



**DANISH  
TECHNOLOGICAL  
INSTITUTE**



# Global Market Trends for Natural Refrigerants in commercial refrigeration

Refrigeration in the supermarket sector

Taastrup, 9 November 2017

Alvaro de Oña, COO, shecco group

# SHECCO - OVERVIEW

market accelerator for  
climate-friendly technologies

offices: brussels, new york,  
tokyo, berlin

focus is on the HVAC&R  
industry & natural refrigerants

CO<sub>2</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub>, HC, H<sub>2</sub>O, Air

150+ clients

reach 30,000+ individuals  
through our communication  
network



# SHECCO - OVERVIEW



global market accelerator  
for natural refrigerant based technologies



Government Projects



# INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

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01



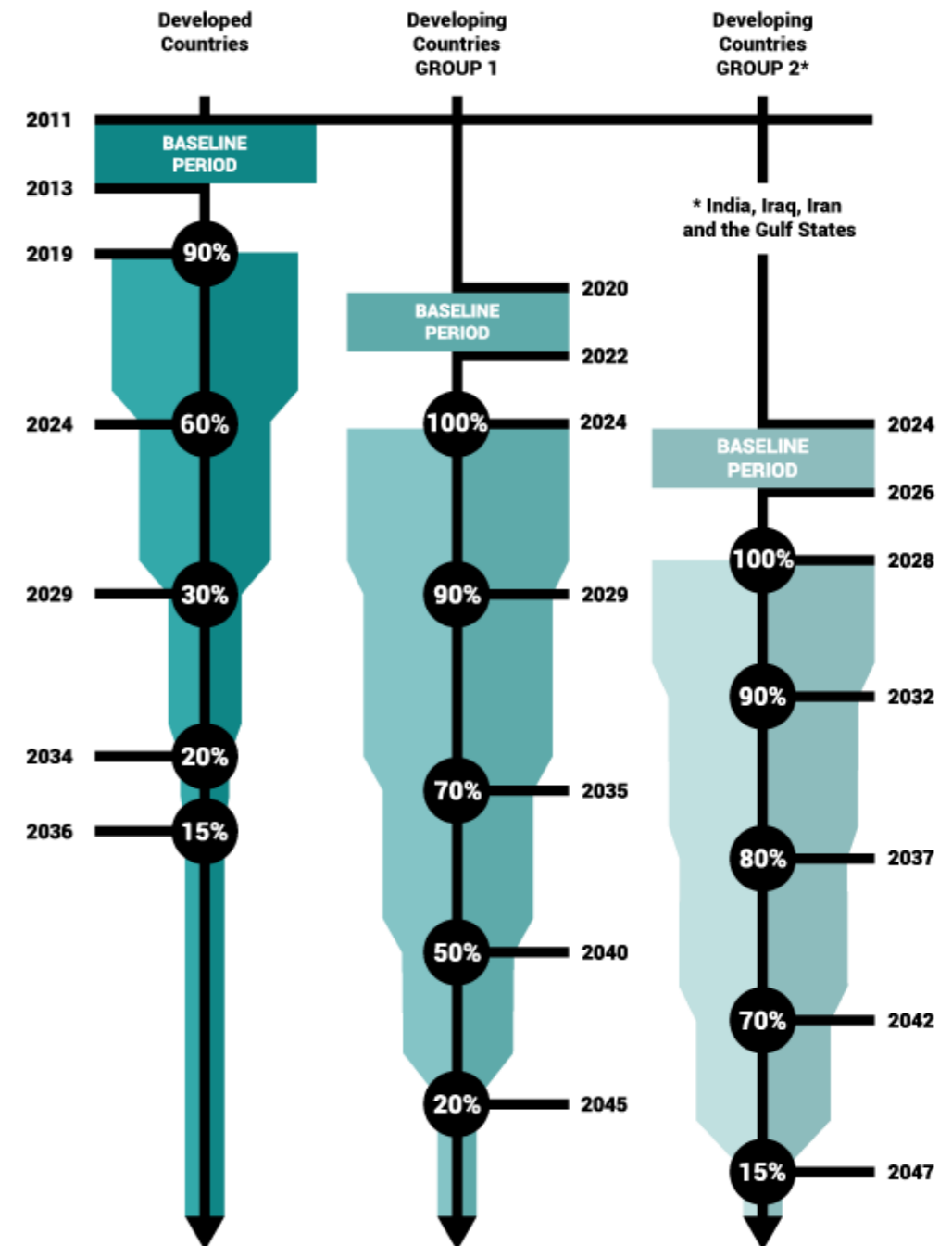
# KIGALI AMENDMENT: SCHEDULE

Global phase-down of HFCs by 85% by late 2040s  
- first reductions by developed countries as of 2019, by most developing countries as of 2024

- Phase-down schedules by groups of countries under Montreal Protocol
- Based on baseline period,
- Entry into force: 1 January 2019 if 20 or more countries ratify it ( so far 8 countries ratified)
- Top priorities: standards (initiated by China), access to finance, exemptions

Next key meeting

**20-24 Nov:** 29th Meeting of the Parties of the Montreal Protocol (Montreal, Canada)



# STANDARDS: KEY DEBATE FOR HYDROCARBONS

IEC: 9 October in Vladivostok, Russia: Agreement to advance the draft amendment of standard IEC 60335-2-89 for commercial refrigeration, to raise the charge limit of propane from 150g to 500g.

