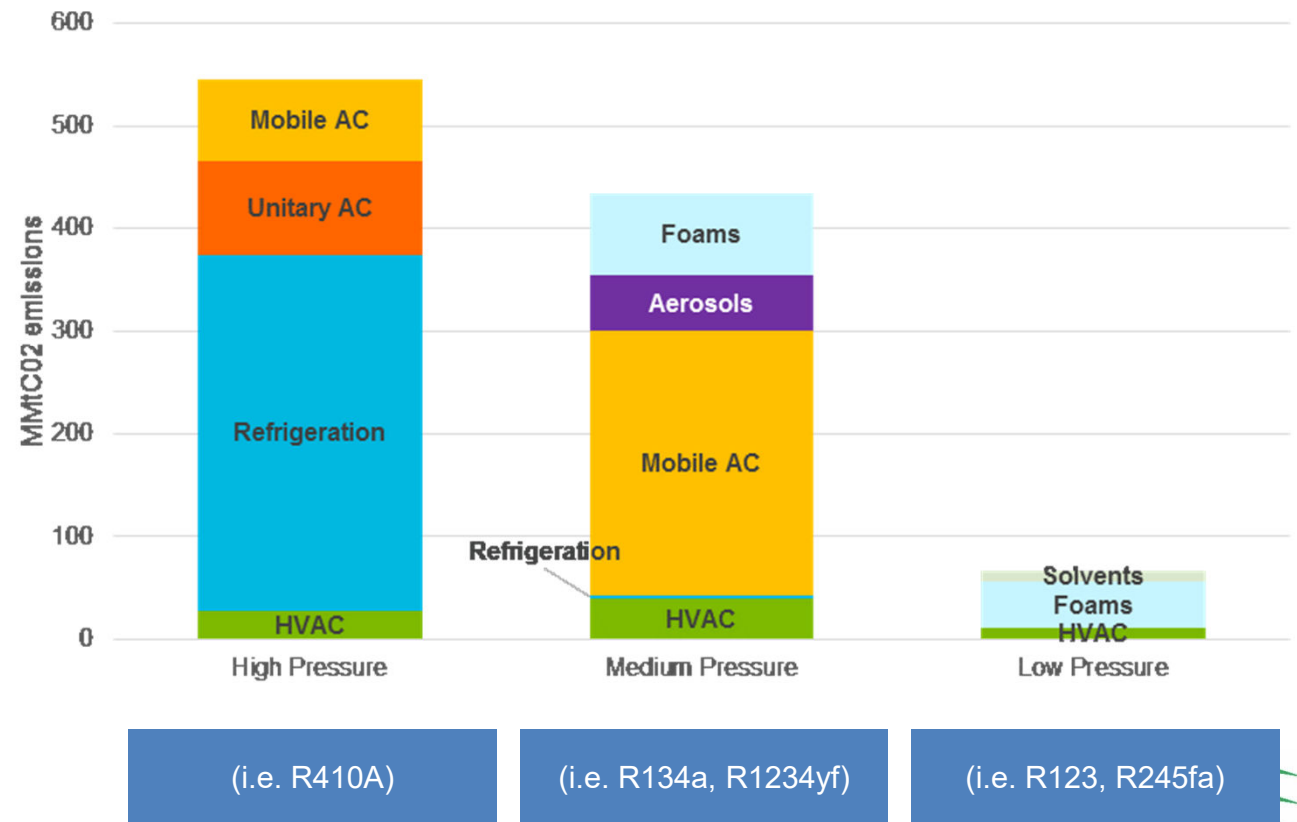
## Energy Efficiency

has the greatest impact on total cost of ownership and environmental impact when it comes to HVAC equipment

# Emissions by sector – HFC Consumption

## Industry Sector Emissions

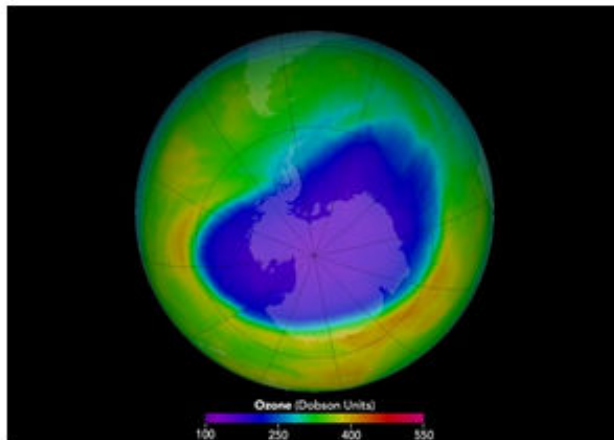
- Regulations focus on the highest emitting industry sectors
- HVAC is a much smaller contributor due to responsible use practices and maintenance



