



PROPOSED NEW SNAP RULE

The EPA is proposing a new rule to change the status of certain refrigerants and blowing agents from the Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) list of acceptable uses in refrigeration, air conditioning, foam blowing, and mobile air conditioning applications.

By 2021, the category of refrigerated food processing and dispensing equipment in retail food refrigeration will be limited to substances with GWPs <1770. In new household refrigerators and freezers, the EPA delisted refrigerants with a GWP of about 900 or higher in 2021. In 2023, new cold storage warehouses will not be permitted with refrigerants with a GWP of 2090 or higher.

The EPA also removed several flammable and hydrocarbon refrigerants from use in multiple applications, effective 30 days after publication of the final rule. All flammable Class 3 refrigerants will not be permitted for the retrofitting of unitary split air conditioners and heat pumps. In addition, propylene and R-443A are also removed as refrigerants for use in cold storage, residential and light commercial AC and heat pumps, as well as centrifugal and positive displacement chillers.

For air conditioning applications, the EPA has proposed delisting of R-134a, R-410A, R-407C, and several other refrigerants for use in all types of new chillers, effective January 1, 2024. This is a year earlier than proposed, in an unprecedented agreement among chiller manufacturers and environmentalists.

In these refrigeration and AC applications, the EPA is only changing the refrigerant options for use in new equipment or for retrofitting with flammable refrigerants. The rules would not affect normal servicing of equipment with refrigerants installed prior to these dates.

For new refrigerant applications, the EPA is listing R-1234yf in new medium-duty passenger vehicles (MDPVs), heavy-duty (HD), pickup trucks, and complete HD vans. The use of propane is also proposed at a small 150 gram charge, subject to use in conditions such as new self-contained commercial ice machines, water coolers, and very low temperature refrigeration equipment.

For Spray Polyurethane Foam (SPF), the EPA is proposing delisting HFCs (R-134a, R-365mfc/R-227ea, R-245fa) in high-pressure, two-component SPF and one-component SPF on Jan. 1, 2020. HFCs are slated to be delisted from low-pressure, two-component SPF on Jan. 1, 2021.

The EPA is proposing to prohibit the importation of products that contain closed cell foam manufactured with an HCFC or HFC. This would go into effect whichever occurs last:

- 1) one year after publication of a final rule, or
- 2) the date when the foam blowing agent is unacceptable.

The EPA has also extended the public comment period for this proposed rule to **June 16, 2016**. Please submit your comments to the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>, referencing Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2015-0663. Arkema has a portfolio of Low-GWP HFO solutions to help the industry transition as the SNAP delisting process takes effect. For more information, contact customer service at 800-245-5858.