



CoolNews

*Quarterly periodical for the European contractors society working in the Refrigeration,
Air-Conditioning and Heat pump sector*

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AREA AFFAIRS

AREA General Assembly

25 delegates attended the last AREA General Assembly meeting that took place on 27th October 2017 in Brussels. The meeting provided an opportunity to give a demonstration of the AREA app. The AREA FAQ on pre-charged equipment was officially adopted (and published a few days later) and a draft f-gas leaflet for installers was discussed. Mr. Rath reported on WorldSkills and Mr. Buoni on international collaborations, as well as AREA work on the Real Alternative for LIFE project.

The next meeting will be hosted by AREA's Austrian member ÖKKV on 25-26 May in Vienna.



AREA SecGen interview to AEFYT

Olivier Janin gave an interview to AEFYT. It is available (in Spanish) at <http://www.aefyt.com/?aefyt-blog=olivier-janin-secretario-general-area-los-instaladores-son-el-vinculo-esencial-entre-los-usuarios-finales-y-los-fabricantes>

REFRIGERATION, AIR-CONDITIONING & HEAT PUMP NEWS

LEGISLATION

EPBD revision

Tripartite meetings started in October, further to the adoption of a draft report by the European Parliament (EP) Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE). A compromise was eventually found on 19th December.

The main points of this agreement – relevant to AREA - concern:

- **Smart Readiness Indicator:** The European Commission will develop a voluntary Smart Readiness Indicator to assess the readiness of buildings to adapt their operation to the needs of the occupants.
- **Inspections of heating and air conditioning systems:** The new legislation recognises member states' competence to establish the appropriate inspection measures and the frequency of inspections. The threshold for all inspections will be 70 kW. In addition, a feasibility study would be carried out to possibly introduce inspections for stand-alone ventilation systems. Finally, alternatives to inspections such as advice can be put in place.
- **BACS:** Buildings would be required to be equipped with automation and control systems by 2025 only when considered technically and economically feasible.

The final approval of this agreement should take place at the beginning of next year. Once formally adopted, the directive will be published in the Official Journal of the EU and the legislation will enter into force twenty days later. The transposition period for this legislation is 20 months.

Energy Efficiency Directive

On 28 November, the European Parliament (EP) Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) adopted the draft report on the review of the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED). Members of the ITRE Committee voted for an EU 40% binding energy efficiency target and national binding targets (article 1) and a strong article 7 (energy savings obligations). Concerning article 9. A (Metering, sub-metering and cost allocation for heating and cooling and domestic hot water), the condition of technical feasibility and cost effectiveness in terms of being proportionate in relation to the potential energy savings is added for the installation of individual meters. Adam Gierek (Poland, S&D) was replaced as the lead rapporteur by Miroslav Poche (Czech Republic, S&D) after the vote in Committee. This change comes after months of disagreement between Mr Gierek and his group on the way to deal with the energy efficiency topic. This report should be adopted during the 15-18 January 2018 plenary session. The tripartite meetings (negotiations between the EU Council and the EP) will start right after the vote in plenary.

Renewable Energy Directive

The Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) adopted the draft report on the review of the RES Directive on 28 November. Members of the ITRE Committee voted for a 35% binding renewable energy target and an annual 2% increase of the share of renewable energy in heating and cooling.

On 18 December, the Energy Council adopted the General Approach on the review of the RES Directive ([press release](#)). The main elements of this position are:

- **Binding EU target of at least 27% renewable energy** of its overall energy consumption by 2030.
- Facilitating and enhancing **consumers' use of renewables** is a key element.
- Simplified **notification procedures** for small-scale installations.
- Indicative annual 1 percentage point increase of the share of renewable energy in **heating and cooling**. The Council position takes into account the existing differences between national systems and installations across the EU. In particular, it reflects the specific characteristics of 'cooling' installations in warmer climates.
- Member states will have the possibility of opening up their **national support schemes** to generators of renewable energy in other member states.

This position is the basis for the negotiations with the European Parliament which should start immediately after the adoption of the report in plenary session on 17 January 2018.

Ecodesign Directive: assessment of the implementation

The European Parliament is working on an own initiative report on the implementation of the Ecodesign Directive ([2009/125/EC](#)), under the lead of [Frederique Ries \(ALDE\)](#).

