

Halotron® I Clean Agent

HCFC PHASE-OUT QUESTIONS

JUST THE FACTS (Rev Oct, 2012)

MYTHS	FACTS
<p>Myth: “Halotron® I will be phased out.” →</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There is no “phase-out” of Halotron® I. ▪ Under the Montreal Protocol, there is a schedule for “phase-out” of new production of HCFCs. Halotron® I uses HCFC-123 as its primary raw material. However, after new production of HCFC-123 ceases, <u>new</u> Halotron® I may be produced using recycled HCFC-123. ▪ Although the maximum allowable total production and import of <u>all</u> HCFCs as a group was reduced by 65% in 2010, and will be somewhat further reduced in 2015, this does not affect the production volume or availability of HCFC-123. This is because the cap is based on an ozone depletion potential (ODP) weighted value. HCFC-123 has a near zero ODP of 0.0098, which means that it would take significantly more than planned production for this use before any impact toward the cap would be realized.
<p>Myth: “Extinguishers containing Halotron® I will be banned from use in 2015.” →</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The U.S. Clean Air Act initially contained a “phase-out” date of January 1, 2015, for new production of HCFC-123. In December 2011 Congress passed a bill, and the President signed into law, an extension of this date by five years to January 1, 2020 (Public Law 112-81). This does not affect Halotron® I’s use in existing extinguishers in 2020 and new extinguishers may still be produced.
<p>Myth: “Halotron® I will not be available after 2020.” →</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ After the production stop of new HCFC-123, Halotron® I can be made from recycled or existing inventories of HCFC-123. HCFC-123 is used in much higher volume in non-fire-protection uses so that the pool of material available in the future for fire protection should be more than adequate. ▪ For fire protection, the end of production for new HCFC-123 in developing countries is 2030 under the Montreal Protocol.
<p>Myth: “Halotron® I has a high Global Warming Potential (GWP).” →</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Halotron® I has a low ozone depletion potential (ODP) and Global Warming Potential (GWP) and is considered to have a very low environmental impact compared to other available in-kind Halon 1211 replacements (1). However, the GWP of another available UL listed clean agent, HFC-236fa, is 9,820 (2). When comparing extinguishers of the same capacity, it would take more than 45 Halotron® I extinguishers to equal the GWP effect of only one extinguisher of the same weight containing HFC-236fa.

HALOTRON® I IS AN ENVIRONMENTALLY BALANCED FIRE EXTINGUISHING AGENT

(1) Ref.: Wuebbles, *Three-Dimensional Modeling of HCFC-123 in the Atmosphere: Assessing Its Potential Environmental Impacts and Rationale for Continued Use*, Journal of Environmental Science & Technology, 2009, 43, 3208-3213.
 (2) Ref.: WMO Report No. 52, Scientific Assessment of Ozone Depletion, 2010, 100 year integrated time horizon (CO₂=1).