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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7547-2]

Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Notice 18 for Significant New Alternatives Policy Program

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of acceptability.

SUMMARY: This Notice of Acceptability expands the list of acceptable substitutes for ozone-depleting substances (ODS) under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) program. The substitutes are for use in the following sectors: refrigeration and air conditioning, solvents cleaning, foam blowing, fire suppression and explosion protection, and aerosols.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 21, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Information relevant to this notice is contained in Air Docket A-91-42, 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW.; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code 6102T; Washington, DC 20460. The docket reading room is located at the address above in room B102 in the basement. Reading room telephone: (202) 566-1744, facsimile: (202) 566-1749, Air docket staff telephone: (202) 566-1742 and facsimile: (202) 566-1741. You may inspect the docket between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays. As provided in 40 CFR part 2, a reasonable fee may be charged for photocopying.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Margaret Sheppard by telephone at (202) 564-9163, by fax at (202) 565-2155, by e-mail at sheppard.margaret@epa.gov, or by mail at U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Mail Code 6205J, Washington, DC 20460. Overnight or courier deliveries should be sent to 501 3rd Street, NW., Washington, DC 20001.

For more information on the Agency's process for administering the SNAP program or criteria for evaluation of substitutes, refer to the original SNAP rulemaking published in the Federal Register on March 18, 1994 (59 FR 13044). Notices and rulemakings under

the SNAP program, as well as other EPA publications on protection of stratospheric ozone, are available from EPA's Ozone Depletion World Wide Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/ozone/> including the SNAP portion at <http://www.epa.gov/ozone/snap/>.

EPA has established an official public docket for this action under Docket ID No. OAR-2003-0118 (continuation Docket A-91-42). The official public docket consists of the documents specifically referenced in this action and other information related to this action. Although a part of the official docket, the public docket does not include Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. The official public docket is the collection of materials that is available for public viewing at the Air and Radiation Docket in the EPA Docket Center, (EPA/DC) EPA West, Room B102, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC. The EPA Docket Center Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Public Reading Room is (202) 566-1744, and the telephone number for the Air and Radiation Docket is (202) 566-1742.

An electronic version of the public docket is available through EPA's electronic public docket and comment system. EPA Dockets. You may use EPA Dockets at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket/> to view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the official public docket, and to access those documents in the public docket that are available electronically. Although not all docket materials may be available electronically, you may still access any of the publicly available docket materials through the docket facility identified in the previous paragraph. Once in the system, select "search," then key in the appropriate docket identification number (OAR-2003-0118).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Listing of Acceptable Substitutes

- A. Refrigeration
 - B. Solvents Cleaning
 - C. Foam Blowing
 - D. Fire Suppression and Explosion Protection
 - E. Aerosols
 - II. Section 612 Program
 - A. Statutory Requirements
 - B. Regulatory History
- Appendix A—Summary of Acceptable Decisions

I. Listing of Acceptable Substitutes

This section presents EPA's most recent acceptable listing decisions for

substitutes in the following industrial sectors: refrigeration and air conditioning, solvents, cleaning, foam blowing, fire suppression and explosion protection, and aerosols. For copies of the full lists of SNAP decisions in all industrial sectors, visit EPA's Ozone Depletion Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/ozone/snap/lists/index.html>.

The sections below discuss each substitute listing in detail. Appendix A contains a table summarizing today's listing decisions. The statements in the "Further Information" column in the table provide additional information, but are not legally binding under section 612 of the Clean Air Act. In addition, the "further information" may not be a comprehensive list of other legal obligations you may need to meet when using the substitute. Although you are not required to follow recommendations in the "further information" column of the table to use a substitute, EPA strongly encourages you to apply the information when using these substitutes. In many instances, the information simply refers to standard operating practices in existing industry and/or building-code standards. Thus, many of these statements, if adopted, would not require significant changes to existing operating practices.

Submissions to EPA for the use of the substitutes listed in this document may be found under category VI-D of EPA air docket A-91-42 at the address described above under **ADDRESSES**. You can find other material supporting the decisions in this action under category IX-B of EPA docket A-91-42 and in e-docket OAR-2003-0118 at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket/>.

A. Refrigeration

1. R-407C

EPA's decision. R-407C is acceptable for use in new and retrofit equipment as a substitute for R-502 in:

- retail food refrigeration
- cold storage warehouses
- commercial ice machines
- refrigerated transport
- ice skating rinks
- water coolers
- residential dehumidifiers
- vending machines
- industrial process air conditioning
- reciprocating chillers
- screw chillers
- industrial process refrigeration
- non-mechanical heat transfer systems
- household refrigerators and freezers
- household and light commercial air conditioning

R-407C is a blend of 23% by weight HFC-32 (difluoromethane, Chemical