

Montreal Protocol

Regulatory Summary

The 20th Anniversary of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer

Background

- As part of the U.S. commitment to implementing the *Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer*, the U.S. Congress amended the Clean Air Act (CAA) in 1990 and 1998, adding provisions to protect the stratospheric ozone layer.
- The CAA Amendments require that EPA develop and carry out regulations for the responsible management of ozone-depleting substances (ODS) in the U.S.
- Title VI of the CAA is the legal framework for U.S. compliance with the Montreal Protocol and its amendments.
- The U.S. has met or accelerated its commitments and deadlines under both the Protocol and the CAA.

U.S. Production of First-Generation ODS Phased Out on Schedule

Chemical Group	Production Phaseout Dates	Deadline Met
Halons	January 1, 1994	✓
Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs)	January 1, 1996	✓
Carbon tetrachloride	January 1, 1996	✓
Hydrobromofluorocarbons (HBFCs)	January 1, 1996	✓
Methyl chloroform	January 1, 1996	✓
Chlorobromomethane	August 18, 2003	✓
Methyl bromide	January 1, 2005	✓

U.S. Production of Second-Generation ODS Being Phased Out on Schedule

Chemical Group	Production Phaseout Dates	Deadline Met
Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs)	Cut production 35 percent by January 1, 2004	✓ (One year ahead of schedule)
	Cut production 65 percent by January 1, 2010	On track to meet all future requirements
	Cut production 90 percent by January 1, 2015	
	Cut production 99.5 percent by January 1, 2020	
	Complete phaseout by January 1, 2030	

Regulatory Program Summary

- EPA regulations address ODS in a number of ways, such as:
 - Phasing down the production and import of ODS through a flexible, market-based allowance system;
 - Ensuring proper reclamation and recycling of refrigerants and other ODS to reduce emissions;
 - Providing, through the Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) program, a mechanism for identifying and approving alternatives to ODS. (Through the SNAP

- Program, EPA has approved more than 300 alternatives for more than 60 industrial, commercial, and consumer end uses);
- Banning the release of ozone-depleting refrigerants during the service, maintenance, and disposal of air conditioners and other refrigeration equipment;
 - Requiring that manufacturers label products either containing or made with the most harmful ODS;
 - Granting exemptions allowed under the CAA for uses for which immediate full-scale alternatives are not yet available, such as:
 - Essential uses of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) in medical inhalers;
 - Critical uses of the fumigant methyl bromide; and
 - Supporting careful management of inventories and encouraging destruction of ODS.

These positive results could not have been achieved without the collaboration of EPA's partners from all sectors of the economy.