- The final version of a draft amendment by December 2017.
- Charge limit raised for all safety classes of flammable refrigerants, but with different limits.
- A new IEC standard would influence the adoption of the same standards at national level across the world

## Next steps:

- The Committee Draft for Vote (CDV) will be circulated for votes & comments by all national committees within IEC in December 2017 earliest.
- Vote on the CDV expected in the first half of 2018 (provided that more than 2/3 of the committee members vote in favour).
- Final vote phase by the **end of 2018** following the SC61C committee meeting in Busan, South Korea in October 2018.
- **Final amended standard expected beginning of 2019 - Potentially opening up further opportunities to hydrocarbons globally**

POLICY TRENDS  
EUROPE

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02



# EU F-GAS REGULATION

2016: 7% cut in HFC quotas

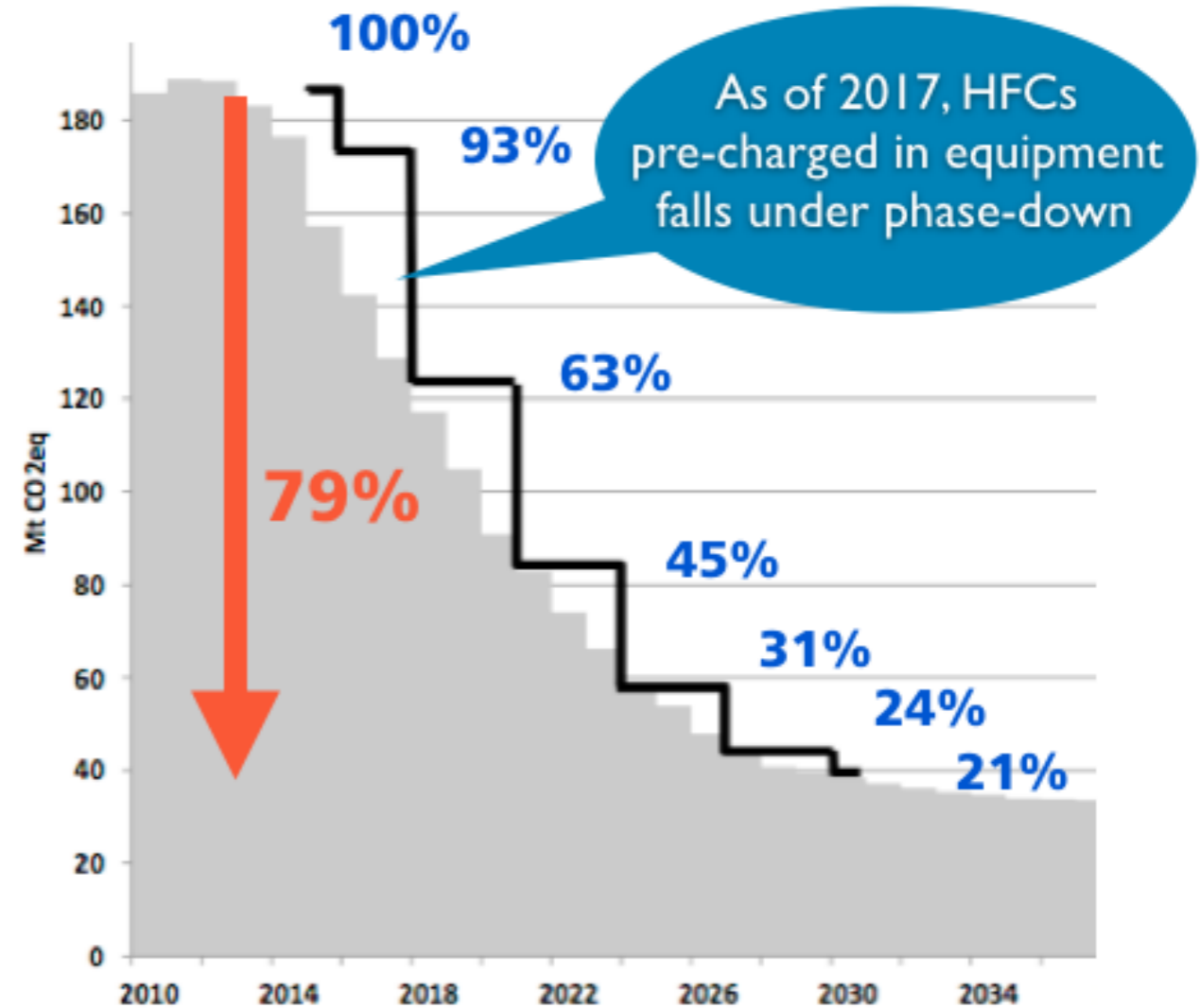
2017: HFCs pre-charged in equipment covered under phase-down  
Significant increase in HFC prices:

R404A and R507A: 225% increase since April 2017;

R134a and R410A: +50% since 1 April

2018-2020: 37% cut in HFC-quotas - further price increases of HFCs expected

NO negative impact on manufacturers & buyers of natural refrigerant-based equipment





# EUROPE: EU F-GAS REGULATION

- F-Gas Regulation sends a clear signal for low-GWP refrigerants in light commercial refrigeration
- 2022 - ban on HFCs (GWP > 150) in hermetically sealed commercial refrigeration
- **Standards** - European Commission (EC) report (2016) revealed that standards at national and EU level are an important barrier to wider uptake of flammable refrigerants
  - EU level - EC standardisation request to the European Committee for standardisation (CEN), to work on developing standard parameters for flammable refrigerants
  - National level - France, Spain, Italy reported a number of national decrees that restrict use of flammable refrigerants



POLICY TRENDS  
NORTH AMERICA

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03



## US: EPA SNAP PROGRAM

August 2017: U.S. Court of Appeals of Columbia - EPA cannot require companies to replace HFCs designated for HVAC&R equipment or other applications with low-GWP substances under the SNAP program

- long-term effects of this decision as well as the reaction by the EPA remain to be seen

### Background:

- Hydrocarbons listed as alternatives in number of applications, including commercial refrigeration
- September 2016 SNAP published a rule to prohibit the use of certain high GWP fluorinated gases (R404A, R410A, R134a, and R407C).



# US: CALIFORNIA LEADING THE WAY

Short-Lived Climate Pollutant (SLCP) Reduction Strategy - approved on 23 March 2017

- Aims to reduce HFCs by 25% below business-as-usual emissions by 2020; by 40% by 2030;
- CARB currently conducting a Scientific Assessment to investigate effective measures for low-GWP alternatives. FINANCE support available, but Industry not requesting it for HVAC&R.
- CARB consulting on the potential adoption into state regulations of SNAP Rule prohibitions of HFCs in stationary refrigeration and air conditioning.



# CANADA: TARGETING HFC PHASE-DOWN



- Canada implementing HFC phase-down until 2030, including reporting obligations
- Plans to introduce nation wide carbon pricing in 2018
- Sector specific bans on high-GWP HFCs

Product	Use	Date	Maximum GWP
<b>Stand-alone medium-temperature refrigeration</b>	commercial / industrial	1 Jan 2020	700
	residential	1 Jan 2025	150
<b>Stand-alone low-temperature refrigeration</b>	commercial / industrial	1 Jan 2020	1,500
	residential	1 Jan 2025	150
<b>Centralised refrigeration (capacity &gt; 30 kW)</b>	commercial / industrial	1 Jan 2020	1,500
<b>Condensing unit (capacity ≤ 20 kW)</b>	commercial / industrial	1 Jan 2020	2,200
<b>Chillers</b>	commercial / industrial	1 Jan 2025	700
<b>Mobile refrigeration</b>	commercial / industrial	1 Jan 2025	2,200

POLICY TRENDS  
JAPAN

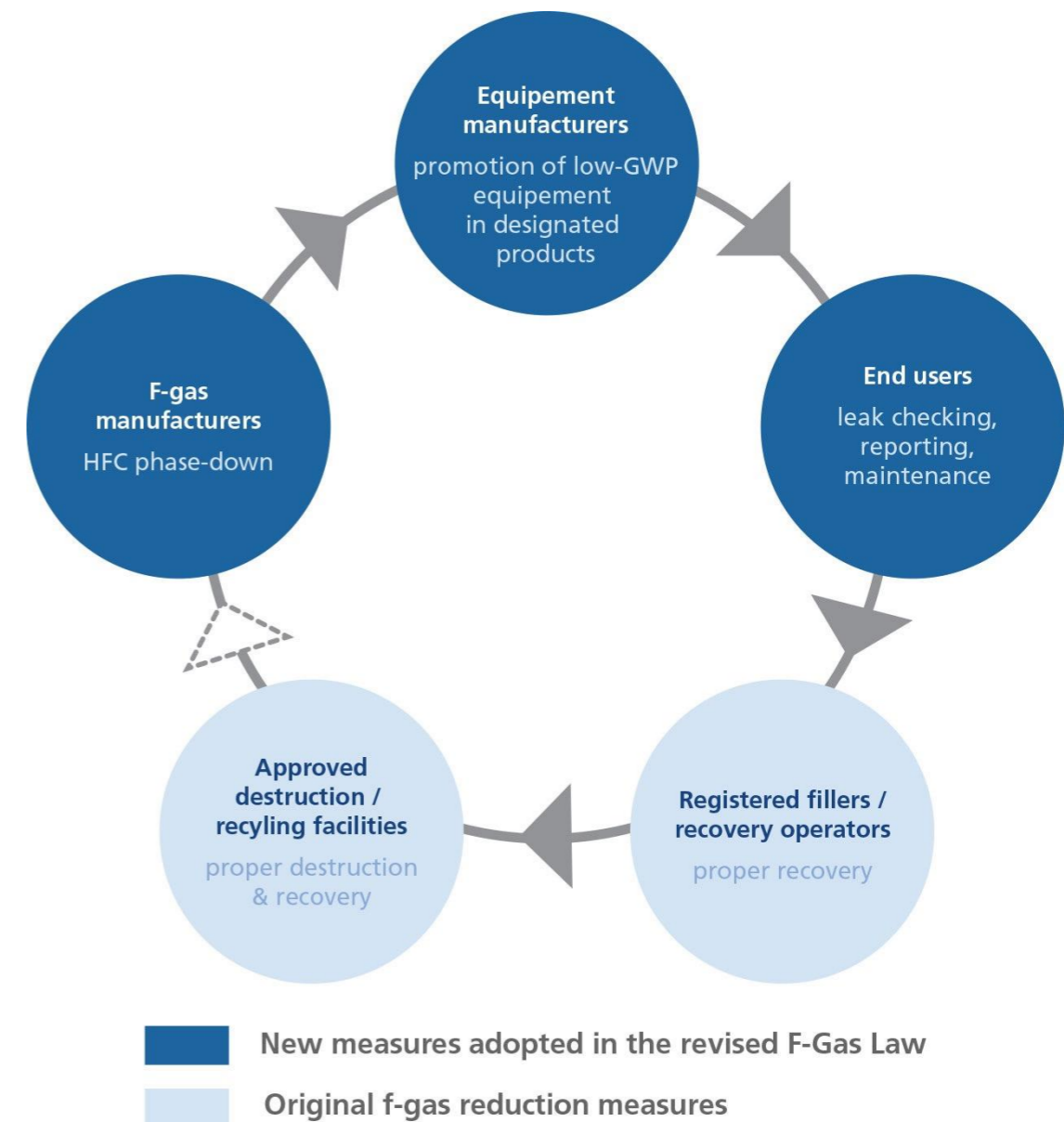
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04



