Promoting the use of Refrigerant Grade HC in Nigeria

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BACKGROUND

- The servicing sector for domestic refrigerators and air conditioning in Nigeria is using, in rapidly increasing amounts, hydrocarbons as replacement for HCFC-22 and HCFC blends.
- The feedstock is mostly imported cooking gas and no safety measures had been in place to cope with flammability and explosion hazards ,prior to the HPMP.
- Priority for substitutes and alternatives that minimize other impacts taking into account global warming potential, energy use and other relevant factors

BACKGROUND

- Outcome of Special Workshop organized for relevant manufactures of products which emphasised the following
- ✓ Avoidance of High GWP alternatives
- ✓ Local capacity to assure cost-effective availability of alternatives
- ✓ Local production of refrigerant grade Hydrocarbons for the servicing sector
- ✓ Inclusion of Training on the use of HC

PILOT HYDROCARBON PRODUCTION PROJECT

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- Design, Construction and Start-up of pilot distillation and bottling of HC Refrigerants
- Distribution and marketing of products along with a good practice programme

OBJECTIVES

- Develop cost-effective local/regional hydrocarbon supply for natural refrigerants to replace HCFCs in refrigeration manufacturing and servicing applications;
- Demonstrate the technology for commercial refrigeration manufacturers, ice makers and other commercial refrigeration manufacturers, and
- Assure through training and proper retrofit that the use of these hydrocarbons in the market will occur in a safe way.
- Demonstrate an innovative technology based on local expertise in distillation and purification of refrigerants

PRODUCT S AND SOURCES

Target Products

Propane and Isobutane

Raw Material

Liquified Petroleum Gas (LPG)

Source of Supply

Usually Refineries (in Nigeria usually flared)

Sometimes gas released from oil fields (also

flared)

STATUS OF THE PROJECT

- The construction and Installation of prototype distillation unit for the production of high grade refrigerant is successfully completed
- Pilot production of new manufactured refrigerant achieved -PAMOZONE (R-290 and R-600)

 Certification of Plant with Regulatory Agency in progress

SAFETY, TRAINING AND AWARENESS

- Production of Safety Operational Manual
- Safety Organisation and Responsibilities
- Standard Operating Procedures for Work Activities
- Emergency Response Plan
- First Safety Audit of Plant
- Plant Access and General Security
- Loading and Unloading Operations
- LPG Storage
- Equipment and Piping
- Fire Protection

SAFETY, TRAINING AND AWARENESS

- Training for local technicians and indigenous manufacturers
 - Avoidance of venting
- Retrofit to allow safe operation on hydrocarbon refrigerants.
 - Proper tooling
 - Training in safe practices.
- Awareness Creation workshops for Refrigerant importer/distributors

NEXT STEPS

- Commissioning of HC Production Plant (Oct. 2015)
- Full Commercialization of Plant during the second stage HPMP
- Continuous Training of Technicians and Awareness Creation
- Commencement of Certification Process
- Training and Certification is according to AREA's Guidance on minimum requirements for training and certification.

CONCLUSIONS

- The risks associated with this project can be minimised/eliminated by organised training and awareness creation programmes
- This process can be replicated anywhere in the world and may generate opportunities for similar projects in other developing countries
- Nigeria expects to realise environmental and economic benefits from this project

THE PROTOTYPE PLANT PICTURE



THE DISTILLATION COLUMN PAINTED FOR DIFFERENT SEPARATIONS



Section showing part of the Refrigerant's Distillation Column



THE SEMI AUTOMATIC FILLING EQUIPMENT.



FILLED CANS OF R290 REFRIGERANT



FIELD LAB (GAS CHROMATOGRAPHY)



CONSTRUCTION OF CONCRETE ROADS AND KERBS FOR THE BEAUTIFICATION OF THE HC PLANT



THANK YOU