

Recommended steps for implementing F-gas regulations

Special factors relevant for ECRAN beneficiaries

- As there are two versions of the F gas regulation and the elaboration of the detailed requirements of the new one might take time it should be carefully considered what to take over in what time
- Clarification of the common recognition and common market related rules

Planning and preparation – 1.

- **Identify** any **logistical, administrative and regulatory requirements** so that the Regulations can be effectively applied.
- **Identify which sectors and activities in the country are affected**
- Undertake **cost assessment** and plan how implementation costs will be covered and divided between private and public sector.
- Devise **information campaign, meetings with stakeholders** on the obligations and implications of the Regulations amongst directly affected parties and the public.
- Competent authorities should **assess capacity-building requirements** to process information received, carry out the necessary reporting requirements, ensure regular monitoring of the implementation of the obligations, and ensure that *information compiled and submitted to the Commission is accurate and complete*.
- Plan the **establishment of the required Certification Body, Verification Body and Attestation Body** and consider combining the certification and verification body if it makes institutional and financial sense. Introduce mechanisms to **ensure** that these are **independent bodies** with appropriate coordination to effectively undertake their tasks

Planning and preparation - 2

- Establish a system and procedures for:
 - **Training programmes, certification and training attestation** for companies and personnel involved in the installation, maintenance and servicing of equipment and systems;
 - The **mutual recognition of certificates** issued in other Member States;
 - **Ensuring** that companies dealing with stationary applications containing fluorinated greenhouse gases listed in Annex I do not take delivery of these gases unless the **relevant personnel hold certificates and are sufficiently trained**;
 - Ensuring appropriate **design criteria and specific requirements relating to the form and language of labels affixed to products or equipment** containing or intended to contain fluorinated greenhouse gases as well as **ensuring monitoring of compliance with labelling requirements**;
 - Overseeing the **compliance and efficiency of containment measures** put in place by operators in the various sectors and **ensuring that leakage checks and repairs are only carried out by certified personnel**.

Compliance

- Ensure that commercial, industrial and public sector organisations comply with key requirements:
 - **No products listed in Annex II are placed on the market** after the relevant prohibition dates:
 - Compliance with the **use restrictions on sulphur hexafluoride** or preparations thereof :
 - The use in magnesium die-casting is banned unless the annual quantity is less than 850 kg;
 - The use for the filling of vehicle tyres is banned.
 - Only officially certified and trained personnel install, maintain, service and operate equipment containing F-gases and that they have sufficient knowledge of emission prevention, the recovery of gases and the safe handling of equipment.
 - Efficient containment of equipment and systems containing F-gases, by means of regular checks and the installation of leakage detection systems for larger applications.
 - **Maintain records on the quantity and type of F-gases** installed, the quantities recovered during servicing, maintenance and final disposal,
 - Ensure the proper labelling of refrigeration products and equipment which contains perfluorocarbons,
- Provide systems and procedures for labelling, containment measures, the certification and training of technical personnel, and monitoring compliance with the requirements.
- To be ensured that company and personnel certificates issued in EU Member States are fully recognised (other countries?)
- Put into place some **monitoring and supervisory arrangements** to oversee compliance.
- Establishment of **effective penalties for infringements**.

Training and capacity building

- Establishment of **a system and procedures for training programmes** and for the **certification of companies and personnel** involved in the installation, maintenance and servicing of equipment and systems
- Ensuring that the **staff in the certification body, attestation body and verification body** have **sufficiently qualified** and trained
- Preparation and publication guidelines explaining the duties of the national entity, various certification, verification bodies, the affected industrial sectors and stakeholders
- Provide **technical training for officers in public authorities** involved in:
 - Collecting information and submitting data in accordance with the Regulations;
 - Monitoring compliance so as to facilitate compliance and a good organisational set-up;
 - Ensuring the quality control of data submitted from the sectors involved.
- Also provide training in communication skills for officers who will handle claims, requests for more information and queries.

Reporting - 1.

- Establish **reporting systems applicable to the relevant sectors** (producers, importers, exporters, users, recyclers etc.) and ensure that emissions data are obtained. The necessary measures should also be taken to ensure that the data submitted by industry in the annual report are considered confidential.
- *Ensure that the relevant sectors have been adequately informed about the reporting format and content of its annual report to the Commission and to the competent national authority, in conformity with Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1493/2007.*
- Ensure that each producer, importer and exporter of fluorinated greenhouse gases producing, importing and exporting gases in larger quantities submits, by 31 March of each year, **an annual report to the Commission** and to the competent authority of the country containing data on the amounts produced, imported and exported for the preceding year.
- Ensure that **producers** producing more than one tonne of fluorinated greenhouse gases per year **report on their total production of each fluorinated gas**, specifying the main categories of applications in which the substance is to be used, the quantities of each gas it has placed on the market and the quantities of each gas recycled, reclaimed or destroyed.

Reporting – 2.

- Ensure that **importers** importing more than one tonne of F-gas per year, and producers who also import, **report on the quantity of each gas imported** or placed on the EU market *and domestic market?*, specifying the main categories of applications.
- **Exporters** exporting more than one tonne of F-gases per year, including any producers who also export, must **report on the quantities of each gas exported** from the *given country* as well as the quantities of each used gas exported for recycling, reclamation or destruction.
- Ensure that the reporting is in accordance with the requirements set out in Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1493/2007
- Notify the *Commission (?)* on (inter alia):
 - **Names and contact details of certification bodies and attestation bodies** and of the titles of certificates or training attestations for personnel complying with the requirements set out;
 - Use of temporary derogation from the duty to establish certification and evaluation body in the case fluorinated greenhouse gas-based solvents are not used and instead introduce other simplified arrangements that will ensure efficient and fast certification if need be.;
 - Application of interim certification system for companies and personnel with information about the designated entities entitled to issue interim certificates and the national provisions according to which documents issued by existing certification systems are deemed as interim certificates;