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Two Million Kilograms of Refrigerant Collected and Safely Destroyed: Canada's Refrigerant Industry Celebrates Environmental & Climate Milestone

Mississauga, Ontario, June 15, 2010 –Dennis Larson, Chair of Refrigerant Management Canada (RMC), today proudly announced that the program has collected and safely destroyed over 2 million kilograms of environmentally damaging refrigerant waste. This outstanding achievement highlights the remarkable success of the RMC program, which has received international attention and accolades.

Initially established in 2000 to destroy the surplus CFC inventory, RMC opened the program to HCFCs in January 2004, demonstrating its commitment to ensuring that all surplus halocarbon refrigerants will eventually be disposed of in an environmentally acceptable manner. In February of 2008, further to this commitment, RMC submitted a proposal to Environment Canada regarding the need to develop a stewardship program for HFC refrigerants. In May of 2009, Environment Canada issued a Notice of Intent to initiate such a stewardship program.

RMC is the first and only program of its kind in North America and its success has drawn international attention; RMC has consulted with delegates from Norway, Columbia, Japan, Australia and the United States, all of whom wish to emulate the program. Also, in 2007, RMC received the prestigious US EPA *Best-of-the-Best Stratospheric Ozone Protection Award* in recognition of its exceptional contribution to global environmental protection. Since halocarbon refrigerants are also potent greenhouse gases, RMC is not only protecting the ozone layer, it is also mitigating climate change.

Yet another measure of RMCs environmental leadership is that it has been granted the right to use the EcoLogo symbol, a registered trademark of Environment Canada. This distinction is granted only to products or programs that are environmentally preferable through the development and promotion of higher standards of environmental performance. The EcoLogo provides further assurance that companies have made an environmentally responsible choice when they use the RMC Program.

Championed by industry, RMC is Canada's response to the Montreal Protocol and the global challenges of ozone depletion and climate change. An industry-led, industry-funded environmental program, RMC is a not-for-profit subsidiary of the Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Institute of Canada (HRAI). In November 2010, RMC will celebrate its tenth anniversary.

About Refrigerant Management Canada (RMC):

RMC is a not-for-profit corporation established by the Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Institute of Canada (HRAI) and the Canadian refrigeration and air conditioning industry. It is an industry-led environmental care program committed to the responsible disposal of surplus ozone depleting refrigerants from the stationary refrigeration and air conditioning industry. The RMC Board of Directors oversees the Program's operations and includes representatives from the refrigeration and air conditioning industry, equipment owners and environment/community groups. Visit www.refrigerantmanagement.ca for more information.

Contact: April Gucciardo, Refrigerant Management Canada, 1 (800) 267-2231 ext. 239, agucciardo@hrai.ca