

R404A BAN BY 2020

ARE YOU READY?

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You can find the information needed in Art. 13.3 and Annex III (12) of Regulation (EU) 517/2014 on fluorinated gases: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32014R0517&from=EN>



Art. 13.3: From 1 January 2020, the use of fluorinated greenhouse gases, with a global warming potential of 2 500 or more to service or maintain refrigeration equipment with a charge size of 40 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent or more, shall be prohibited. This paragraph shall not apply to military equipment or equipment intended for applications designed to cool products to temperatures below – 50 °C

Art. 13.3 refers to retrofit and applies to stationary (i.e. "not in transit during operation" such as fixed refrigeration systems) and mobile (such as cars, vans, railroad or ships) refrigeration equipment, while Annex III (12) applies to stationary only.

To illustrate this with an example, the impact for R404A on board vessels with a GWP of 3,943 for 15kg is $15 \times 3,943 = 59$ tonnes of CO₂ equivalent. A typical cold room would have at least 15kg. A small packages unit may be just below 10kg but given this ban the gas will also be obsolete in Europe after the ban. What this means for vessel owners is that if you have not already done so, you are advised to change cold rooms and any AC equipment running on R404A to a refrigerant gas with lower GWP than 2,500. Viking Airtech can assist in such retrofits.

F-GAS TAXES IN THE EU

For F-gas gas taxes in the EU (at national level!) there is some information here:

<http://publication.shecco.com/publications/view/guidehftaxesandfiscalincentivesforrineurope>

currently we are aware of taxes in Spain and Denmark, possibly Poland and Slovenia. It is also considered in some other countries, e.g. France. Please contact these countries for more information. See here:

https://ec.europa.eu/clima/sites/clima/files/f-gas/docs/contact_list_en.pdf

FURTHER INFORMATION

For future queries regarding F-Gases/HFCs please send an e-mail to CLIMA-HFC-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu