

PROJECT INFORMATION

Implementation and enforcement of EU Regulations on F-gases and ODS in Bulgaria - Focus: Refrigeration and Air conditioning equipment



Supermarket refrigeration system

Source: HEAT GmbH

Background

As a member of the EU Bulgaria has committed itself to incorporate the *acquis communautaire* into its national law. This also applies to those regulations that deal with fluorinated greenhouse gases (F-gases) and ozone-depleting substances (ODS). When enforcing these regulations, the Bulgarian Ministry of Environment and Water as well as supervisory authorities and certification bodies are confronted with the challenge of tracking the entire life cycle of F-gases and ODS containing refrigerants, including imports and exports. Furthermore, they are interested in information about replacing technologies that use alternatives to F-gases and ODS.

Project details

The overall objective of this project was to help enabling the relevant Bulgarian actors to effectively and efficiently implement and enforce the EU requirements. During two study trips to Germany and two workshops in Bulgaria, the participants had the opportunity to exchange experiences and to expand their knowledge regarding possibilities to implement alternative technologies. Simulated inspections, which *inter alia* highlighted the importance of leakage checks, improved the work of the regional inspectorates in Bulgaria.

Four guidelines were developed, which contain practical recommendations in the fields of safety, control of national trade, certification and training. They are intended to support Bulgaria to more efficiently implement in particular regulation (EU) No. 517/2014 (F-gas Regulation). Necessary steps comprise *inter alia* the adaption of national laws and the further development of certification processes, education and training programmes as well as of the reporting system for the monitoring of emissions.

Updated: April 2016

Target country: Bulgaria

Duration: 01/2015 – 04/2016

Beneficiaries: Ministry of Environment and Water, Regional Inspectorates of Environment and Water, National Customs Agency, certification bodies, service personnel

Implementing organization:

HEAT GmbH, Königstein; Öko-Recherche GmbH, Frankfurt a. Main; Central Customs Authority (Centre for Education and Science of the Federal German Revenue Administration, BWZ)

Project numbers: 47535, 59900

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Advisory Assistance Programme (AAP)

for environmental protection in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and other countries neighbouring the European Union – a programme of the Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety

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Project website: <http://bit.ly/2kwldEa>