

DAIKIN strongly recommends that all users and purchasers of refrigerants purchase only from reputable sources and mistrust seemingly cheap offers.

High quality refrigerants sold in the EU under the quota scheme have a certain price level. Offers substantially below the usual discounts are a clear indicator of illegal product.

Do not compromise your good reputation by using refrigerants of poor quality from unknown sources. Protect your customers from dubious traders and report suspicious refrigerant offers to the authorities. The EFCTC (European Fluorocarbons Technical Committee) has established a whistleblower hotline protecting your anonymity. For more details on this hotline please visit

<https://www.fluorocarbons.org>



## HELP STOP THE ILLEGAL IMPORTS OF HFC INTO THE EU



## Refrigerants

## Illegal HFC Imports

Magnitude & impact

Refrigerant quality

EFCTC whistleblower hotline

## Illegal imports & trade of HFCs in the EU

HFCs illegally imported into the EU have been reported continuously since the beginning of 2018. They are a big threat to the EU F-Gas Regulation (EU) No 517/2014 and generate risks, both for the environment and safety of installers and end users.



Large quantities of illegal HFC refrigerants are entering the EU market.

Estimated minimum quantity 2018:

**16.3 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent**

Based on R134a, this means

**633 Iso Tank Containers (18mt)**

or more than **900.000 cylinders**

Source: EIA, 09.04.2019, <https://eia-international.org/press-releases/criminal-trade-climate-harming-hfc-refrigerants-flourishes-eu/>

### The impact of illegal imports and trade

The illegal import of HFCs into the European Union will ultimately threaten the success of the F-Gas Regulation and the EU's climate goals.

### Unknown source = unknown substance

The use of potentially health & safety hazardous products can lead to serious safety issue for installers and end users.

### Uncertain product quality

Illegally imported HFCs are often of dubious quality.

## What is a quality refrigerant?

Quality refrigerants follow internationally accepted standards like AHRI700. These standards describe the quality of refrigerants and their blends.

- Only known substances, of high purity (>99.5% for R134a)
- Exact composition in case of blends
- Little content of non-condensable gases (<1.5 vol.% in gas phase for R134a)
- Little moisture (<10 ppm H<sub>2</sub>O in liquid phase for R134a)
- Low acidity (<1ppm as HCl for R134a)
- No solid particles

Purchasing from established suppliers who are interested in maintaining future business with their customers ensures that refrigerants have the quality you need for your business and fulfill the requirements of e.g. AHRI700.

## How to identify a quality refrigerant?

In most cases a quality refrigerant can be easily distinguished from a refrigerant of poor quality. Check for these indicators of good refrigerant quality:

### 1. Packaging

- Returnable cylinders – no disposables!
- Cylinder is in good shape
- Cylinder is approved for the refrigerant by a certified body (see stamped refrigerant types or pressure approval)
- Test interval of the cylinder has not expired

### 2. Labeling

- The product is clearly visible by name
- UN-Number + "Kyoto phrases" acc. F-Gas regulation, GHS-symbols
- Supplier's information

### 3. Documentation

- SDS / Quality certificate