# JAPAN: F-GAS LAW

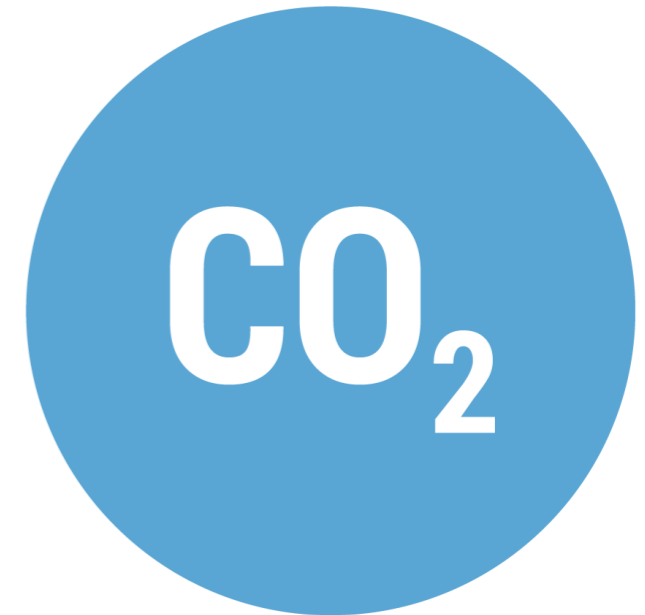
- Effective as of April 2015;
- Targets the entire life cycle of f-gases, from production to destruction;
- Reduced f-gas leakage from commercial equipment: periodical checks, maintenance, reporting etc.; proper refill and recovery; obligation of destruction;
- Promotion of low-GWP / non f-gases alternatives for designated products, incl. condensing units & refrigeration units > 1.5kW (target of average GWP 1500 by 2025).



# JAPAN: HIGH PRESSURE GAS SAFETY ACT

- July 2017: CO<sub>2</sub> reclassified under High Pressure Gas Safety Act
- move from the strictest level of Group 3 to the least restricted level of Group 1
- What does it mean?
  - equipment under 20 tons does not require any government notification or permission (previously under 3 tons);

= OPPORTUNITY for larger CO<sub>2</sub> refrigeration (commercial and industrial) systems to be introduced in the market, creating more options for end users

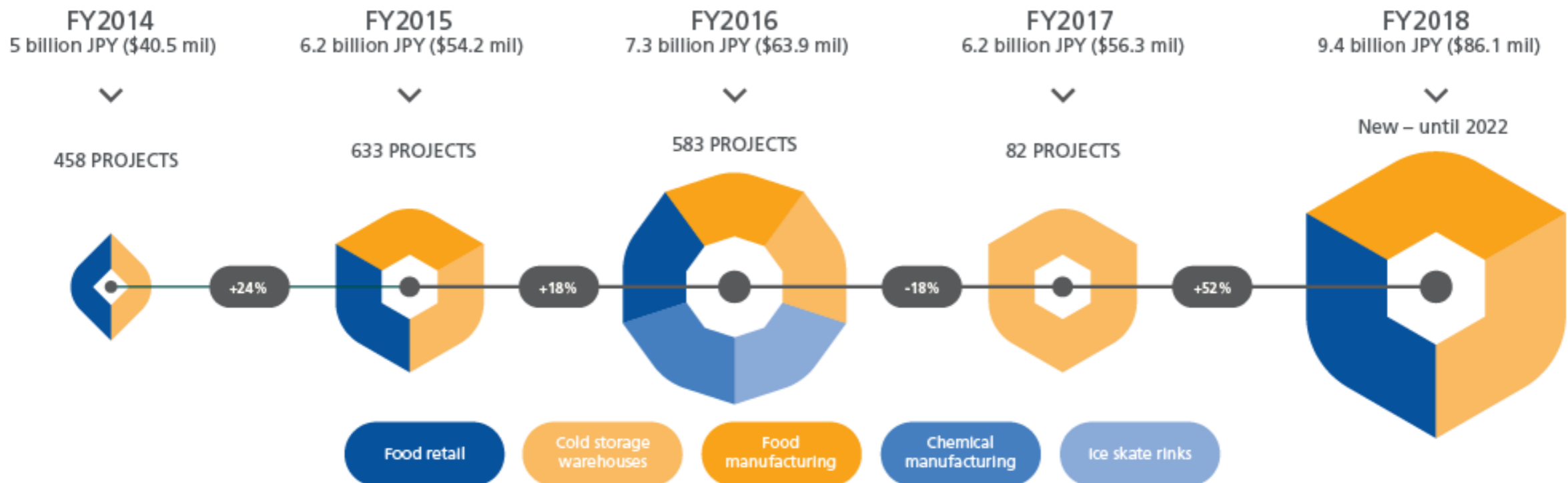




# JAPAN: SUBSIDIES CHANGING FOCUS

FY2018 (9.4 billion JPY - \$86.1 mil) in food retail, food manufacturing and cold storage sectors

