



ICARHMA POLICY STATEMENT

Comprehensive Responsible Refrigerant Use

The International Council of Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration Manufacturers' Associations (ICARHMA) is committed to emissions reduction, and climate and ozone protection while providing conditioned warm and cool air and refrigeration to improve the world's quality of life, health and productivity. This includes the responsible use of refrigerants, which allow HVACR equipment to fulfill its important role. The Council advances the following principles as a comprehensive approach to globally responsible refrigerant use:

Manufacturing Guidelines

ICARHMA encourages manufacturing facilities worldwide to minimize fluorocarbon emissions where possible. The Council endorses the *Responsible Use Guide for Minimizing Fluorocarbon Emissions in Manufacturing Facilities*, which provides recommendations for refrigerant containment and environmental protection. This guide can be found at www.icarhma.org.

Technician Training Guidelines

ICARHMA supports training programs to strengthen educational opportunities for technicians who install, service and maintain HVACR equipment. These programs should incorporate national and local requirements, but could combine classroom study, field experience and certification testing in an effort to upgrade technician competency.

Recycle/Reclaim/Destroy Programs

ICARHMA promotes the use of recycle, reclaim and destroy programs which provide for the collection, transport, storage and/or disposal of surplus refrigerants. Many in the air conditioning and refrigeration industry are currently involved in such processes at all levels of the value chain.

Political Advocacy

ICARHMA advocates the development of balanced regulatory policy which both protects the environment and promotes consumer and industry prosperity. This includes supporting refrigerant choice, and the Montreal Protocol and Kyoto Protocol processes. The Council also informs policy makers regarding industry's current voluntary responsible refrigerant management and environmental protection efforts. This advocacy takes place at regional and national levels.

ICARHMA is an organization of associations representing manufacturers of air-conditioning, refrigeration, and heating equipment in their respective countries. The Council, which currently includes members from Brazil, Canada, China, Europe, Japan, Korea, and the U.S., serves as a forum for the discussion of issues affecting the global air-conditioning, refrigeration, and heating industry. ICARHMA members provide a valuable contribution to the global economy and to consumers world-wide.