



ASHRAE and UNEP Strengthen Partnership to Advance Climate and Ozone- friendly Refrigerants

ASHRAE and UNEP launched their 2015-2016 Joint Work Plan on Monday 26 Jan 2015 at the session of AASA (ASHRAE Associate Society Alliance) which is attended by representatives from 63 refrigeration, air-conditioning and engineering societies from 50 countries in Europe, South America, Africa, Asia and Australia.

Chicago, 26 January 2015, ASHRAE (founded as the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) OzonAction have launched their fourth biennial work plan for 2015-2016, based on a global cooperation agreement signed in 2007, at ASHRAE's 2015 Winter Conference held in Chicago, IL on 24-28 January 2015.

The ASHRAE-UNEP cooperation agreement was developed to achieve several international goals, including the sustainable phase-out of Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) in refrigeration and air-conditioning applications; maximizing the climate benefits of using low-GWP alternatives including aspects of energy saving in buildings; as well as facilitating the transfer and adoption of sustainable and feasible technologies to developing countries.

The new work plan covers the 2015-2016 timeframe with an objective of increasing cooperation between ASHRAE and UNEP by transferring relevant technologies amongst different regions. The plan is prepared based on success achieved and lessons learnt from the implementation of three previous work plans.

The new work plan includes two main goals and several action items. The first goal addresses emissions reduction, long-term refrigerants and energy efficiency. The main actions addressed are: building bridges between industry and policy-makers in developing countries, sharing results of relevant research on long-term refrigerants, exploring opportunities to promote responsible and sound management of refrigerants and cooperating and coordinating efforts related to energy efficiency in the buildings sector.

The second goal aims at promoting expertise and technological information exchange amongst governments and specialists dealing with ASHRAE and UNEP. The key actions are the following: maximizing the joint benefit of ASHRAE Distinguished Lecturer (DL) program, possibility of building list of refrigeration & heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) experts examining the possibility to support the establishment and/or strengthening of local refrigeration and/or HVAC societies in developing countries and finally building an online tool to ensure outreaching the outcomes of the cooperation between ASHRAE and UNEP and facilitating communication with different stakeholders.

ASHRAE-UNEP instated, recently, a Joint Liaison Committee which will be responsible for the follow-up and overseeing sound implementation of the work plan and facilitating involvement of all ASHRAE chapters/sections and UNEP OzonAction regional teams around the globe.



From Right to left: **Jeff Littleton**, ASHRAE Executive Vice President | **Walid Chakroun**, ASHRAE Vice President | **Bjarne W. Olesen**, ASHRAE Vice President | **Shamila Nair-Bedouelle**, Head of UNEP OzonAction Branch | **Thomas H. "Tom" Phoenix**, ASHRAE President | **W. Stephen Comstock**, ASHRAE Publisher/Director of Publications and Education | **Ayman Eltalouny**, Programme Officer UNEP OzonAction Branch.

Note to Editors:

About ASHRAE

ASHRAE, founded in 1894, is a global society advancing human well-being through sustainable technology for the built environment. The Society and its more than 50,000 members worldwide focus on building systems, energy efficiency, indoor air quality, refrigeration and sustainability. Through research, standards writing, publishing, certification and continuing education, ASHRAE shapes tomorrow's built environment today. More information can be found at www.ashrae.org/news.

About UNEP

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is the United Nations system's designated entity for addressing environmental issues at the global and regional level. Its mandate is to coordinate the development of environmental policy consensus by keeping the global environment under review and bringing emerging issues to the attention of governments and the international community for action.

www.unep.org

For more information, please contact:

Jodi Scott

Communications Manager
ASHRAE
Direct Line: 678-539-1140
Fax: 678-539-2140
Email: jscott@ashrae.org
Web: www.ashrae.org

Anne-Maria Fenner

Information Manager
OzonAction Branch
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Paris, France
Tel. No. (33 1) 44371454
Email: Anne.Fenner@unep.org
Web: <http://www.unep.org/ozonaction>