By 2022 (end of subsidy scheme) - achieve cost parity with conventional f-gas equipment, and accelerate the uptake of natural refrigerant-based technology



POLICY TRENDS  
AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

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05



# AUSTRALIA HFC PHASE-DOWN PLAN

- March 2017: New f-gas legislation introduced in Australia amending the Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management (OPSGGM) Act by adding an HFC phase-down plan
- A statutory phase-down of HFC imports will be implemented, commencing January 2018, and will reduce HFC emissions by 85% by 2036
- Compared to Kigali Amendment requirements: lower baseline (reflecting Australia's current demand), & more frequent reduction steps



**Australian Government**

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**Department of the Environment and Energy**

# NEW ZEALAND HFC PHASE-DOWN PLAN

New Zealand HFC phase-down plan:

- HFC import licensing system;
- Permit system for the exportation of HFCs and imports of recycled HFCs;
- Support programs for alternative refrigerants (open for consultation).

Targets: reduce HFC consumption by +80% and HFC imports from around 1,340 KtCO<sub>2</sub> to < 260 by 2036.

Expected to come into force by January 1, 2019.



*Ministry for the*  
**Environment**  
*Manatū Mō Te Taiao*

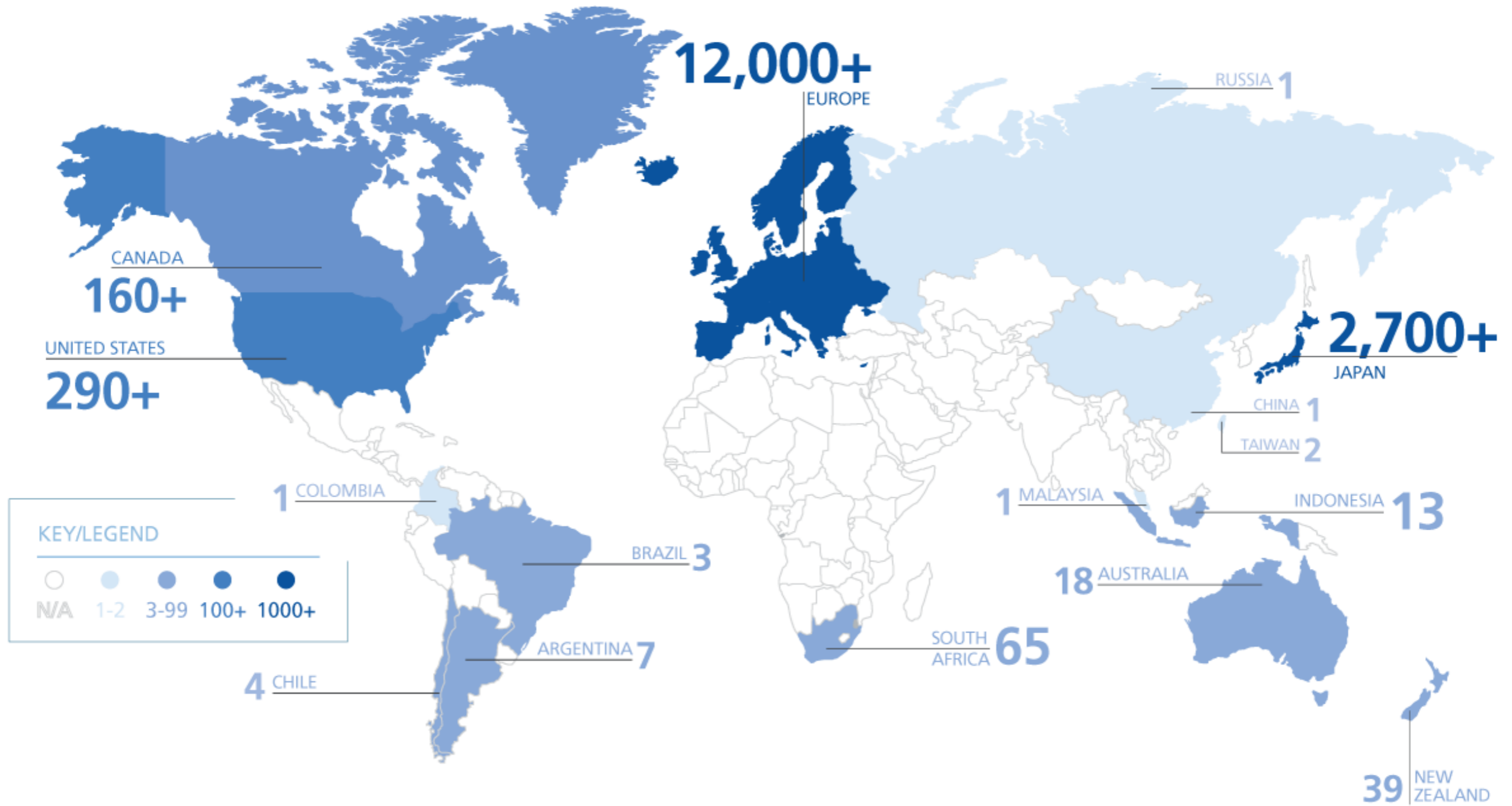
MARKET TRENDS  
COMMERCIAL REFRIGERATION