Source: U.S. EPA

# Phase *Out* and Phase *Down* History

## Ozone Depletion Potential (ODP)

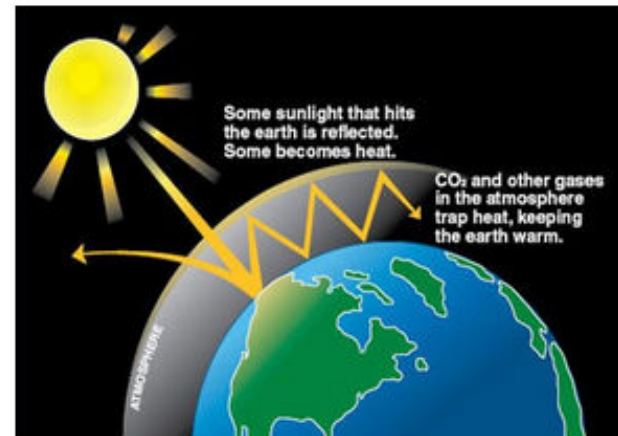


## Phase OUT of CFCs & HCFCs

(Ozone Depleting - Higher GWP)

Montreal Protocol

## Global Warming Potential (GWP)



## Phase DOWN of HFCs

(Non-ozone Depleting – High GWP)

Kigali Amendment





# Regulations and Legislation

## Climate Protection Regulations

### EPA SNAP Rules (US only)

- Publishes acceptable and unacceptable refrigerants by end-use

### AIM Act (US only)

- HFC phase-down and sector-based mandates

### Montreal Protocol

- Ratified in 1987 – addresses Ozone depleting substances

### Kigali Amendment

- Targets Global Warming and HFCs (85% reduction by 2047\*)

### Paris Accord

- Limits global warming to <2°C (preferably <1.5°C) by end of century
- Canada ratified in 2016
- The United States formally rejoined on February 19, 2021

### HFC Phase Down

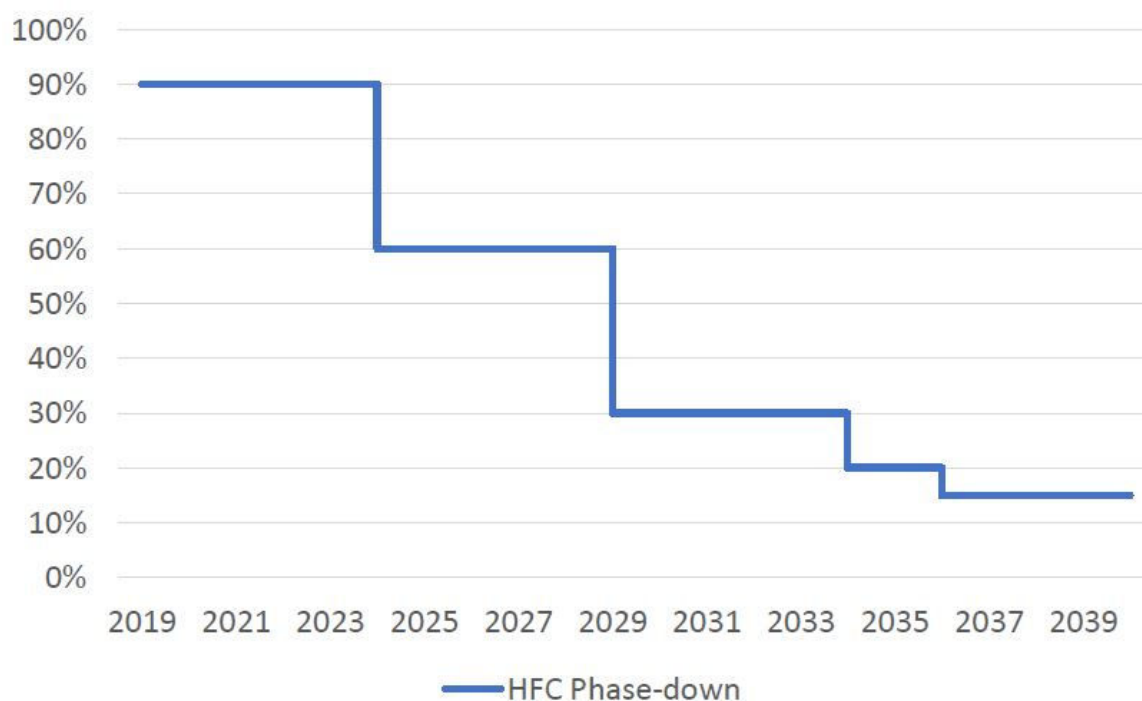
- US: EPA published HFC production and consumption cap
- Canada: Implemented HFC sector-based limitations
  - Ex: no new chillers with GWP > 750 in 2025

