

Halotron[®] I Clean Agent HCFC PHASE-OUT QUESTIONS JUST THE FACTS

Rev G, October 2024

MYTHS	FACTS
Myth: "Halotron [®] I will be phased out in the future"	 There is currently no "phase-out" of Halotron[®] I. Under the Montreal Protocol and related US EPA / Clean Air Act regulations, there is a schedule for "phase out" of new production of HCFCs, based on Ozone Depletion Potentials (ODP). The primary raw material used to manufacture Halotron[®] I is HCFC-123. New production of HCFC-123 for certain uses ceased at the end of 2019 but production for fire protection and some other uses continues, and this will proceed until at least 2030.
	New Halotron [®] I production for use in new and existing fire extinguishers is occurring and will continue in the future using reclaimed HCFC-123. Reclaimed HCFC-123 is sourced from various sectors including the industrial chiller market where a substantial bank exists as well as from Halotron [®] I fire extinguishers coming out of service. Reclaimed HCFC- 123 that is used for this purpose <i>has the same or better quality</i> <i>characteristics</i> compared to what has been used since commercial production began in 1994.
Myth: "Halotron [®] I is not environmentally beneficial long term or eco-friendly"	 The primary raw material, HCFC-123 (97%+), has an extraordinarily good environmental profile compared to Halon and most other alternatives. This includes a near zero Ozone Depletion Potential (ODP) of 0.0098 (1) (CFC-11=1.0). It has a low Global Warming Potential (GWP) at 77. In addition, it is more effective compared to most other halon alternatives.
Myth: "New fire extinguishers containing Halotron [®] I can only be produced using recycled HCFC-123 or Halotron [®] I"	 New Halotron[®] I extinguishers are primarily produced using high quality reclaimed HCFC-123. That will continue in the long term. The quality of this material is the same as it was in the past. Unused HCFC-123 manufactured before 2020 can also be used to produce new fire extinguishers.
Myth: "Recharge of equipment made before 2020 requires Halotron [®] I to be made only from reclaimed HCFC 123"	 Newly manufactured HCFC-123 made between January 2020 and December 2029 can be used to manufacture Halotron[®] I for servicing/recharging of equipment made before January 1, 2020(2). US EPA provides guidance for unique labelling of Halotron[®] I bulk tanks composed of product made with newly produced HCFC 123 to ensure users are aware of the limitations on use of this material. Halotron[®] I manufactured with reclaimed HCFC-123 can be used for either purpose (new equipment or recharge).

HALOTRON® I IS AN EFFECTIVE, ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY 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) Adjustment to Article 2F (Decision XX/2), implemented by US EPA in March 2020 (40 CFR Part82, FR Vol. 85, No. 52 (15258-15301)).
 (3) Ref.: US EPA: Labeling Containers of HCFC Fire Suppression Agent, What you need to know, June 2020.

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