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01



# CO<sub>2</sub> TC STORES GROWING GLOBALLY (OCT 2017)



## CO<sub>2</sub> TC MAJOR MARKETS: GROWTH TRENDS

	2015	2017	Growth
Europe	5,500	12,000	118%
USA	52	290	458%
Canada	139	160	15%
Japan	1,500	2,700	80%

Other regional markets also emerging as a result of individual food retailers' efforts

## KEY TREND: CO<sub>2</sub> BECOMING MAINSTREAM IN RETAIL

Large food retail groups = CO<sub>2</sub> Transcritical systems becoming the norm in Europe, N. America, Japan.

Efficiency and reliability are increasing, and prices are going down.

Case Study: Aldi Süd reaches 1000th installation:

- Strategic decision in 2010: Exclusive focus on natural refrigerants
- Now: Over 54% of all Aldi Süd's stores globally are running on CO<sub>2</sub>

Source: [r744.com/articles/7423/aldi-sud-proud-to-install-1-000th-co2-system](https://www.r744.com/articles/7423/aldi-sud-proud-to-install-1-000th-co2-system)





# CO<sub>2</sub> IN CHINA (JULY 2017 UPDATE)

- First major CO<sub>2</sub> transcritical store to open January 2018
- Currently 40 subcritical CO<sub>2</sub> supermarkets in China (HFC/CO<sub>2</sub> cascades)
- Majority operated by Metro China, first ever installed by Tesco
- Market opening up to natural refrigerants.  
Potential identified in:
  - CO<sub>2</sub> in commercial and industrial; heat pumps



# EUROPE: KEY TRENDS & INSIGHTS (EUROSHOP 2017)

- On-the-spot survey to 33 companies, including major players of the sector
- Ejectors, parallel compression and waterloop systems identified to be the main technology trends
- Approximately 15-20% increase in production of natural refrigerant systems expected for the period 2017-2018
- R290 dominating plug-ins, showing the greatest potential
- Even higher growth expected by 2020 and beyond, with a few companies claiming that they will be ready to have their entire production moving to only natural refrigerants
- Regulation and mainly customer demand are the reasons for the expectations, especially for Europe



# SUPERSMART PROJECT

## Objectives:

- Remove non-technological barriers
- Increase market uptake of efficient heating and cooling technology

## Activities:

- Trainings at conferences
- Preparation of EU Ecolabel for food retail stores

## Retailer Benefits:

- Free of charge trainings at premises
- High quality reports available for free

- **Horizon 2020** Program
- Start: 1.2.2016
- Duration: 36 months
- **9 project partners** from all over Europe
- **8 reports** about **efficient food retail stores** available



**SUPERSMART**

[www.supersmart-supermarket.info](http://www.supersmart-supermarket.info)

# KEY TREND: CO<sub>2</sub> RACK SYSTEM



Highly competitive evolving market for suppliers providing CO<sub>2</sub> solutions



# KEY TREND: CONDENSING UNITS / SMALLER SYSTEMS



Japan - leader in CO<sub>2</sub> condensing units for smaller store formats

Europe traditionally working with large capacity CO<sub>2</sub> racks, but several manufacturers introduced small systems

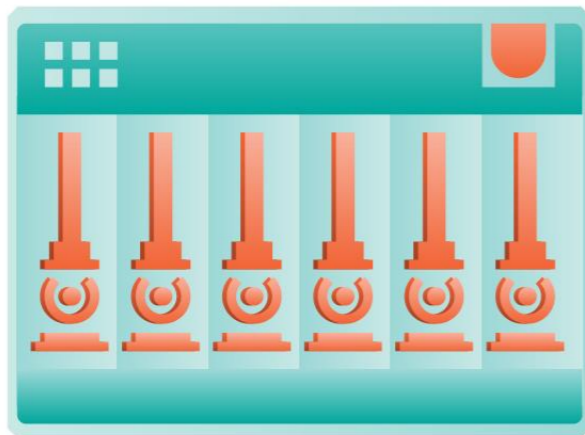
Competition increasing: more efficiency, lower prices

## KEY TREND: SMALLER NH<sub>3</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> SYSTEMS

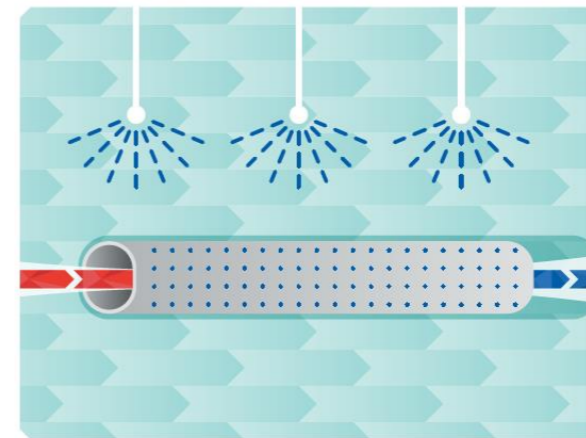


Growing line up of small size NH<sub>3</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> systems –  
potential to serve supermarkets?