\* 85% HFC reduction by 2036 for Developed Countries, including CAN and USA

# Driving regulation behind HFC reductions

The Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol is the driving regulation behind HFC reductions globally based on schedules for developed and developing countries.

Unlike ozone depletion, the Kigali Amendment and Montreal Protocol **allow for continued use and production** of HFCs for beneficial purposes indefinitely where refrigerants **R-22 and R-123 are subject to bans** from future production.



# State HFC activity – United States only

## California Air Resources Board (CARB)

- Prohibitions on new higher GWP HFCs in stationary ACR applications finalized
  - Rulemaking is now in effect
- A/C – 750 GWP limit for new systems
  - Jan 1, 2023 – Window units and dehumidifiers
  - Jan 1, 2024 – Chillers
  - Jan 1, 2025 – Residential & light commercial systems
  - Jan 1, 2026 – VRF
- Commercial & Industrial Refrigeration
  - Jan 1, 2022 – 150 GWP limit on new systems over 50-lbs
  - Jan 1, 2030 – average GWP of  $\leq 1,400$  for food retail stores



Prohibitions on Use of Certain Hydrofluorocarbons in Stationary Refrigeration, Chillers, Aerosols-Propellants, and Foam End-Uses Regulation

<https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/rulemaking/2020/hfc2020>

## Other states

- ~10 other states have finalized or pending HFC regulations
- Some states do not allow storage or pass-through of 'prohibited' substances
- Most states are converging around SNAP Rules from 2016

GWP values are per the Fourth Assessment Report (AR4) of the IPCC

# HFC activity – United States only

## AIM Act Timeline

- The AIM Act's goal is to phasedown 85% of annual HFC production and consumption by 2036. The AIM act HFC phasedown officially began in January 2022
  - January 2022: 10% phasedown
  - January 2024: 40% phasedown
  - January 2029: 70% phasedown
  - January 2034: 80% phasedown
  - January 2036: 85% final phasedown
- 
- HFC Refrigerants: **R-32**, R-125, R-134a, R-410a (composed of equal parts R-32 and R-125), R-143a, and R-152a



# North America regulations and legislation

## Global Warming Protection



### **121 countries + the EU have ratified the Kigali Amendment**

- Canada ratified in November 2017
- United States has NOT ratified...yet

### **Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol**

- Targets HFC refrigerants and Global Warming Potential (GWP) level of refrigerants
- Defines a 15-year phase-down schedule of HFCs through 2036
  - Includes phase-down of R-134a and R-410A
- Impacts Chiller, Ducted Systems, Industrial Refrigeration and VRF new products
- The United States must ratify before 2033 for international cooperation
- **Biden administration has declared its commitment to ratify the Kigali Amendment**
- Significant industry support for Kigali Amendment ratification

