# **R404A - THE END OF AN ERA**

1st October 2014

Robert Kebby Marketing Manager

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# Why R-404A?

- Success of R404A over the last 15 to 20 years
  - Replaced ODP products such as R12 / R502 & more recently R22
  - Marketed well as a 'one solution' replacement
  - Filled a gap well accepted by manufacturers
  - Cost Effective solution
  - Easy to Apply A Convenient Replacement!
- Used mainly on Commercial Refrigeration
  - Accounted for around 40% of EU stock (2010) in CO2 Teq
  - 85% of this was used in Supermarkets where leak rates are highest
  - If nothing changes grow by a further 6% by 2020

## • Why Change?

- Poor Energy Efficiency (10 to 15% lower)
- Very High GWP (3922)
- R404A has a very poor overall environmental impact
- Regulations F-Gas 2015 has been designed to reduce the effect our industry has on the Environment





#### 2013

New F-Gas regulations put pressure on high GWP refrigerants

2014 R404A – the alternatives

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# **F-Gas – Control of Use**

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**Phase-Down of HFC's will have the Greatest Impact** 

# F-Gas – Phase Down

#### Phase Down Mechanism

- Main driver for industry to change
- CO<sub>2</sub> Teq Quota on supply change dynamics
- Value /cost will be change from cost per kg (£/kg) to cost per CO<sub>2</sub> Teq (£/ CO<sub>2</sub> Teq)
- A Major 'step-down' in 2018 Significant Impact

## What is your Strategy for Change?

It should include...

- Refrigerant leak / charge reduction
- · Educate your team and your customers on this change
- Improve your understanding of the low GWP alternatives to R404A
- · Understand the minor differences in 'how they are applied'
- Become more comfortable with the differences → glide / flammability / high pressures / different system technologies etc..
- Refrigerant choice STOP using R404A wherever possible
- Mindset Change provides Opportunities for your business

## F-gas Regulations will Challenge our Industry - Opportunities

2015: sales capped at 2009-2012 avg CO<sub>2</sub> eq. -7% 100% 2016: 2018: -37% 2021: -55% 2024: -69% 2027: -76% 2030: -79% 21%



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# **R404A – THE END OF AN ERA**

#### Jean de Bernardi

Technical Manager Low GWP Refrigerants 1st October 2014



#### A C R TODAY

# Agenda

- Comparative Assessment of R404A alternatives in existing systems or new built (15')
- Technical considerations for a successful retrofit <u>or</u> new design (10')
  - Glide
  - Tdischarge
  - Fractionation
- Questions & Answers (10')

# Selecting the Right Refrigerant (Cycle Analysis)

#### Main commercially available products: 2 selection criteria



Criteria 1: minimum 95% R404 (MT or LT) Capacity



R407F is the best capacity provider with lowest GWP for supermarket applications

Criteria 2: GWP < 2500

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# **R407F (Genetron Performax® LT)**

- Developed for use in low and medium-temperature commercial refrigeration applications
- Proven for retro-fit of R-22 and R-404A

- ASHRAE **R-407F**
- GWP = 1825
- A1 ASHRAE safety rating
- EPA SNAP approved
- Reach registered
- 100% Zero ozone depleting



Blend of R-32 / R-125 / R-134a 30% / 30% / 40%

## R407F is the Lowest\* GWP HFC for Supermarket Applications

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## **Independent Measured Performance Comparison**

R404A **R407F (Measured Results) Baseline** Efficiency Efficiency @ Low Temp @ Medium Temp 120 110 100 90 80 70 115% 113% 113% 110% 60 108% 106% 107% 103% 80% 50 40 30 20 10 0 R404A ASDA ASDA **Bitzer Test** Morrisons Safriclim Schrezenmaier **Tewis Study Bitzer Test** 

Efficiency comparisons (Independent verification)

Important improvements in MT applications ~ 10%

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- Climate / system specific / optimisation during retro-fit
- Still large improvements at LT conditions ~ 6%
- Clear overall improvement in Energy Efficiency shown by R407F

Considerable reduction in operational / running costs

# Full Stores Comparison: ASDA / WALMART





\* R404A data from 2005 Figure 2 – 2011 Annual energy consumption.