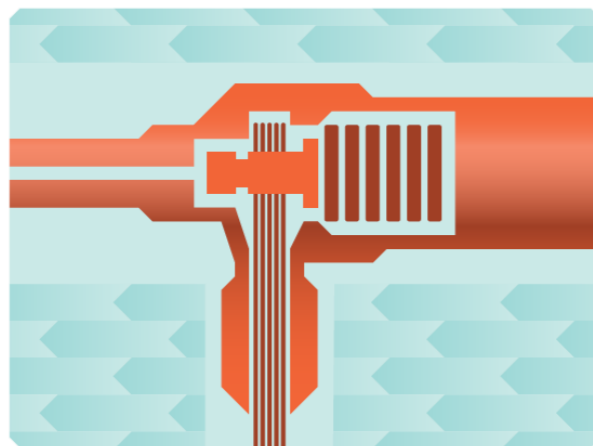
# KEY TREND: CO2 SOLUTIONS FOR EFFICIENCY IN WARM CLIMATES



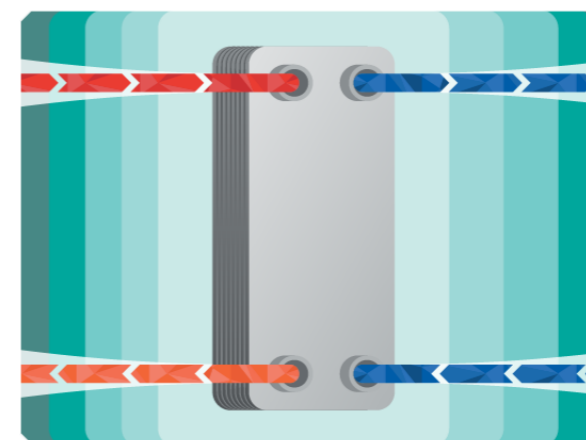
Parallel Compression



Adiabatic Cooling



Ejector

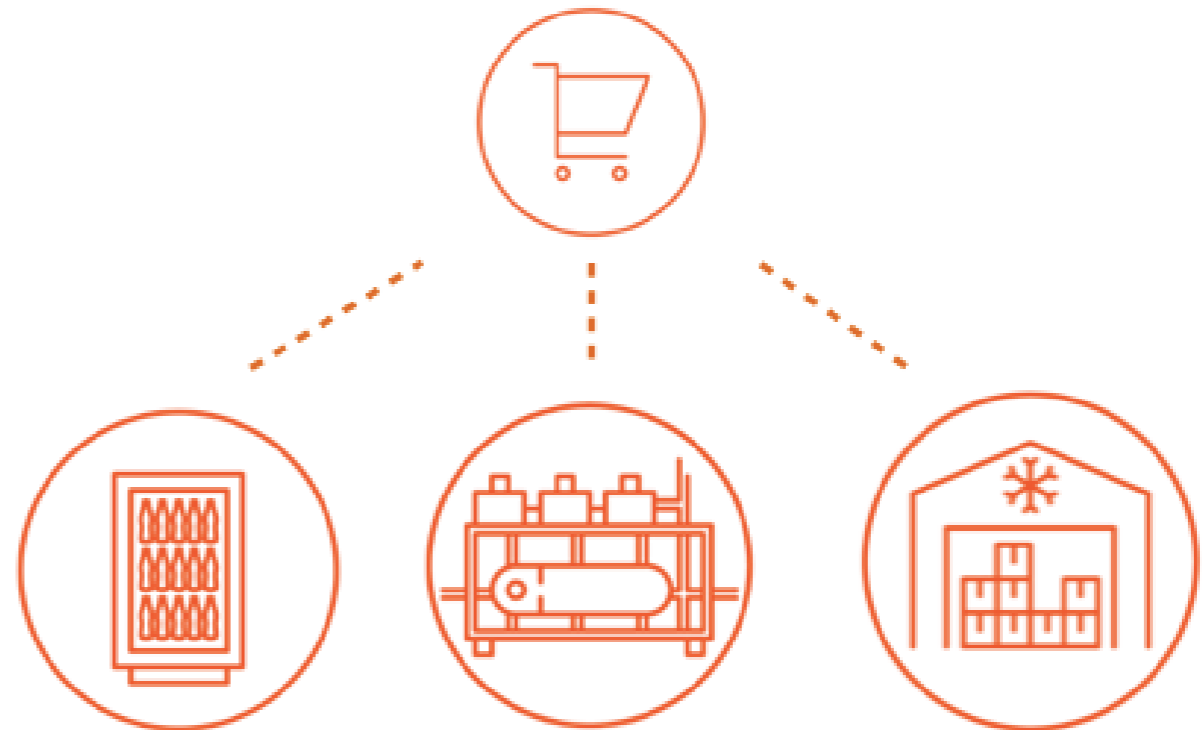


Sub coolers

# KEY TREND: DISSIPATING BOUNDARIES

Limits between “light-commercial” and “commercial” refrigeration become vague: HC pushing into larger store formats, and CO<sub>2</sub>-based systems into smaller formats

= internal competition between different NR systems has increased





MARKET TRENDS  
LIGHT - COMMERCIAL REFRIGERATION

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02



# CONSUMER BRANDS CHOOSING NATURAL REFRIGERANTS



5.5 million units using natural refrigerants (HC & CO<sub>2</sub>) collectively installed

