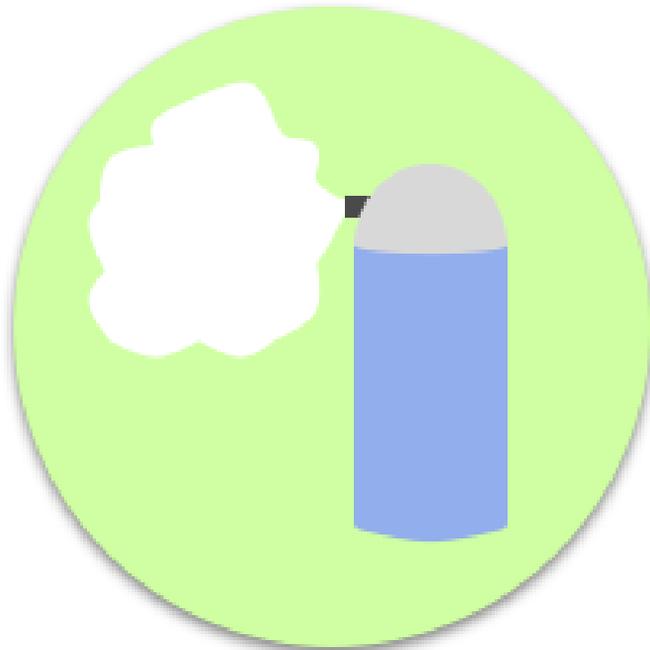




**CROWBERRY CONSULTING**  
Environment, Ethics and Corporate Responsibility Management

# Fluorinated Gases

## FAQ's



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## What Are Fluorinated Gases?

Fluorinated Gases (or F-Gases) are a family of man-made gases that are used in a range of industrial applications. They are used as they do not harm the ozone layer but are greenhouse gases meaning that they will contribute significantly to global warming as they have a global warming effect about 23,000 times greater than Carbon Dioxide.

Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) are the most common type of F-Gas and they contain Hydrogen, Fluorine and Carbon. They are mainly used in commercial and industrial refrigeration and for air-conditioning units. All HFCs are man-made and tend to be colourless, odourless and unreactive. They generally pose little threat to human health except in high concentrations. However, their global warming potential shows that they are hazardous to the environment.

## What is Global Warming Potential (GWP)?

GWP is a measure of how much heat a certain greenhouse gas traps within the atmosphere.

The GWP depends on the following factors:

- The absorption of infrared radiation by a given chemical.
- The spectral location of its absorbing wavelengths.
- The atmospheric lifetime of the chemical.



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# How are Fluorinated Gases Controlled?

The impact of Brexit means that we are not longer exclusively bound by EU legislation such as **F-Gas Regulations** and the **Mobile Air Conditioning Directive** that implemented a three phase strategy to reduce the fluorinated gas usage in motor vehicles in the EU. The UK wishes to follow, as closely as possible, the EUs intentions.

Now, the UK must rely on the **Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases Regulations 2015** which implements the F-Gas Regulations as stated above.

The Government have recently released a new legislation which encompasses both Ozone Depleting Substances and F-Gases, **The Ozone Depleting Substances and Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019** have amended the 2015 Regulations (see above) and also implemented and retained all Community legislation which concerns the regulation of these substances. It also follows the aim of the EU to phase out HFCs by 79% by 2030.

This retention of EU legislation and following of their standards illustrates the Governments ambition to maintain and continually improve the regulation of these gases.

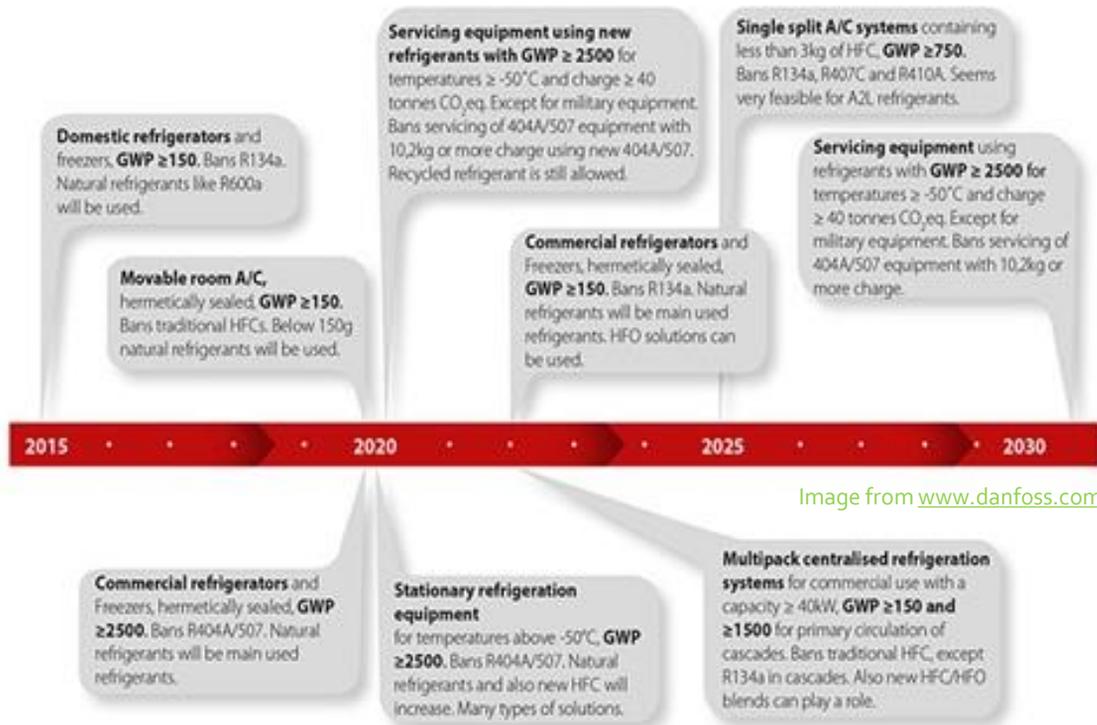


Image from [www.danfoss.com](http://www.danfoss.com)



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## TM 44 Air-Conditioning Inspections.