Figure 3 – 2011 Environmental Impact.

\*\* Ref – www.ior.org.uk (Evaluation of available Refrigeration Systems in the Retail Sector – by James Bailey & Brian Churchyard, 4th Oct. 2012)

- Lowest Electricity consumption and lowest CO2 emissions for R407F under UK climate.
- Extract from Conclusions 'this paper identifies that irrespective of a retailer's refrigeration strategy it is possible to greatly reduce emissions by retrofitting systems operating on R404A / R22 with Performax<sup>®</sup> LT'

**R407F: Lowest CO2 Emissions and Best Financial Choice for a Supermarket** 

# Supermarket Store Trials – Savings R407F vs. R404A

#### Extrapolated from 1 Year trial



Annual Comparison	Usage (kg's)	R407F Savings/kg over R404A (€)	R407F Accumulated Savings over R404A
Year 1	996	9.25	9210
Year 2	130	84.90	20238
Year 3	130	84.90	31266
Year 4	130	84.90	42295
Year 5	130	84.90	53323
Total 5 Years	1516	35.19	53323

- Combination of cost for retro-fit / refrigerant / leaks and energy consumed
- Typical Supermarket Example:
  - Cost of retro-fit pay back inside 2 years
  - Total Estate of <u>500</u> stores over 5 years
    - Estimate savings R407F = €26.6M
    - Cost to Retro-Fit = €9M
    - Estimate net savings = €17.7M
- Direct money saving for new build!

Leak Rate @ 15%/annum Cost of Energy @ €0.14/kWh

**R407F Provides Very Short Payback or Direct Money Savings** 

# **R407F Case Studies**





- Case: Saucisson Storage
- <u>Application</u>: Food Process / Storage
- <u>Location</u>: Macon, France
- <u>Trial</u>: Direct R404A v R407F
- <u>Compressor</u>: GEA Bock
- <u>Contractor</u>: Safriclim
- <u>Result</u>: Energy Benefit of 7%







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- <u>Case</u>: Biedronka Stores
- Application: Supermarket
- <u>Location</u>: Warsaw, Poland
- Trial: Retro-Fit R404A with R407F
- <u>Compressor</u>: Bitzer
- <u>Contractor</u>: n/a
- <u>Result</u>: Energy Benefit of 15%



#### In Summary

In any of the systems tested were not any additional adjustment-all parameters set IE. for R404A refrigerant. It is the turn of ny plus the use of R407F as a wildcard R404A-there is no need for laborious adjustment expansion valves (thermostatic). The results of the research allow for the formulation of the conclusion that using new refrigerants GenetronPerformax LT-R407F, you can add space investment in refrigeration installation to improve its energy efficiency, lower total cost of ownership and causes ić to environmental protection through reducing carbon dioxide emissions

## **Compressor Qualification – June 2014**

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suction gas superheat

CON	PRESSOR APPROV	AL for Performa	x® LT (R407F)		
Compressor Manufacturers Update on R407F Qualification					
	BRANDS	Qualified for use on Performax <sup>®</sup> LT (R407F)	Included in Selection Software		
	Compared Scratt	Qualified & Released	Yes Current Ver. Select 7.7		
	Bitzen	Qualified & Released	<b>Yes</b> Currently on-line Version		
	COMPRESSORS	Qualified & Released	Yes		
	frascold	Qualified & Released	Yes		
Ċ	DORIN	Qualified & Released	Yes		
	🧕 Tecumseh	Medium Temp Qualified. Low Temp excluded	Next Release		
		Final Testing - Expect Full appro∨al in Summer 2014			
	embraco	Testing - Not qualified for LT Hermetics	Samples Only		

