

OZONews

A weekly electronic news service on ozone protection & implementation of the Montreal Protocol compiled by:
UNEP DTIE OzonAction Programme, Paris

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1. Five Men Charged in Multi-Million Dollar Scheme to Illegally Import Ozone-Depleting Substances into the U.S.

A federal grand jury in New Haven, Conn. has returned an indictment charging five men for allegedly engaging in a scheme to trade in chemicals that deplete the Earth's ozone layer and that are strictly regulated in the United States.

The U.S. District Court in New Haven today unsealed the indictment charging Barry Himes of Lyme, Connecticut; John Mucha of Guilford, Connecticut; Richard Pelletier of Bolton, Connecticut.; Douglas Castle of Huntington, New York; and Alfredo Vega of Hato Rey, Puerto Rico. Himes, Mucha and Castle were arraigned today. Pelletier was arraigned last week...The case is being investigated by the U.S. EPA, the IRS and the U.S. Customs Service. The case is being prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Connecticut and the Environmental Crimes Section of the Justice Department.

Today's indictment is part of an ongoing, nationwide initiative by the Justice Department, the EPA., the U.S. Customs Service, and the IRS to enforce federal laws and regulations that restrict the use of substances that destroy the Earth's ozone layer.

Full text @: <http://www.usdoj.gov/opa/pr/2001/July/368enrd.htm>

Source: United States Department of Justice, Press release, 30 July 2001

2. Japan Draws up Strategy for Managing Ozone-Depleting CFCs

The government said Friday it has drawn up a strategy for managing ozone-depleting chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), including smooth implementation of the Fluorocarbon Recovery and Destruction Law enacted last month. The strategy makes it a principle to limit recycling of recovered CFCs, placing emphasis on their destruction, government officials said. The new legislation will complement the Domestic Electrical Appliances Recycling Law, enforced in April, in dealing with the 22,000 tons of CFCs still in use as of the end of 2000 in refrigerators and air conditioners, it said. The government plans to submit the scheme by the end of this month to the Ozone Secretariat at the U.N. Environmental Program, in line with an international agreement in December 1999, officials said...

By sector, the 22,000 tons in the refrigeration sector plus residual CFCs in insulation foam, estimated at 40,000 tons, are major constituents, while CFC stockpiles in the solvent and aerosol sectors are negligibly small. While the recycling law covering four large electric appliances requires recovery of CFCs in air conditioners and refrigerators for household use, the new law will deal mainly with commercial refrigerators and mobile air conditioners. It is slated to come into force in stages between December and October next year...

Full text @: http://home.kyodo.co.jp/all/printer_friendly.jsp?an=20010727192

Source: Kyodo News on the Web, 27 July 2001

3. Stormy Space Weather Takes a Toll on Ozone

A new study confirms a long-held theory that large solar storms rain electrically charged particles down on Earth's atmosphere and deplete the upper-level ozone for weeks to months thereafter. New evidence from NASA and NOAA satellites is helping scientists better understand how man and nature both play a role in ozone loss. The study, appearing in the August 1 issue of Geophysical Research Letters,

examined impacts of a series of huge solar explosions on the atmosphere in the Northern Hemisphere. A solar flare with an associated coronal mass ejection sent positively-charged protons streaming to Earth from July 14 to 16th, 2000. The bombardment of protons, called a solar proton event, was the third largest in the last 30 years...

Full Text @: <<http://www.gsfc.nasa.gov/topstory/20010801solarproton.html>>

Source: Goddard Space Flight Center, 01 August 2001

4. YOUR OPINION MATTERS!

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1. What is your reaction when you see OzoNews in your mail box?

- I read it immediately.
- I read it when time permits.
- I select the news of interest and save them for later reference.
- I delete it, please do not send it to me anymore.

2. Does OzoNews helps you in your daily work?

- Yes
- No

If yes please describe how you use it:

3. Is a weekly issue a good frequency?

- Yes
- No

4. Would you recommend OzoNews to other colleagues?

- Yes
- No

5. Please use the space below for any other comments or suggestions

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