



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RMC Celebrates 10 Years of Fighting Ozone Depletion on International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer

Award-winning HVACR industry program leads Canadian action on reducing ozone depleting emissions

TORONTO – September 15, 2011 –September 16 is International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, something Refrigerant Management Canada (RMC) and the HVACR industry understand. The RMC program has been responsible for preventing over 2.5 million kilograms of ozone-depleting substances (ODS) from being released into the atmosphere. To date, this has resulted in the reduction of ODS emissions by approximately 900 ODP tonnes and greenhouse gas emissions by 5.8 megatonnes. This significant accomplishment helped RMC earn the prestigious United States Environmental Protection Agency’s Best-of-the-Best Stratospheric Ozone Protection Award.

While other countries continue to struggle with ozone-related policies, as evidenced by Obama’s abandonment of proposed air quality standards in the U.S. earlier this month, Canada’s progress on ODS reduction has grown and flourished over the past decade, making the RMC program a crucial part of Canada’s strategy.

“RMC is thrilled with the success of the program over the past ten years and is proud to have reached this milestone of 2.5 million kilograms of refrigerant collected and destroyed,” says Warren Heeley, President of RMC. “This volume is equivalent to taking 1.5 million cars off our roads for an entire year, which is a significant feat for the future of our environment.”

Created in response to Environment Canada’s request for a program to handle the disposal of ozone-depleting refrigerants, RMC is an industry-lead environmental care program and completely voluntary. A not-for-profit organization, RMC is managed by HVACR industry professionals with a passion for the environment and for the future viability of the ozone layer, issues often overlooked by business and industry. Refrigerant manufacturers support the program and embraced the concept of environmental stewardship for their products, long before other industries considered such a concept. The HVACR industry recognized and responded to the need for the take back and safe disposal of these refrigerants, such as chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), which are used in air conditioning and refrigeration equipment.

The only program of its kind in North America, RMC manages the collection and disposal of surplus ozone depleting refrigerants from equipment such as large air conditioning units, and commercial supermarket refrigeration systems. An HVACR contractor removes the refrigerant from the equipment and takes it to an authorized wholesaler, who shares a similar concern for the environment. The wholesaler stores the refrigerant until an appropriate volume is acquired, then RMC collects and disposes of the refrigerant in an environmentally responsible manner.



“As we continue to take steps to protect our environment, ensuring proper disposal of ozone depleting refrigerant is a crucial part of the mix,” adds Heeley. “RMC is industry environmental responsibility in action.”

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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. For more information, please visit www.refrigerantmanagement.ca.

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