Alliance UN Secretary-General’s Climate Summit Statement
September 23, 2014

I am Kevin Fay. I serve as Executive Director of the Alliance for Responsible Atmospheric Policy, a coalition of industry users and producers of fluorocarbon compounds. With me today is Mike Lamach, Chairman of Ingersoll Rand Corporation. Ingersoll Rand and its divisions, Trane and Thermo King, are a leading manufacturer of heating and air-conditioning systems as well as transport and commercial refrigeration.

We are pleased to outline the four pillars of the CCAC action plan to phase down climate potent hydrofluorocarbons, or HFCs as follows. This plan has achieved the significant support of States as well as members of civil society and leaders from industry and other elements of the private sector.

First, the listed entities are offering their support for beginning negotiations in 2014 of an amendment to the Montreal Protocol to achieve a gradual phasedown of the production and consumption of HFCs; success under the Montreal Protocol would result in a comprehensive global phasedown and enormously benefit the climate.

Second, the listed state parties have agreed to take action to promote public procurement of climate-friendly low-global warming potential (GWP) alternatives whenever feasible and to gradually transition to equipment that uses more sustainable alternatives to high-GWP HFCs.

Third, under the initiative of the Alliance, the US-based Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration Institute and the Brazilian Association of Refrigeration, Air Conditioning, Ventilation and Heating, known as ABRAVA, we are pleased to announce the organization of the Global Refrigerant Management Initiative. In addition to these leading organizations, this private-sector led effort will start with the participation of refrigerant organizations from Australia, Canada, China, Colombia, the European Union, Mexico and South Korea, a true global coalition. The leakage of refrigerants during the servicing of equipment is the largest sources of HFC emissions around the globe, and the refrigerant management initiative will work to identify and explore opportunities to educate the industry’s global supply chain on ways to improve the management of refrigerants to reduce leak and service emissions. Additionally, the initiative will also promote the recycling, recovery, reclaiming and end of life destruction of refrigerants. The
initiative will also work with CCAC partners to develop and implement broad-based public and private sector collaborative programs to reduce HFC emissions by building awareness, training and implementation guidance for proper management, servicing and refrigerant end-of-life practices.

Fourth, the Alliance for Responsible Atmospheric Policy is supporting the formation of the Global Food Cold Chain Council to reduce climate emissions in the transportation, storage and retail display of food. The council will work with individual businesses, associations, governments and civil society. This private-sector organized initiative will promote efforts that stimulate demand for climate-friendly technology and reduce refrigerant emissions in the cold food chain at the same time as enhancing energy efficiency in the cold food chain and minimizing food spoilage. A green cold chain will not only reduce its own carbon footprint, it will extend food supplies to feed more people and reduce the estimated 3.3 billion metric tons of CO2-equivalent in food waste every year.

At Ingersoll Rand, we are proud to support these initiatives in addition to our own commitments to bring our technology expertise to address the effort to reduce high-GWP HFCs, such as increasing energy efficiency and addressing challenges such as high ambient temperature climates.

Collectively, these policy efforts and initiatives have the potential to reduce the equivalent of more than 90 Gigatons of CO2-equivalent by 2050, or more than two years of global greenhouse gas emissions.

The hallmark of these activities is that they will also continue the tradition of government, NGO, and industry cooperation under the Montreal Protocol that has made that treaty one of the most effective global environment agreements in history.