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For immediate release

Jim Thomas Receives First Refrigerant Management Canada Environmental Achievement Award

Mississauga, Ontario – Refrigerant Management Canada (RMC) Chair Dennis Larson today announced that the first recipient of the RMC Environmental Achievement Award is Jim Thomas of Refrigerant Services in Dartmouth Nova Scotia. The RMC Environmental Achievement Award recognizes exemplary contributions by the HVACR industry to protection and enhancement of the environment as it relates to industry products, services and extended producer responsibility programs such as RMC.

Jim Thomas has been in the Canadian refrigeration and air conditioning industry for more than 40 years. In the early 1990's, he recognized the need to create solutions for the environmental issues concerning refrigerants and ozone-depletion. In 1993, he established Refrigerant Services Inc. and began designing and obtaining patents on reclamation and separation technologies that would assist with the reuse of contaminated and mixed refrigerants from the field.

Over the last 17 years, Jim has provided reclamation and separation technologies in Canada and internationally. His technologies are currently being used in eight countries spanning four continents. In Cuba and the Ukraine, he partnered with the United Nations Environmental Program to assist with the conversion of CFC chillers and provide the separation technology necessary for these countries to develop their refrigerant management processes.

Jim has also been an active member of the RMC program over the last 12 years. Jim has assisted RMC through its development and operations and has provided the RMC Board of Directors with technical expertise to ensure that RMC meets or exceeds the objectives of the program.

Jim received his award at the 10th Anniversary Annual Meeting of RMC held in Mississauga Ontario on November 3, 2010. The establishment of the RMC Environmental Achievement Award is consistent with the mission of RMC and the need to raise awareness within the industry about environmental stewardship.

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RMC is a not-for-profit corporation established by HRAI and the Canadian refrigeration and air conditioning industry to provide an extended producer responsibility program in partnership with government and the Canadian public that:

- manages the environmentally responsible disposal of Canada's stocks of surplus ODS refrigerants for the Canadian refrigeration and air conditioning industries;
- meets the objective of the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) to minimize and avoid the ultimate release of these substances to the environment; and
- ensures that all surplus ODS refrigerants will be managed in the most environmentally responsible manner to minimize depletion of the ozone layer.

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