



## **The Alliance** *for Responsible Atmospheric Policy*

### **Alliance Urges Completion of HFC Amendment to Montreal Protocol**

October 6, 2016 - On the eve of the informal consultations and the 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, the Alliance for Responsible Atmospheric Policy urges all parties to reach an agreement on an amendment to phasedown HFC compounds. The Montreal Protocol has been an unprecedented success in effectively protecting the Earth's Ozone layer while also providing substantial climate benefits during the transition to non-ozone depleting substances. The formula for success has been straightforward — a science-based transition to environmentally and economically effective technologies, a continuing technology and economic assessment process, a control schedule that recognizes the needs of the developing countries and an effective financial mechanism to assist those countries in achieving common objectives. “The Montreal Protocol institutions and record of accomplishment have proven the capability of delivering effective environmental protection while assuring technological availability to all countries,” said Alliance Chairman, John Hurst, of Lennox International.

The Alliance is an industry coalition organized in 1980 to address the issue of stratospheric ozone depletion and the production and use of fluorocarbon compounds. It is the leading voice of manufacturers, businesses and trade associations who make or use fluorinated gases for the global market. Today, Alliance member companies are leading the development of safe, efficient, next-generation, climate- and ozone-friendly technologies and applications.

The Parties to the Montreal Protocol are meeting in Kigali, Rwanda, later this week and next to complete their work on an HFC amendment. The Alliance has been supporting the negotiation of a fair and effective amendment to ensure the gradual transition from HFC compounds and technologies to new and existing low-GWP technologies. A reasonable HFC agreement could reduce carbon equivalent emissions by 90-100 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>e between now and 2050, and provide a significant step in the goal of boosting the success of last year's Paris Agreement on climate. Industry in the United States and around the globe has already invested billions of dollars (US) on low-GWP technologies. Alliance representatives will participate as observers at the Kigali meeting.

The Montreal Protocol history has time and again shown the ability to make challenging decisions, as well as to make adjustments, in order to achieve important environmental

objectives. The parties need not develop the perfect agreement on HFCs, but the minimum elements of success include:

- a commitment to cover HFCs under the terms and provisions of the Montreal Protocol;
- a baseline, freeze year, and economically sensible phasedown schedule for developed country economies;
- a baseline, freeze year and final transition date that takes into account the special needs of developing country economies;
- a financial mechanism that provides timely assistance to the developing country economies to facilitate their transition to low-GWP technologies, including potential fast-start funding; and
- assurance for the development of refrigerant management programs that facilitate additional recovery, recycle, and reclaim of existing HFC refrigerants and their substitutes.

These five items contain numerous issues for consideration, but the most important step is to develop an achievable starting agreement that ensures technology availability to all parties and sets the direction for ozone and climate protection, including recognition of the importance of energy efficiency where relevant, and the continued health, safety and welfare of technology manufacturers and users.

Industry organizations around the world have expressed their support for completion of an effective HFC amendment. Steps are being taken today to introduce many new low-GWP technologies. This work will continue and new technologies will continue to be developed and introduced.

Since 1987, industry, government, and non-governmental organizations have worked together to achieve monumental successes on behalf of the planet. Despite the complexities of the issues being considered by the parties at this time, a simple formula for success in Kigali remains available to us. Now is the time for the parties to seize this opportunity.