DuPont™ FE™ Fire Extinguishants EU F-Gas Update

January 28, 2013

This bulletin provides up-to-date information on the draft European F-Gas regulation and clarifies misleading and confusing market information surrounding the state of DuPont Fire Extinguishing Agents in the clean agent fire suppression industry.

- DuPont™ FE-36™ (HFC-236fa) is not targeted for a ban in the current scope of this draft regulation. DuPont is not phasing out FE-36™ and FE-36™ will continue to be available for sale by DuPont.

- The current draft of the European F-Gas regulation (Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases) published on November 7, 2012, is still under review within the European Commission, and yet offers a preview of what to expect in the final regulation. The current draft focuses on fluorinated greenhouse gases, or mixtures containing fluorinated greenhouse gases, with a global warming potential (GWP) equal to or greater than 2150 for the servicing or maintenance of refrigeration equipment with charge size equivalent to 5 tons CO2 or more. This proposed GWP limit does not apply to Fire Extinguishing agents.

- HFC-223fa is included in the overall scope of the draft regulation under the HFC cap and reduction program. Under this proposal DuPont will be provided an established quota for HFCs within the EU based upon historic usage. This program allows DuPont to manage high priority business segments for future supply and provides certainty on future demand.

- DuPont supports a GWP-weighted cap and reduction of HFCs as the most cost effective and flexible form of directive for addressing the global issue of climate change as it relates to fluorochemicals. A cap and reduction proposal provides regulatory certainty for the Fire Suppression industry and allows users and fire engineers to continue selecting the most efficient and technically sound fire protection option for critical facilities; while reinforcing emission reduction goals, responsible use of clean agent technologies, and global climate change commitments.

- The draft EU F-Gas regulation specifically targets the servicing or maintenance of refrigeration equipment. The directive does, however, include specific high GWP products in Annex IV of the regulation. HFC-23 (DuPont FE-13, GWP of 14800) is currently listed in Annex IV. Annex IV prohibits placing the listed substances on the EU market after a specified date. For HFC-23, the current draft has set a date of January 1, 2015.

DuPont remains an active leader in supporting and helping to craft global guidelines that protect our environment while positively representing the value of fluorinated clean agents in protecting critical facilities and human lives. We trust this clarifies messages that may have misrepresented the current and future status of DuPont Clean Agents in the marketplace and encourage you to share this with your customers and clients.

For over 50 years DuPont has been a respected provider of safe, effective, fluorinated clean agents to protect lives and property. We take that commitment seriously and envisage meeting your fire suppression needs today and in the future. For additional information please visit our website at www2.dupont.com/FE, and sign up to receive regular news and market updates.

Sincerely,

Al Thornton
Global Market Manager, DuPont Fire Extinguishants