

The American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act will reduce the supply and use of hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) refrigerants with high global warming potential (GWP). When the latest updates go into effect in 2024, all new equipment is set to have prescriptive limits on HFC use, which could have major impacts on your facility.

The team at EMCOR Services Walker-J-Walker is ready to help guide you through these regulatory changes and plan for the HFC phasedown.

# **Effects on Your Equipment**

Under the AIM Act's latest guidance, existing commercial chillers, rooftop units, split units, and VRF systems will not need to be converted to operate with low-GWP refrigerants. However, the Environmental Protection Agency is planning to place the following restrictions on all new equipment:

# January 1, 2024

 New chillers must use an approved refrigerant with a GWP below 750

### January 1, 2025

 R-410A will be restricted in the use of rooftop units and split units

# January 1, 2026

 R-410A will be restricted in new VRF systems

# Reductions to Refrigerant Supplies

Clients with existing equipment that uses HFCs should prepare for decreased supply and higher prices. R-410A and R-134a will become increasingly unavailable, especially in the later years of the phased reduction.

However, reclaimed refrigerants can be used to help offset some of the supply decrease. The EPA is also expected to restrict the use of HFCs in other types of new equipment, helping further ease scarcity.

# **How We Can Help**

While some of these changes are subject to final rulemaking, the reality is that the HFC phasedown is already well underway on the market. It is important to act now in order to eliminate the risk refrigerant shortages pose to your facility. It's also important to note that the OEM's are already starting the production of new HVAC equipment to utilize A2L refrigerants in 2025 (many of which are mildly flammable.)

Our professional HVAC technicians are properly trained to handle and use a variety of new, lower-GWP refrigerants. Whether replacing equipment, creating proactive conversion plans, or strategizing for HFC supply restrictions, they can work with you to develop a proactive, forward-thinking plan customized to your equipment needs. We will also work to keep you abreast of these changes as they arise.

# The AIM Act has set the following benchmarks for reductions in CO2 emissions derived from HFCs: 40% 50% 50% 60% 70% 80% 2024 2029 2034 2036

# WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU?

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