

EPEE calls for ambitious yet realistic agreement on the F-gas review in First Reading

5 November 2013: With the next trilogue on the F-gas proposal due to take place tomorrow, the European Partnership for Energy and the Environment (EPEE) reiterates its call for an agreement in First Reading and its support for the Commission's proposal of a phase down.

"The revision of the existing F-gas regulation, including a phase down combined with action on refrigerants with very high global warming potential (GWP), is a top priority because it will help achieve the goals of the low carbon roadmap without harming the competitiveness of European industry," said EPEE Director General Andrea Voigt.

"EPEE therefore also strongly supports a swift conclusion of the revision under First Reading, and before the European Parliament elections of 2014, in order to ensure legal certainty for our members' business."

However, a ban on HFCs as proposed by the European Parliament would be excessive and would lead to additional costs of up to €72 billion in 2030. Southern European users would be particularly hard hit, as over 80% of these costs would concern air-conditioning.

EPEE therefore calls upon EU decision-makers to reach an ambitious yet realistic agreement, and to reject sweeping additional bans on HFCs.

Please contact the EPEE Secretariat Tel: +32 (0) 2 732 70 40 secretariat@epeeglobal.org for more information.

About EPEE:

The European Partnership for Energy and the Environment (EPEE) represents the refrigeration, air-conditioning and heat pump industry in Europe. Founded in the year 2000, EPEE's membership is composed of 40 member companies, national and international associations.

EPEE member companies have a turnover of over €30 billion, employ more than 200,000 people in Europe, and also create indirect employment through a vast network of small and medium-sized enterprises such as contractors who install, service, and maintain equipment.

EPEE member companies have manufacturing sites and research and development facilities across the EU, which innovate for the global market.

As an expert association, EPEE is supporting safe, environmentally and economically viable technologies with the objective of promoting a better understanding of the sector in the EU and contributing to the development of effective European policies. Please see our website (www.epeeglobal.org) for further information.

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