



European Partnership for Energy
and the Environment

The Voice of the Heating, Cooling and Refrigeration Industry

**Hospitals, food retailers, shops,
museums, houses: all need heating,
cooling and refrigeration equipment
manufactured by EPEE members.**



Buildings account for more than 40% of energy consumption in the EU. Most of this energy is used to keep buildings comfortable and our food fresh and frozen.

Heating and cooling technologies need energy. They can also contain refrigerants that are greenhouse gases which need to be prevented from leaking into the atmosphere.



Our mission

The European Partnership for Energy and the Environment (EPEE) is composed of members who produce, design and install heating, cooling and refrigeration technologies.

EPEE's mission is to promote a better understanding of our industry in the EU and to contribute to the development of effective European policies to reduce the environmental impact of our products.

1. Promoting Energy Efficiency



EPEE members are committed to increasing the energy efficiency of their products. EPEE supports EU policies designed to encourage the use of more efficient products (energy performance of buildings, eco-design, energy and eco-labels, and renewable energy sources).

2. Handling Refrigerants Responsibly



The refrigerant gases used in cooling and refrigeration equipment have different properties and are chosen for their optimal energy performance and safety in use. All refrigerants need to be contained and handled responsibly. EPEE supports legislation which guarantees responsible use and choice of refrigerant such as the F-gas Regulation.



EPEE is a business partnership committed to responsible global energy and environmental policy.

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Our members

Associate Members				



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Promoting energy efficiency

What is energy efficiency and why is it so important?

Energy efficient products and systems are designed to consume less energy for similar or higher performance levels.

Making buildings and energy using products more energy efficient is fundamental to tackling climate change and reducing our demands on diminishing fossil fuel resources.

The energy consumed by heating and cooling technologies can represent more than 80% of their total global warming impact. This energy use can be reduced through improvements in energy efficiency.

Our commitment to reducing energy consumption

EPEE collaborates with the European Commission to establish requirements for most energy efficient technologies. EPEE is working with the EU Institutions to ensure the success of three key Directives:

Energy		Washing machine
Manufacturer		
Model		
More efficient		
A		A
B		
C		
D		
E		
F		
Less efficient		
G		
Energy consumption kWh/cycle (based on standard test results for 60°C cotton cycle)		0.95
<small>Actual energy consumption will depend on how the appliance is used</small>		
Washing performance A: higher G: lower	A B C D E F G	
Spin drying performance A: higher G: lower Spin speed (rpm)	A B C D E F G	1400
Capacity (cotton) kg		5.0
Water consumption l		55
Noise (dB(A) re 1 pW)	Washing	5.2
	Spinning	7.0
<small>Further information is continued in product brochures</small>		



1. Eco-design of Energy-using Products (EuP)

The EuP Directive sets minimum energy efficiency requirements for certain categories of products including heat pumps, commercial refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment.

2. Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD)

Representing 40% of EU's energy consumption, buildings must become more energy efficient. The EPBD aims to increase the energy efficiency of buildings by certifying their energy performance, e.g. insulation quality or energy performance of heating and cooling systems.

3. Energy Labelling of Household Products

Energy use by household electrical products represents 25% of total energy consumption in the EU. The Energy Labelling Directive aims to raise consumers' awareness on the actual energy consumption of a product.



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Promoting energy efficiency



Contributing to the success of the European Eco-label



The European Eco-label, the Flower, is a voluntary scheme identifying the most environmental-friendly products available on the market, thereby helping consumers to make the best environmental choice.

EPEE strongly supports the EU eco-label as an important scheme to help change consumers' behaviour and encourage the industry to develop technologies with high energy efficiency and low global warming impact.

EPEE welcomes the fact that heat pumps, a technology using renewable energy from ground, water and air sources, can obtain the eco-label.

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Handling refrigerants responsibly

Refrigeration improves the quality of life.

Air conditioning, cooling and refrigeration systems play a crucial role in everyday life. From comfort air-conditioning systems to the industrial and process cooling chain, they have become essential for maintaining and improving our well-being and quality of life.

- The cooling chain secures our food supplies and minimises contamination and waste.
- Refrigeration of medical products such as vaccines or blood is critical to ensure they are kept safe.
- Mechanical cooling is essential for the efficient operation of equipment in office buildings, hospitals or supermarkets.



What are refrigerants ?

The products manufactured by EPEE members use refrigerant fluids to achieve the desired cooling or refrigeration effect.

Hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) refrigerants have been used by the industry for about 15 years as replacements for ozone depleting substances.

HFC refrigerants (or F-Gases) have helped to significantly reduce the contribution of cooling equipment to world-wide greenhouse gas emissions.

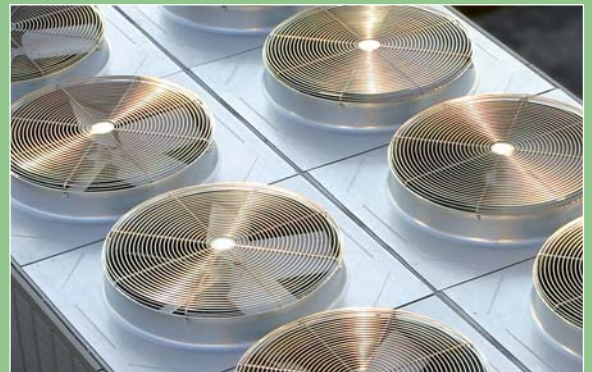


Why is it important to maintain refrigerant choice ?

Refrigerant fluids are chosen for their efficiency to absorb heat, their safety in use and for their minimal environmental impact in the event of leakage - there is no perfect refrigerant to suit all applications.

The selection of the right refrigerant depends on the type and use of the equipment, the operating temperature ranges, overall charge size, or the volume of space to cool. Each refrigerant's properties and performance characteristics must be thoroughly assessed in the selection process in order to choose the best refrigerant for each application.

As different cooling technologies need to be adapted to different uses, EPEE strongly advocates maintaining the free choice of refrigerants.



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Handling refrigerants responsibly

Making the F-gas Regulation a success

In July 2007 the European Regulation on Fluorinated Gases came into force. It contains new and far-reaching requirements aimed at limiting direct emissions of greenhouse refrigerants by containment and responsible use.

EPEE is committed in making this Regulation a success by providing and exchanging information to all stakeholders obliged to comply with its requirements.



- EPEE members are already complying with the requirements on labelling and leak checks, and are preparing their staff to meet new national training and certification requirements.
- Thanks to its network of commercial companies and national associations, EPEE has been able to assist in the broader understanding of the F-gas Regulation, thereby contributing to its success.
- EPEE is producing pan-European publications to educate institutional, industry and NGO stakeholders on the Regulation.
- EPEE actively supports the online workshop launched by the F-gases manufacturers, www.figaroo.org, which provides a platform for exchange on the proper implementation of the F-Gas Regulation.



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