# Three factors to reduce HVAC equipment carbon footprint

1

Design, specify or buy  
high efficiency  
equipment and systems

2

Maintain equipment for  
ultimate performance  
and leak prevention

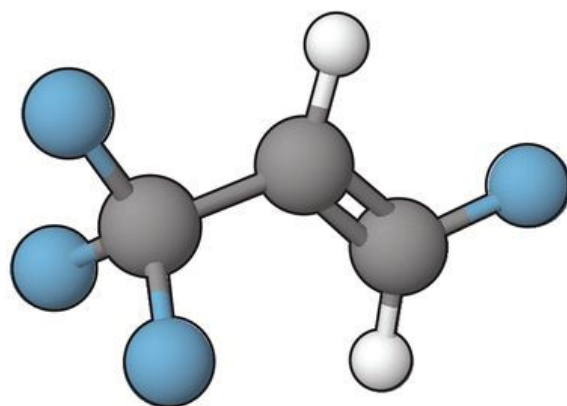
3

Choose sustainable  
refrigerants



# Refrigerant Nomenclature

R, refrigerant;  
composition-designating  
prefixes also allowed  
such as CFC, HFC, HFO)



**R-1234ze (E)**

Number of double bonds  
(omit for saturated  
compounds)

Number of  
carbons - 1  
(omit if N<sub>c</sub> = 1)

Number of  
hydrogens + 1

Number  
of  
fluorines

Isometric  
designation  
(if applicable)

Conformation  
(if applicable);  
E, trans; Z, cis

# Refrigerant classifications – Safety

Designation		Classification
HCFC	R-22 <small>ODP &gt; 0</small>	A1
HCFC	R-123 <small>ODP &gt; 0</small>	B1
HFC	R-410A	A1
HFC	R-134a	A1
HFC	R-32	A2L
Blend	R-514A	B1
Blend	R-513A	A1
Blend	R-454B	A2L
HFO	R-1233zd	A1
HFO	R-1234ze	A2L

Flammability		Toxicity	
		Lower	Higher
	Higher	A3	B3
	Lower	A2	B2
	Difficult to ignite and sustain	A2L	B2L
	No flame propagation	A1	B1

No identified toxicity at concentrations  $\leq$  400 ppm

Evidence of toxicity below 400 ppm





# Main refrigerants in play

GWP	< 4000			■ R404A		
	< 2500			▲ R452A ■ R22 ▲ R407A/R407F	■ R410A	
	< 1500		■ R134a	▲ R449A ▲ R448A ▲ N20*		
	< 750		▲ R450A/N13 ▲ R513A/XP10 ▲ R515	▲ R454A/XL40/DR7 ● L40* ▲ R444B/L20	▲ R32 ▲ R454B ▲ R452B/DR55	
	< 150	▲ R514A ▲ R1233zd	▲ R1270 ▲ R1234yf ▲ R1234ze	▲ R454C/XL20/DR3 ▲ R455A/HD110 ▲ R290		■ R744/CO <sub>2</sub> ■ R717/NH <sub>3</sub>
		R123 like	R134a like	R404A / R22 like	R410A like	Other

Density →

GWP versus Density (pressure) of the main refrigerant groups

\* No ASHRAE name yet

## Legend

- A1 – Non flammable
- A2L – Mildly flammable
- A3 – Highly flammable
- B2L – Toxic lower flammable
- Old reference refrigerant
- ▲ New and on the market
- Not yet on the market

# Refrigerant comparison

	Low Pressure Centrifugal (vs. R-123)	
	R-1233zd	R-514A
GWP	✓ 4.5	✓ 2
Toxicity classification	✓ Low	✗ Higher
Flammability classification	✓ None	✓ None
Efficiency	✓ Highest	✗ Lower
Cost	✗ Higher	✗ High
Footprint	✗ Largest	✗ Largest
Refrigerant producers (global)	✓ Multiple	✗ One
Chiller manufacturers (global)	✓ Multiple	✗ One
Adjacent industry use	✓ Foam blowing	✗ None