In this context, the research institute of the European Parliament performed a study that signals a trend to expand Ecodesign further than energy efficiency measures, by including resource efficiency, recyclability and upgradeability measures. On the basis of the stakeholders' views, the report identifies three main shortcomings: lack of support at EU level, slow regulatory process, and inadequate market surveillance in the Member States. Although double regulation on products is not yet perceived as an issue, this may change with material efficiency measures.

In addition, ANEC and BEUC (EU consumer/environmental NGOs) published a [report](#) on the implementation and enforcement of the Ecodesign Directive. The two organisations consider that the framework would deliver higher efficiency gains if it was implemented in more ambitious and faster manner.

NGOs propose suggestions for improvements. They notably proposed to address all environmentally relevant factors such as resource efficiency, the use of hazardous chemicals and waste management in the product-specific implementing measures. They also propose a better communication to citizens on benefits, a stronger Market Surveillance and better synergies with the EU Ecolabel.

Ecodesign regulation on large air-conditioning products

The European Commission has issued draft guidelines for Regulation [2016/2281](#) for air heating products, air-conditioners (>12kW), high temperature process chillers and fan coil units. The document is available from the [secretariat](#). These guidelines aim to help relevant stakeholders, including the industry, to implement the regulations in practice.

Ecodesign & labelling Regulations on refrigeration products

The European Commission made available a draft version of a FAQ document for professional refrigeration products to facilitate the implementation of Ecodesign & energy labelling Regulations (2015/1095 and 2015/1094). It focuses on professional refrigerated storage cabinets, blast cabinets, condensing units and process chillers. A draft version is available from the [secretariat](#).

This document addresses questions regarding refrigerated storage cabinets, condensing units and process chillers. The document notably clarifies questions related to:

- equipment falling in or out the scope,
- the non-applicability of Ecodesign & energy labelling Regulations for equipment sold in Switzerland,
- and information to be provided with the energy label.

Ecodesign & energy labelling for Building Automation and Control Systems (BACS):

The European Commission launched a preparatory study on BACS. They are defined as electronic appliances that manage and control the operation of most technical building services such as heat generation, hot water systems, ventilation, cooling and air conditioning, lighting, communication systems, lifts, etc.

This study is led by the consultancies VITO and Waide Strategic Efficiency, and is a scoping exercise to identify further focus areas for subsequent studies. The first stakeholder meeting will take place on 17 January 2018, and the scoping study is expected to be completed by March 2018. Additional studies on BACS resulting from this scoping study are expected to begin by May 2018.

Kigali Amendment to enter into force

The Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol, which will bring about a global phase-down of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), will take effect in January 2019 as a sufficient number of parties have now ratified the amendment. The Amendment has been ratified by 20 parties, including EU members Finland, Germany, Luxembourg, Slovakia, Sweden and the UK.

For more information see DG CLIMAs' website [here](#).

Circular economy Policy

The Council adopted conclusions on eco-innovation on 18 December (available [here](#)). Although these recommendations are not legally binding, they express the political opinion of EU Member States on the circular economy policy and provide orientations for the European Commission.

Amongst different proposals, the Member States require the Commission to develop sustainability and product criteria for product categories to integrate with existing mandatory and voluntary policy

tools, taking into account: resource efficiency, the content of substances of concern, recyclability, life-cycle, and the competitiveness aspect. They also support quality standards for raw materials.

In addition, Member States ask to increase transparency in the value chain to transmit information regarding the substances of concern, raw materials, critical raw materials, plastics and secondary raw materials. Information should be provided to consumers, producers, retailers and recyclers.

The Commission should assess the viability of developing digital information product sheets, such as 'product passports'. This option is preferred instead of other instruments, such as labels, because the accessibility of information in a digital format could facilitate circular and consumer choices, but seen as a light administrative burden.

