

Name of Organization: A-Gas International

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Title: Global trends to incentivize effective and practical Life Cycle Refrigerant Management

Proposed Date: TBA

Time: TBA

Background:

With our world leading platforms in recovery, reclamation, and destruction in adherence with Montreal Protocol guidelines, A-Gas is the global leader in Lifecycle Refrigerant Management (LRM). To enable the transition away from Ozone Depleting Substances and high Global Warming Potential virgin refrigerants we also supply lower global warming gases and reclaimed refrigerants.

The A-Gas approach provides a fully circular solution, focused on preventing the release of refrigerant gases to atmosphere. In 2023 our LRM activities abated ~8.9 million tonnes CO₂e or the equivalent of 1.8 million cars off the road.

A-Gas has publicly pledged its commitment to reduce its emissions by >50% by 2028 and to achieve net-zero by 2035.

High Level Concepts & Take Aways:

- Implementation of the Montreal Protocol even though very successful, focuses on the gradual reduction in the production, import, and use of CFCs, HCFCs and HFCs; this has not been sufficient to prevent emissions and the environmental harm, from the global refrigerant installed bank.
- The A-Gas side event will explore a range of pertinent LRM themes, including sharing some case studies to demonstrate successful LRM approaches, as well as exploring challenges and obstacles trying to access and deploy practical LRM.
- LRM will generate better environmental outcomes through increased recovery rates at equipment EOL & during service; supply of reclaimed products; destruction of legacy refrigerants and supply of lower GWP alternative refrigerants.
- The growth of the global refrigerant installed bank poses a significant challenge to the responsible refrigerant management efforts and strongly emphasizes the need to speed up the



transition to improved LRM and circular economy practices (recovery, reclamation, destruction capacity worldwide).

- Refrigerant recovery rates remain very low in most regions across the globe (in Article 5 countries in particular), in part because of inadequate regulatory and/or voluntary incentive programs that generate sufficient finance for investment; thereby creating an absence of effective and practical LRM and abatement on the ground (becomes difficult to justify a business case).
- Better visibility on the installed bank inventories needs to, in part underpin the nature and magnitude of subsequent LRM initiatives; lack of economy of scales will drive a lack of capital investment and add considerable set up and supply chain costs.
- The role of regulations, their enforcement, and the compliance & voluntary carbon market acting as positive LRM multipronged incentive drivers; it's not a one size fits all (examples of LRM enablers – California Cooling Act, examples of technology investment because of carbon finance etc.).
- In the absence of regulation how do we leverage existing carbon methodologies through the voluntary carbon market (emissions are priced), to expand the scope of market activities for refrigerant abatement through reclamation or destruction.
- The voluntary carbon market allows for the generation of certified carbon credits purchased by corporations, institutions, governments, and individuals, that can help finance greenhouse gas mitigation.
- Obstacles and challenges - The negative impact of virgin refrigerant (HFC) price volatility has placed considerable strain on attracting increased LRM efforts; makes it economically impossible to incentivize recovery of gas; lack of infrastructure & access to LRM technologies, lack of trained personnel; Basel impediments etc.
- We will invite the room for questions and a discussion on some of our success stories and how to practically overcome LRM barriers.