-23Y			000		
. Frequency: 50 Hz					
onditions	Refrigerant(i)	R404A	R407A	R407F	
to = -10°C	Evaporator capacity [kW]	41,053	39,281	42,994	
tc = 45°C	Power input [kW]	20,13	17,404	18,281	
∆toh = 10 K	COPo [-]	2,039	2,257	2,352	
$\Delta tuc = 0 K$	COPo_R(i)/COPo_R404A [%]	100 %	110,7%	115,4%	
	Tdisch (°C)	73 <mark>4</mark>	86.8	90.9	
nditions	Refrigerant(i)		R407A	R407F	
to = -35°C	Evaporator capacity [kW]	12,6 22	9,974	11,218	
tc = 40°C	Power input [kW]	10,31	8,199	8,671	
$\Delta toh = 10 K$	COPO [-]	1,221	1,217	1,294	
$\Delta tuc = 0 K$	COP0_R(I)/COP0_R404A [%]	100,0%	99,7%	106,0%	
	Taisch (°C)	81.5	115.2	122.5	
7F 4VES-7Y 6FE-50Y (3). (4)					
14	to	Evaporating temperature (°C)			
C]	toh	Suction	gas temp	erature (°C)	
C]	Δtoh Suction gas superheat		meat (K)		
60 C]		Capelon	alaa tarra	avature /00	
C] 60 50		Conden	ising temp	erature (°C)	
<b>C</b> ] 60 50		Conden	sing temp	eratur	



③ Evaporating and condensing temperatures are based on dew point conditions (saturated vapour)

 Lower evaporating temperatures are possible with CIC operation. Selection upon request

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**R407F is Qualified in All Major Compressor Brands and Technologies** 

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# **Typical Supermarket System / Glide Influence**

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Glide management educational presentation can be found here

**Glide Should be Considered for Main System Settings** 

# **Compressor Performance: Glide Influence**

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- Selecting Dew pressure is misleading vs. Capacity and COP system results.
- Very high superheat has negative impact on refrigerants cycle.
- Appropriate system settings is a key to Capacity and Electricity consumption.

### Average Pressures and Controlled SH are Key Factors

# Fractionation: Nominal vs. Circulating Composition

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# Fractionation is the change in the circulating (system) composition relative to the nominal composition

#### 1) Refrigerant Charging:

#### 2) Flooded Evaporators:



#### 3) Lubricant:



Blend components may have preferential solubility

#### 4) During Leak Events



Higher pressure components of the blend may leak first, causing change in composition.

## Leakage: Several Worst Case Scenario Leaks (30% each)

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- 1) Using experimental data we estimated the impact of 8 consecutive "two-phase" (worst case scenario) leaks of 30% of the total charge each, followed by top-offs.
- 2) After the 8th leak/top-off event:
  - Changes in composition due to leaks would be compensated by the top-offs, so the blend composition would remain stable
  - Capacity would remain nearly unchanged and still a match of R404A
  - Superior efficiency of R407F would be maintained

#### **R407F Maintains High COP and Capacity for Worst Case Leakage**

# **Technical Conclusion**

- When compared to R404A R407F provides .....
  - Energy Improvements (up to 15%)
  - Carbon Benefits (on GWP -53.5% and TEWI -66%)
  - Capacity Improvements
  - Life Cycle Cost Benefits / Engineer 'Friendly'
  - 'Future proof' complies with F-Gas regulation post 2030 and minimizes HFC taxes where applied
- Simple to retro-fit R404A (glide!)
  - Same Expansion Valves
  - Remove R404A / Evacuate / Change Drier / Liquid Charge with R407F
  - Optimise System / Expansion Valve settings for R407F (Super Heat)
  - Check Operation ...... Save Energy!
- Widely available through a multi-channel distribution network



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Genetron Performax<sup>®</sup> LT F-Gas Ready

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Performax LT can be used for servicing without end date. R404A will be banned.

**Genetron Performax<sup>®</sup> LT (R407F) – The 'First Choice' Solution** 

# Thank you! Questions?



# Honeywell

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