Air Conditioning inspections are designed to help improve efficiency, reduce energy consumption, reduce operating costs and reduce the carbon emissions of the system.

All air conditioning units that have an output of more than 12kW must be regularly inspected at least every 5 years apart. Also, F-gas inspections are required to minimise emissions mainly through leak prevention and repair.

Although the law currently holds the requirement of 12kw, the EU recently passed [Directive 2018/884 on the Energy Performance of Buildings and Energy Efficiency](#) which has relaxed the laws surrounding a TM44 to ventilation and air-conditioning units with an output of 70kW, although this has not been transposed.

## How Do I Comply With The F-Gas Regulations?

Major users of Fluorinated Gases will be required to sign a Compliance Assistance Agreement and have to demonstrate their commitment to these regulations. Anyone with stationary refrigeration or air-conditioning systems in their organisation must be aware of the regulations and remain compliant.

It is recommended that your company hold an F-gas log, which will help show compliance with the laws.

It is important to keep an eye on the laws! Here are Crowberry Consulting it is of utmost importance to keep an eye on the legislation. The Government aims to phase out HFCs by 79% by 2030 so it is important to watch the changing of the laws as they attempt to implement this.

[A guide has been produced on how to achieve this.](#)

## What Will Happen If I Do Not Comply?

- [The company could be fined up to a maximum of £200,000](#) per offence unless it falls into an exemption.
- Some offences, if they fall under the exemption, have a lower maximum fine of £100,000. £50,000, or £10,000.



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## The 'B' Word?

- The impact of Brexit is still unknown, however, the Government have pledged to maintain, sustain and improve environmental legislation, ideally, beyond what the EU has provided.
- Furthermore, the Government, have released recent, **The Ozone Depleting Substances and Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019** which has retained all of the European Legislation into UK law, to ensure that standards are maintained for trade purposes and to stick to their promise of not only maintaining but enhancing the environmental policies.
- Furthermore, the Government have recently released a guidance paper on how to prepare for Brexit and what will occur with the F-gas and ODS Regulations if the UK leaves the EU without a deal, you can find it [here](#).
- They still plan to restrict ODS' and also use the same schedule as the EU to phase down HFCs by 79% by 2030.
- If you, as a company produce, import or export HFCs or ODS you will need to apply for a UK Quota and an EU Quota.
- The Government have stated that the Environment Agency will publish guidance on how to use the UK F-gas system (for transferring or authorising quotas) once the UK leaves the EU.



Image from [JCB Solicitors](#)



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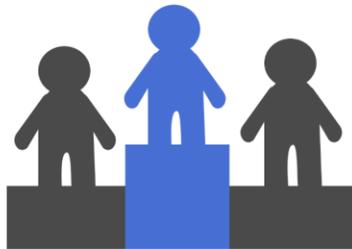
# How Can Crowberry Consulting Help You?

- Crowberry Consulting are able to provide legal updates for your organisation . These updates can be made quarterly or to a time period to suit your organisation. This is to ensure your company remains compliant to the updated legislation which applies to your organisation.
- As part of the ISO 14001, Crowberry Consulting are able to provide internal help with Environmental Auditing functions.
- We can provide advice on alternative products instead of ones that use F-Gas.

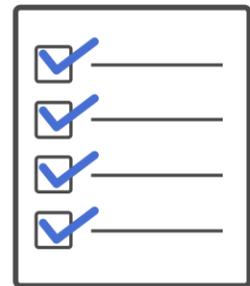
## WE CAN HELP YOU IMPLEMENT ISO 14001 - ENVIRONMENTAL:



Clause 4 - Context of the organisation



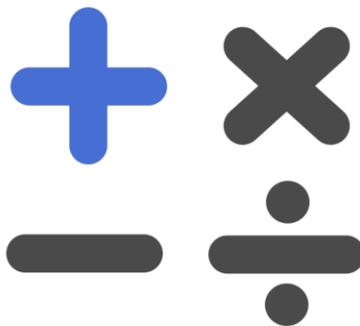
Clause 5 - Leadership



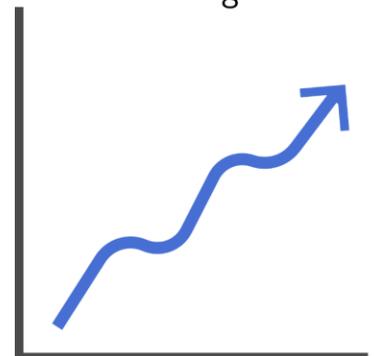
Clause 6 - Environmental Planning



Clause 7 - Support



Clause 8 - Operations for Environment



Clause 9 - Performance Evaluation



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