

AHRI Releases First Final Test Reports for Low-GWP Alternative Refrigerants Evaluation Program

Arlington, VA – The Air Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI) recently released three final test reports for its Low Global Warming Potential Alternative Refrigerants Evaluation Program (Low-GWP AREP). The reports contain test results of low-GWP refrigerants for residential heat

pump, water-cooled chiller and commercial ice machine applications, and also include the refrigerants' compositions.

"Eleven low-GWP refrigerants were tested, and their performance was compared to their respective baseline refrigerants, either R-410A or R-404A," said AHRI President

and CEO Stephen Yurek. "This is the first set of many reports that will be published as part of our research program."

Currently, tests are ongoing, but all are expected to be completed by early 2013. Test reports will be released to the public as they are reviewed and approved by the AHRI

Low-GWP AREP Technical Committee. Additional reports, once published, will be posted online at http://www.ahrinet.org/ahri+low_gwp+alternative+refrigerants+evaluation+program.aspx.

Readers are encouraged to visit the site monthly for the latest reports.

DuPont Completes Successful Action against Refrigerant Counterfeiting in China

Counterfeit Trader Compensates DuPont Fluorochemicals with RMB 204,000 in Damages

Wilmington, Delaware - DuPont Refrigerants (DuPont) recently completed a two-year effort to investigate counterfeit activity of DuPont refrigerant brands in Quzhou City, Zhejiang Province, China.

In 2009, a distributor alerted DuPont to potential counterfeiting of DuPont™ Suva® and DuPont™ Freon® brands. The information they provided led them to suspect counterfeiting activity of Quzhou Fuming Co., Ltd., in Quzhou City. With assistance from a local law firm, DuPont requested that local authorities conduct a raid of the suspected counterfeit facility. A raid action in late September 2011 resulted in seizure of 1,500 empty refrigerant cylinders with DuPont™ Suva® and Freon® packaging, 1,000 counterfeit labels and 1,000 counterfeit DuPont™ Freon® R-22 cylinders.

After the raid, DuPont issued cease-and-desist letters, however, the company did not respond to the request and continued to sell the counterfeit refrigerants. DuPont then filed a legal action against those responsible.

A court case was undertaken in China and a judicial settlement was reached in August 2012. The defendant was required to pay the equivalent of \$39,400 to the Chinese government and to pay \$32,000 in damages and court costs to DuPont. The company is under a permanent injunction to not sell DuPont refrigerants or engage in counterfeit activities involving DuPont trademarks going forward. As part of the sentence, the judge also required the company to post a formal public apology in two Chinese newspapers.

"We will continue to combat counterfeiting of DuPont refrigerants, using assistance from local law enforcement, government officials and customs organizations," said Greg Rubin, global business manager, DuPont Refrigerants. "This effort is ongoing and this case was an excellent example of cross-regional work between DuPont and our distributors. This is a collaborative effort. We can't combat counterfeiting alone."

For Peace of Mind in the New Year, Resolve to Protect Your Assets

Specialist Offers Tips for Safeguarding Your Wealth

By Hillel L. Presser, Esq., MBA

Litigation is America's fastest growing business because plaintiffs have everything to gain and nothing but a few hours' time to lose, says Hillel Presser, author of "Financial Self-Defense (Revised Edition)," www.assetprotectionattorneys.com.

"Even if a case seems utterly ridiculous -- like the man who struck and killed a teenager with his luxury car and then sued the boy's family for damage to his bumper -- defendants are encouraged to settle. It's sometimes the only way to avoid potentially astronomical legal fees," he says.

If you haven't already taken steps to protect your assets, that's one New Year's resolution you'll be glad you made and followed up on, Presser says. And while it helps to have

the assistance of a lawyer who specializes in asset protection, there are many things you can do yourself.

"You shouldn't have any non-exempt assets in your name," Presser says. "The goal is to 'own' nothing but control everything."

Presser suggests these resolutions for safeguarding your wealth in the event of a lawsuit:

- Inventory your wealth. Figure out how much assets you really have (most people have more than they think). Take stock of valuable domain names, telephone numbers, intellectual property, potential inheritances, and other liquid and non-liquid assets. That way you can then work on actions to cost effectively keep them safe.

- Set your goal. Setting your 2013 asset protection goal is your first step to becoming protected in the New Year! For instance, you could plan to execute an estate plan or set up a trust for your children in 2013.

Decide what assets you want to protect in the New Year and a realistic timeline for implementation. Then -- and most importantly -- stick to your plan. Asset protection works only if you follow through.

- Protect your home. Find out how much of your home is protected by your state's homestead laws and then encumber the remaining equity. Encumbering a home's equity can be accomplished by recording a mortgage against it, re-financing a current mortgage or even taking out a line of credit using your home as collateral! Another great strategy to protect your home is to transfer its title to a protective entity such as a limited liability company (LLC), trust, limited partnership, etc.

- Get everything out of your name. The worst thing you can do as far as exposure is titling all of your assets to your personal name. That doesn't mean you have to lose control of them -- the goal of asset protection is to "own nothing, but

control everything." In 2013, work on moving your assets out of your personal name and into the name of protective entities such as limited liability companies (LLC's), trusts, limited partnerships, etc.

- Buy adequate insurance. Protect your loved ones. Make sure you have adequate insurance coverage in the event a job loss, natural disaster, or even a tragic loss of life. Those include -- but are not limited to -- your car, home, and other valuables.

Hillel L. Presser's law firm, The Presser Law Firm, P.A., represents individuals and businesses in establishing comprehensive asset protection plans. He is a graduate of Syracuse University's School of Management and Nova Southeastern University's law school, and serves on Nova's President's Advisory Council. He also serves on the boards of several non-profit organizations for his professional athlete clients. He is a former adjunct faculty member for law at Lynn University.

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