

## US EPA’s Final Regulation: HFC Use Restrictions/Technology Transitions 11/03/23 Fact Sheet\* for Supermarket End-Users (Commercial HVACR)

**Applies To:**

- All new refrigeration and HVAC equipment, regardless of charge size.
- Existing high-GWP HVACR systems can continue to operate with existing refrigerants.

**Especially Noteworthy:**

- This regulation introduces new terms with new definitions that have huge consequences.
  - Product is functional upon leaving a factory (e.g. packaged rooftop units). Refer to Manufacture & Import Compliance Dates.
  - System is assembled and charged in the field (e.g. refrigeration rack systems). Refer to Installation Compliance Dates.
  - Install means to complete a field-assembled system's circuit, including charging with a full charge, such that the system can function and is ready for use for its intended purpose.
- Replacing 75% or more of evaporators (by number) and 100% of the compressor racks, condensers, and connected evaporator loads, or increasing the cooling capacity (BTU/hour) will trigger refrigerant bans for systems.

**GWP Limits for New Self-Contained Refrigeration Products in New/Existing Facilities (functional upon leaving a factory)**

Products <sup>1</sup>	Prohibited Refrigerants	Manufacture & Import Compliance Date <sup>2</sup>
Retail food – refrigeration stand-alone units & vending machines	GWP ≥ 150	1/1/25

<sup>1</sup> Additional requirement for refrigerated food processing and dispensing equipment, automatic commercial ice machines, and refrigerated transport.

<sup>2</sup> Sale, distribution, and export of these products is prohibited 3 years after the manufacture & import compliance date.

**GWP Limits for New Refrigeration Systems in New/Existing Facilities (assembled and charged in the field)**

Sector <sup>1</sup>	Systems	Prohibited Refrigerants	Installation Compliance Date
Cold storage warehouses <sup>2</sup>	≥ 200 lb. charge, excluding high temperature side of cascade system	GWP ≥ 150	1/1/26
	< 200 lb. charge	GWP ≥ 300	1/1/26
	High temperature side of cascade systems	GWP ≥ 300	1/1/26
Retail food – remote condensing units	≥ 200 lb. charge, excluding high temperature side of cascade system	GWP ≥ 150	1/1/26
	< 200 lb. charge	GWP ≥ 300	1/1/26
	High temperature side of cascade systems	GWP ≥ 300	1/1/26
Retail food – supermarkets <sup>2</sup>	≥ 200 lb. charge, excluding high temperature side of cascade system	GWP ≥ 150	1/1/27
	< 200 lb. charge	GWP ≥ 300	1/1/27
	High temperature side of cascade systems	GWP ≥ 300	1/1/27

<sup>1</sup> Additional requirement for automatic commercial ice machines and refrigerated transport.

<sup>2</sup> Compliance date for installation is extended 1 year when an approved building permit issued prior to 10/5/23 specifies the use of a regulated substance in a system.

**GWP Limits for Self-contained Air Conditioning & Heat Pump Products in New/Existing Facilities (functional upon leaving a factory)**

Products	Prohibited Refrigerants	Manufacture & Import Compliance Date <sup>1</sup>
Light commercial air conditioning & heat pumps	GWP ≥ 700	1/1/25
Chillers – Comfort cooling (as a stand-alone product)	GWP ≥ 700	1/1/25
Data centers, computer room air conditioning, & information technology equipment cooling	GWP ≥ 700	1/1/27

<sup>1</sup> Sale, distribution, and export of these products is prohibited 3 years after the manufacture & import compliance date.

**GWP Limits for Air Conditioning & Heat Pump Systems in New/Existing Facilities (assembled and charged in the field)**

Systems	Prohibited Refrigerants	Installation Compliance Date
Light commercial air conditioning & heat pump systems	GWP ≥ 700	1/1/25
Chillers – Comfort cooling	GWP ≥ 700	1/1/25
Variable refrigerant flow systems	GWP ≥ 700	1/1/26
Data centers, computer room air conditioning, & information technology equipment cooling	GWP ≥ 700	1/1/27

\*This fact sheet is a summary of very complex and lengthy regulations and is based on the initial reading of the final rule. As our understanding improves, we will refine the fact sheet. It focuses on HVACR equipment commonly found in supermarkets. This fact sheet is not meant to be a substitute for reading the regulatory text.