PROJECTS

REAL Alternatives for LIFE - update



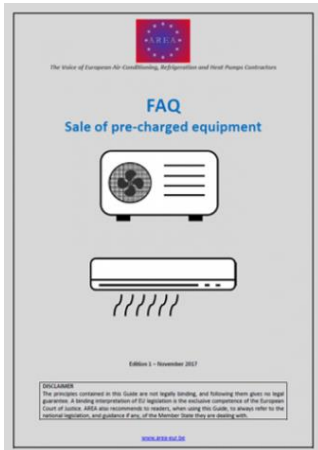
A meeting with stakeholders was held on 26th October in Brussels, the day before the AREA General Assembly meeting. associations from Romania, Spain, Brussels, Germany and Slovakia discussed how the existing blended learning programme for low GWP alternative refrigerants is being redeveloped and extended. Delegates looked at three plans for the REAL Alternatives 4 LIFE's "Train the Trainer"

programme which will be rolled out to training centres across Europe in the second half of 2018. Communication campaigns aimed to support the project, as well as currently available e-learning material, were introduced by the project team members in a meeting chaired by Marco Buoni. Stakeholders are helping the project to identify the most accessible expert training centres in the EU to host training events, including manufacturer based training.

Members of the REAL Alternatives 4 LIFE project also met with European Commission DG Climate Action representatives. The aim of the meeting was to introduce the new EU co-funded project and explore how it will be targeting its work to extend use of existing learning materials outside of the EU. Cornelius Rhein and Arno Kaschl from the European Commission DG Climate Action took part. DG Climate Action provided important contacts for potential extended training collaborations and suggestions for measuring the impact of the REAL Alternatives 4 LIFE project. During the discussion, future communications methods were flagged.



PUBLICATIONS

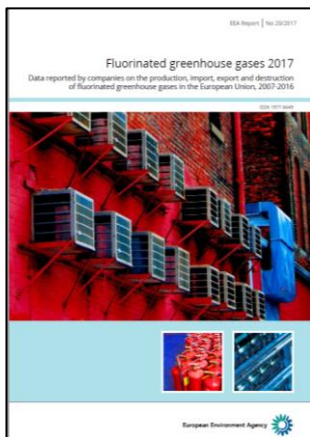


AREA FAQ on sale of pre-charged equipment

Pre-charged air conditioning equipment (split systems) must be installed by a certified company. This obligation, that already existed under the old F-Gas Regulation 842/2006, has been reinforced by the new F-gas Regulation 517/2014, which sets some requirements related to the sale of pre-charged equipment.

Through 9 questions, this FAQ provides practical explanations as to how the requirements are to be fulfilled, notably by the two most impacted actors: retailers and end users. It helps to understand what must be done, how, when and by whom to comply with the Regulation.

The FAQ is available in English, Italian and Spanish



EEA Report on Fluorinated greenhouse gases 2017

Data reported by companies on the production, import, export and destruction of fluorinated greenhouse gases in the European Union, 2007-2016.



EEA Report on Trends and projections in Europe 2017 Tracking progress towards Europe's climate and energy targets

The report provides an updated assessment of the progress of the European Union (EU) and Member States have made towards their climate mitigation and energy targets.

The report shows that greenhouse gas emissions across the European Union decreased modestly in 2016 and the estimates confirm that the EU remains on track to meet its emission reduction target set for 2020, but more work is needed to meet longer-term goals.



[International Energy Agency \(IEA\) database on Energy efficiency indicators](#)

The IEA has for the first time published an Energy Efficiency Indicators database with annual data from 2000 to 2015. The database covers end use energy consumption for 8 energy products and includes end use energy efficiency indicators and carbon intensity indicators for 4 sectors (residential, services, industry and transport). It notably provides data for space heating and space cooling.

[EVENTS](#)

Low GWP Alternative Refrigerants for Cooling - Skills Needs and Solutions, 22 January 2018, Chicago
Conference organised by the IoR during AHR Expo. Mr. Buoni will speak about: *“What is different - the need to address skills shortages for alternative refrigerants”*
More info [here](#)

International Congress of Refrigeration, Air Conditioning and Heating (CIFAC), 14 February 2018, Casablanca
More info: www.cifac.ma

8th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CO₂ and Ammonia Refrigeration Technologies, 11-13 April 2019, Ohrid, R. Macedonia
More info: www.mf.edu.mk/web_ohrid2017/ohrid-2017.html



**1st IIR International
Conference
on the Application
of HFO Refrigerants**

Birmingham
2nd – 5th September
2018

This newsletter is reserved to AREA members

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