=> 33 million tonnes of avoided CO<sub>2</sub> (equivalent emissions of more than 6.7 million passenger cars over one year)



Increasing number of consumer brands choosing HCs for their point of sale equipment - often targeting global procurement 100%

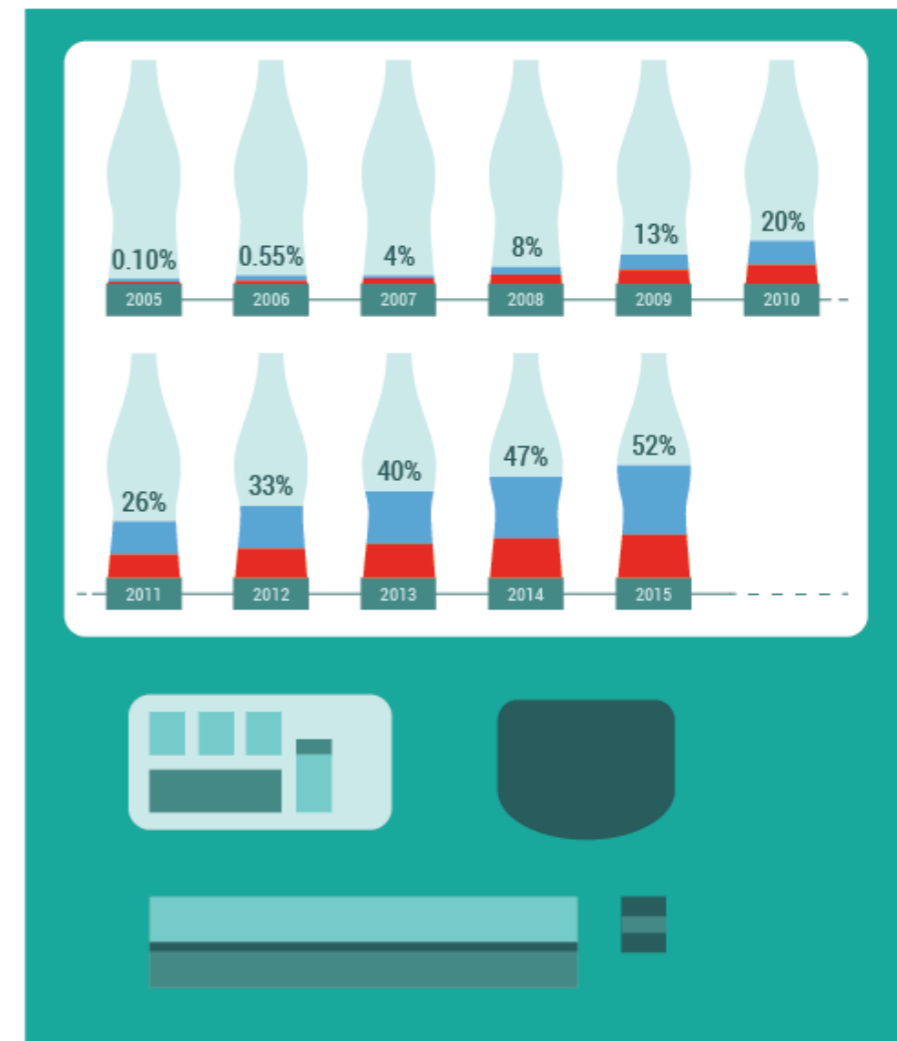
# HC VENDING MACHINES IN JAPAN

1.35+ million beverage vending machines in Japan use either hydrocarbons or CO<sub>2</sub> - world's highest number per capita

550,000+ HC (R600a) vending machines in the market

natural refrigerants make up over 50% of the market

from 0.1% to 52% market share in just 10 years



## HYDROCARBONS GROWTH - AHT

Plug-in Units in Supermarkets with R290: A reality today

Market estimate by early 2017 - Figures reported by AHT (market leader):

1,500,000+ units worldwide

- over 300,000+ units manufactured per year
- Over 1000 units in the US in one year



## KEY CHALLENGES

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03



## EUROPE: ON TRACK... BUT PROGRESS IS SLOW

Deadlines for F-Gas Regulation approaching fast for retail: only 10-20% of total stores in compliance.

Urgent progress in:

- Capacity building
- Solutions for existing stores (esp. in Southern Europe)
- Non market barriers: standards, Training, etc.





## INTERNATIONAL: BUT PROGRESS IS SLOW

Kigali sends a powerful message:  
HFCs on their way out.

Challenges:

- Finance to developing countries
- Technology transfer
- Training





# CHINA: WHAT WAY AHEAD?



Competition in NR area to increase... but setting the foundations is still needed



- High GWP refrigerants on their way out globally = opportunity for natural refrigerants
- CO<sub>2</sub> transcritical is becoming a standard in commercial refrigeration in Europe, N. America, Japan
- Hydrocarbons - higher charge limits under revised standard could open up new market opportunities
- Competition between different types of natural refrigerant-based systems expected to intensify - competition to increase performance & reduce cost

# SHECCO USEFUL LINKS



Industry Platforms:

[www.hydrocarbons21.com](http://www.hydrocarbons21.com)

[www.R744.com](http://www.R744.com)

[www.ammonia21.com](http://www.ammonia21.com)

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<http://publications.shecco.com>

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