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U.S. EPA approves Arkema's Forane® 449B refrigerant for applications under SNAP program

Arkema Inc. announces that its Forane® 449B (R-449B) refrigerant has been approved by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for use in multiple refrigeration applications under their Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) program. This approval allows Forane® 449B refrigerant to be installed in new and retrofit R-22 and R-404A commercial refrigeration supermarket systems, remote condensing units, low-temperature stand-alone equipment, refrigerated food processing and dispensing equipment, commercial ice machines, and refrigerated transport.

In addition to SNAP approval, Forane® 449B refrigerant is classified by ASHRAE as a non-flammable, non-ozone depleting class A1 refrigerant with a global warming potential (GWP) of 1296. Equipment testing demonstrates that Arkema's Forane® R-449B, the R-404A replacement/retrofit, can offer improved efficiency over R-404A of up to 11% while cutting the GWP by two-thirds. Testing has shown Forane® 449B is a solution that reduces GWP impact while improving energy efficiency in R-404A refrigeration equipment.

Forane® 449B refrigerant, along with Forane® 407A, is an alternative to R-404A, R-507A, and R-22 in refrigeration applications. As of January 1, 2017, in supermarket systems, and January 1, 2018, in remote condensing units, R-404A, R-507A, and several other high-GWP refrigerants cannot be used in new installations. These existing installations can continue to be serviced with their existing refrigerants — even R-404A or R-507A. Forane® 407A will continue to be an approved solution for end users looking to transition away from R-404A or R-507A. In R-22 retrofits for these applications, as well as air conditioning, Arkema's Forane® 427A can also be used as an EPA-approved solution.

Arkema Inc., one of the largest global refrigerants producers and the largest holder of allowances of R-22 in the U.S., is developing low GWP refrigerant solutions to meet the future needs of the industry. Long term, Arkema is working towards global refrigerant solutions with very low GWP refrigerants across all refrigeration and HVAC markets.

*A designer of materials and innovative solutions, **Arkema** shapes materials and creates new uses that accelerate customer performance. Our balanced business portfolio spans high-performance materials, industrial specialties and coating solutions. Our globally recognized brands are ranked among the leaders in the markets we serve. Reporting annual sales of €7.7 billion in 2015, we employ approximately 19,000 people worldwide and operate in close to 50 countries. We are committed to active engagement with all our stakeholders. Our research centers in North America, France and Asia concentrate on advances in bio-based products, new energies, water management, electronic solutions, lightweight materials and design, home efficiency and insulation. www.arkema.com*

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