

EPEE Q&A ON THE GAPOMETER

October 2015

Why is the EU F-Gas Regulation so important?

Since 2006 the EU has undertaken concrete and ambitious action to support international moves to reduce hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) emissions, notably through the introduction of an EU F-gas Regulation.

This F-gas Regulation was recently amended with to further reduce F-gas emissions, and an ambitious phase-down of HFCs will see a decline in their consumption by 79% and consequently a fall in their emissions by 2030. The EU is the first region in the world to take such far-reaching steps to reduce F-gas emissions.

The new requirements introduced by the F-Gas Regulation will affect the whole HVAC industry chain. That is why it is important to raise industry awareness on the new requirements and make sure they undertake all necessary actions on time.

What is the “Gapometer”?

EPEE developed the idea of a “Gapometer” project to define a route towards a successful phase down and identify the biggest risks of gaps between phase-down requirements and reality.

Independent consultants are supporting EPEE in developing this project, which is based on a forward-looking approach, showing what needs to be done in order to achieve the phase-down goals and identifying the main risks of gaps between required and actual progress.

The final objective of the “Gapometer” is to raise awareness with industries and decision-makers at EU and national level about the potential obstacles to achieving the phase down goals, and hence take all the necessary measures to ensure successful implementation.

What are the different phases of the Gapometer?

Phase 1 of the project aims at developing a roadmap based on assumptions (from the 2012 SKM study commissioned by EPEE) to assess what needs to be done to achieve the phase down goals.

Phase 2 will be undertaken at a later stage and will involve comparing this roadmap with reality by gathering data to assess the potential “gap” and provide solutions to fill it, with the objective of reaching the phase-down goals.

How is EPEE contributing to the implementation of the F-Gas Regulation?

EPEE’s Low Emission Task Force is taking proactive action to facilitate the Regulation’s implementation, help the EU and its Member States reach their targets, and thereby remain a leader in reducing GHG emissions.

EPEE has developed specific communication tools to enhance the industry’s understanding of its new obligations and responsibilities. The tools are available online and – where appropriate – in different EU

languages. Examples of communication tools include: Frequently Asked Questions & Guidance documents, Factsheets & Brochures, and Webinars & Videos to explain in layman's terms the most complex provisions of the legislation. The Gapometer is the latest tool created by EPEE.

EPEE also organises regular and tailored events across the EU to raise awareness of the new F-gas rules throughout the whole supply chain.

How is EPEE working to tackle and track the barriers to the uptake of relevant lower emissions technologies?

EPEE's Low Emission Task Force is working to assess the barriers that currently prevent the uptake of relevant lower emissions technologies. We cooperate with other sectors, as well as with public authorities, in order to progress in overcoming these barriers.

This Task Force will also examine existing technologies and aim to enhance industry's understanding of containment, reclaim, recovery and recycling practices.

Will it be possible to achieve the phase-down?

It is possible to achieve the phase-down, but it will be very challenging, especially in 2018 and 2021.
