

F-GASES AND ODS LEGISLATION: IMPLEMENTATION IN ROMANIA

Claudia DUMITRU
Ministry of Environment and Climate Change
Waste and Dangerous Chemicals Department

ECRAN Project TAIEX
Tirana, Albania, 27-28 May 2014

SUMMARY

- ✗ MP and VC: projects, results
- ✗ F-gases: training and certification systems
- ✗ - study case and conclusions

LEGAL ASPECTS

- ✗ RO became a MP party in 1993 and a national law was issued
- ✗ RO accepted all the MP amendments
- ✗ VC signed and ratified in 1995
- ✗ All provisions related to MP and VC were implemented in the national legislation by law, governmental decisions or ministerial orders

MP RESULTS

- ✗ 7 projects
- ✗ 4 major ones
- ✗ HPMP, improving installations, 2 incinerators build, halon bank, accurate inventories
- ✗ Train the trainers projects, 10 vocational schools equipped in all RO
- ✗ Total amount for all projects was 7 millions USD
- ✗

EU ODS

- ✗ After accession, since 2007, RO needed to comply with EU regulations
- ✗ RO received some transition periods
- ✗ Currently, we are in line with all EU legislation and active participants in EU and international meetings

F-GASES

- ✗ Since EU accession, we had to comply with the provisions of Reg. 842/2006 (new 157/2014)
- ✗ Obligations: Set up the national scheme for training, evaluation and certification mechanisms
- ✗ A TAIEX was in Bucharest on F-Gases in 2009 and two for ODS

LEGAL ASPECTS

Certification requires that operators (performers, owners, traders), individuals and companies must apply the provisions of Regulation (EC) 842/2006 and its subsidiaries Reg. (EC) 1494/2007, Reg. (EC) 1516/2007, Reg. (EC) 303/2008, Reg. (EC) 307/2008 and also Reg. (EC) 1005/2009 called reference regulations.

LEGAL ASPECTS

✖ EU 842/ 2006 REGULATION

- ✖ Governmental Decision 939/2010 on some measures for the application of Regulation (EC) no. 842/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2006 on certain fluorinated greenhouse gases

According to the instructions of Environment and Forests Ministerial Order No.2682/2011, **Romania named one certification body who certifies operators (companies and personnel) carrying out the activities mentioned at art. 2, align.(1) and (2) of the EU-Regulation (CE) 303/2008, as well as the personnel carrying out the activity mentioned at art. 1 of the EU Regulation (CE) 307/2008, based upon the results obtained either by means of theoretical and practical evaluation at the end of a given professional training, as it is established at art. 8, align. (1) of the EU-Reg. (CE) 303/2008.**

- ✖ According to the instructions of the Environment and Forests Ministerial Order No.4048/2012, **Romania named 2 entities that are organizing training courses.**

SETTING UP THE TRAINING AND EVALUATION CENTERS AND CERTIFICATION BODY

- ✗ As already mentioned, RO received a transition period to comply with the EU regulations:
- ✗ - in 2007, by a Ministerial Order, RO designated and reported to the European Commission a preliminary certification body, respectively the Romanian Refrigeration Association (AGFR)
- ✗ More than 100 technicians were trained and they received certification

SETTING UP THE TRAINING AND EVALUATION CENTERS AND CERTIFICATION BODY

- ✗ In 2011, the process of designating competent certification center in AGFR was completed, the center fulfilling all the regulatory conditions, As a consequence, ME submitted to EC the definitive nomination for the **certification body** in RO (translated in a national ministerial order no. 2682)
- ✗ Also, in 2012, RO submitted to EC the names of the 2 entities as **training and evaluation centers** (translated in a national ministerial order no. 4048)

SETTING UP THE TRAINING AND EVALUATION CENTERS AND CERTIFICATION BODY

- ✖ Role of the Ministry of Environment in the process:
- ✖ - initiate the procedure for the Classification of occupations in Romania (COR) corresponding framework under Regulation (EC) no. 842/2006,
- ✖ - participate in Environmental Sectorial Committee for development and validation of occupational standards (SO) that correspond to specific work occupations under Regulation (EC) no. 842/2006
- ✖ - coordinates the development of training programs for occupations framework corresponding under Regulation (EC) no. 842/2006
- ✖ - also, before the official designation is released (both training and certification domains), ME should inspect the site and take note if all the training equipments are in place as it was declared in the nomination file submitted

SETTING UP THE TRAINING AND EVALUATION CENTERS AND CERTIFICATION BODY

Training and evaluation center

- The training curricula have 72 hours (theoretical and practical)
- Training support handbook~ 400 pages
- Theoretical and practical trainings are linked and there are 2 exams to be passed
- Lectors are professors and/or technical experts (refrigeration engineers) with relevant experience in the field
- All the practical tests are made using appropriate equipment, designed for such purpose (up-grade of the training equipment was achieved during designation process)
- Since the certificates are mutually recognized, foreign technicians were trained (CZ, HU, PL)
- AGFR set up 8 branches (in each region of the country) in order to cover the needs in the territory and the sessions are organized based on the needs in each location
- Not all applicants graduate the trainings. In such cases they can apply again and start the process from the beginning

SETTING UP THE TRAINING AND EVALUATION CENTERS AND CERTIFICATION BODY

- At the examination, one member of the certification body must attend in order to validate and observe the process
- Automatically, after graduation, in less than one month, the certificate is issued
- After the certificate expires, one short theoretical and practical test is necessary to extend the accreditation
- Anytime, due to some illegal activities or lack of professionalism, the certification body is entitled to withdraw the certificate

SETTING UP THE TRAINING AND EVALUATION CENTERS AND CERTIFICATION BODY

Certification body

- Named by the ministerial order
- Have a personal management system set up accordingly with the requirements
- A secretariat responsible with arrangements
- As it is stipulated in the MO, must submit an annual report to ME

Region 1: (N-E) AGFR branch in Iasi

Region 2: (S-E) AGFR branch in Galati

Region 3: (S) AGFR branch in Pitesti

Region 4: (S-V) AGFR branch in Craiova

Region 5: (V) AGFR branch in Timisoara

Region 6: (N-V) AGFR branch in Cluj

Region 7: (Center) AGFR branch in Brasov

And

Region 8: country capital and main office in Bucharest



SETTING UP THE TRAINING AND EVALUATION CENTERS AND CERTIFICATION BODY

SETTING UP THE TRAINING AND EVALUATION CENTERS AND CERTIFICATION BODY

Data extracted from the 2013 annual report:

- ✓ Certified operators: 414
- ✓ Certified companies: 80
- ✓ Trained operators: 213
- ✓ Training for companies: 56
- ✓ EU POSDRU project: 321 operators trained and 141 certified; 14 companies certified in all 8 regional branches

SETTING UP THE TRAINING AND EVALUATION CENTERS AND CERTIFICATION BODY

- ✗ The certificate is valid for 4 years
- ✗ The cost is 150 euro/person or company
- ✗ Except the EU POSDRU project (free certificates issued)
- ✗ All certificates are recognized by the Ministry of Labor
- ✗ Covers both domains: f-gases and ODS
- ✗ Certification body official contacts:
<http://www.agfro.ro/>

STUDY CASE AND CONCLUSIONS

- ✗ Potential non-compliance case for a new certification body
- ✗ Conclusions