GWP values are per the Fourth Assessment Report (AR4) of the IPCC

# Refrigerant comparison

	Low Pressure Centrifugal (vs. R-123)		Medium Pressure Centrifugal and Screw Chillers, Packaged Units, Splits (vs. R-134a)			
	R-1233zd	R-514A	R-134a	R-513A	R-1234ze	R-515B
GWP	✓ 4.5	✓ 2	✗ 1430	✓ 631	✓ 7	✓ 293
Toxicity classification	✓ Low	✗ Higher	✓ Low	✓ Low	✓ Low	✓ Low
Flammability classification	✓ None	✓ None	✓ None	✓ None	✗ Mild	✓ None
Efficiency	✓ Highest	✗ Lower	✓ Highest	✗ Lower	✗ Lower	✗ Lower
Cost	✗ Higher	✗ High	✓ Lowest	✗ Higher	✗ Higher	✗ Higher
Footprint	✗ Largest	✗ Largest	✓ Smaller	✓ Smaller	✗ Larger	✗ Larger
Refrigerant producers (global)	✓ Multiple	✗ One	✓ Multiple	✓ Multiple	✗ One	✗ One
Chiller manufacturers (global)	✓ Multiple	✗ One	✓ Multiple	✓ Multiple	✓ Multiple	✓ Multiple
Adjacent industry use	✓ Foam blowing	✗ None	✓ Industrial AC, foam, refrigeration	✓ Industrial and commercial refrigeration	✓ Heat pumps, vending machines, refrigerators	✓ Heat pumps, vending machines, refrigerators



GWP values are per the Fourth Assessment Report (AR4) of the IPCC

# Refrigerant comparison

	Low Pressure Centrifugal (vs. R-123)		Medium Pressure Centrifugal and Screw Chillers, Packaged Units, Splits (vs. R-134a)				High Pressure Scroll Chillers, VRF, Packaged Units, Splits (vs. R-410A)		
	R-1233zd	R-514A	R-134a	R-513A	R-1234ze	R-515B	R-410A	R-454B	R-32
GWP	✓ 4.5	✓ 2	✗ 1430	✓ 631	✓ 7	✓ 293	✗ 2088	✓ 466	✓ 675
Toxicity classification	✓ Low	✗ Higher	✓ Low	✓ Low	✓ Low	✓ Low	✓ Low	✓ Low	✓ Low
Flammability classification	✓ None	✓ None	✓ None	✓ None	✗ Mild	✓ None	✓ None	✗ Mild	✗ Mild
Efficiency	✓ Highest	✗ Lower	✓ Highest	✗ Lower	✗ Lower	✗ Lower	✓ High	✓ High	✓ High
Cost	✗ Higher	✗ High	✓ Lowest	✗ Higher	✗ Higher	✗ Higher	✓ Lowest	✗ Higher	✗ Higher
Footprint	✗ Largest	✗ Largest	✓ Smaller	✓ Smaller	✗ Larger	✗ Larger	✓ Smaller	✓ Smaller	✓ Smaller
Refrigerant producers (global)	✓ Multiple	✗ One	✓ Multiple	✓ Multiple	✗ One	✗ One	✓ Multiple	✓ Multiple	✗ One
Chiller manufacturers (global)	✓ Multiple	✗ One	✓ Multiple	✓ Multiple	✓ Multiple	✓ Multiple	✓ Multiple	✓ Multiple	✓ Multiple
Adjacent industry use	✓ Foam blowing	✗ None	✓ Industrial AC, foam, refrigeration	✓ Industrial and commercial refrigeration	✓ Heat pumps, vending machines, refrigerators	✓ Heat pumps, vending machines, refrigerators	✓ Industrial AC, foam, refrigeration	✓ Heat pumps, vending machines, refrigerators	



GWP values are per the Fourth Assessment Report (AR4) of the IPCC

# Natural refrigerants



R-717  
(Ammonia)

- Toxicity restricts where it can be used



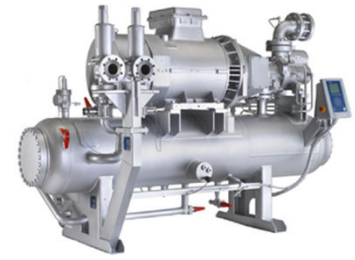
R-290  
(Propane)

- Highly flammable
- Outdoor application
- Site use or acceptance limitations



R-718  
(Water)

- Great when using waste energy
- Higher cost
- Physical dimensions can limit use



R-744  
(Carbon Dioxide)

- Low-temp two-stage freezer systems
- Higher cost
- Condensing temperatures not practical for comfort cooling
- High energy consumption

**Natural refrigerants sound like a great solution, but also come with challenges or barriers to entry (or limitations) into commercial applications**

# Resources around Refrigerant Regulation and Updated Standards

- EPA Final Rule for Phasedown of HFCs  
<https://www.epa.gov/climate-hfcs-reduction/final-rule-phasedown-hydrofluorocarbons-establishing-allowance-allocation>
- ASHRAE Higher-Flammability Refrigerants Addressed in Updated Standards  
<https://www.ashrae.org/news/esociety/new-refrigerants-higher-flammability-refrigerants-addressed-in-updated-ashrae-standards-15-34>
- ASHRAE Position Document on Climate Change  
<https://www.ashrae.org/file%20library/about/position%20documents/ashrae-position-document-on-climate-change.pdf>
- AHRI Fact Sheet on AIM Act  
[https://ahrinet.org/App\\_Content/ahri/files/Resources/AHRI\\_AIM\\_Act-one\\_pager.pdf](https://ahrinet.org/App_Content/ahri/files/Resources/AHRI_AIM_Act-one_pager.pdf)

# What Owners, Engineers, Distributors and Contractors can do

- **Support A2L Code Adoption at the local, state level & national levels**
  - Facilitate a single, national transition on 1/1/2025
- **Engineers – Review UL 60335-2-40 (3<sup>rd</sup> edition) – look at 4<sup>th</sup> edition proposals**
  - Be prepared for customer questions regarding Low GWP, R410A “drop-ins” (there aren’t any...)
- **Become familiar with ASHRAE 15 & 15.2P (when finalized)**
  - Engineers & Contractors must calculate conditioned space volumes and total charge sizes for A2L’s
- **Review AHRI Safe Refrigerant Transition Task Force (SRTTF) materials**
  - <https://www.ahrinet.org/saferefrigerant>
  - A2L research and test results, best practices, etc.
- **Ensure training occurs on the safe use and handling of A2L’s**
  - [ACCA A2L Refrigerant Training](#)
- **Strengthen current refrigerant management practices**
  - [Ensure EPA 608 certification](#)
  - Implement a cylinder exchange program that will specifically address A2L’s
  - Avoid mixing recovered refrigerants in the same cylinder; mixed fluids have less value...
  - Confirm your paperwork / documentation processes (systems < 50 lbs charge will ultimately fall into scope)
- **Establish suppliers for reclaim R410A well prior to 2024...**



# North America chiller product overview (YORK)

## Scroll

### **R-410A**

15 to 230 tons

R-454B – future availability



## Screw

### **R-134a**

120 to 500 tons

R-513A as retrofit



## Centrifugal

### **R-134a**

125 to 6000 tons

R-513A as retrofit



## Absorption

### **R-718 (water)**

30 to 4000 tons



### **R-1233zd**

165 to 2020 tons





# North America Manufacturers

**LG** does not have an official statement on the refrigerant change.

However, they are using R-32 in Europe currently and are designing the next generation of VRF systems so that it will start out R-410a and be able to be converted to R-32.

**Multistack** is transitioning in 2024 to multiple refrigerants dependent on chiller type.

- MagLev (magnetic bearings)
  - R-1234ze (30% derate from R-134a)
  - R-513A (R-1234yf / R134a blend) - drop in for R-134anwith no capacity reduction
  - R-515B
- Scroll
  - R-454B

**Johnson Controls** has selected R-454B to replace R-410A in its ducted residential and commercial unitary products as well as air-cooled scroll chillers.

**Desert Aire** has decided to move to R-454B as well.



# North America Manufacturers

Trane will introduce R-454B across the entire scroll compressor portfolio.

Depending on the product portfolio and compressor technology, Trane will offer units with R-513A, R-514A, R-1234ze and R-1233zd(E).

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Daikin makes R-32 – and have now applied it to air conditioners and their single zone, ductless systems.

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Carrier has identified R-454B, to be known commercially as Puron Advance™, as its primary solution to replace R-410A in all of its ducted residential and light commercial packaged solutions sold in North America.

R-32 Refrigerant will replace R-410A for Carrier Commercial Scroll Chillers.



# Conversion Challenges

- Building codes must adopt the use of these low-flammability refrigerants.
- A new UL safety standard (UL 60335-2-40) is required for the new refrigerant as the previous standard UL1995 does not address the requirements around refrigerant flammability and it has been determined that units containing A2L refrigerants cannot be listed under this standard.
- Component OEMs will be introducing their new products in steps, so not all component sizes will be available at the same time.
- Individual model's performance and efficiency ratings will be slightly different.
- Refrigerant availability will be limited until the new production facilities become fully operational.
- Contractors must be trained to handle the new low-flammability refrigerants.

