# HCFC Refrigerant Transition Helical Rotary Chillers



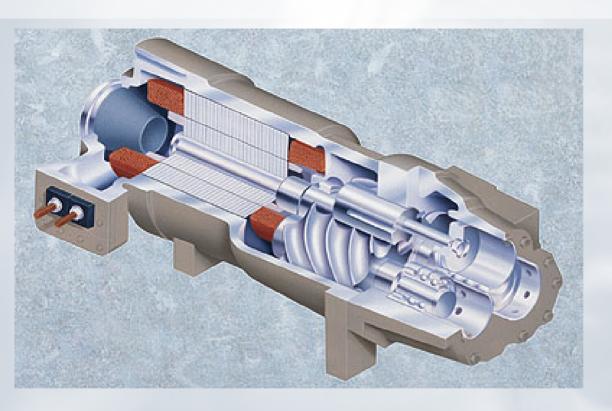
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# **Compressor type**



**Compressor cut-away** 



Compressor rotors

# **Applications**

Deliver chilled water for air conditioning or process cooling applications (70 tons/245 kw to 500 tons/1750 kw)

Air-Cooled (outdoor)





Water-Cooled (indoor)



# **Key points**

- Solution-of-choice: HCFC-22 → HFC-134a
- While solutions are known, they are not fully commercialized in A5 countries
- Alternative selection needs to consider energy efficiency, fluid Global Warming Potential, safety, cost
- A coordinated volume ramp-up between refrigerant, equipment manufacturing, and service infrastructure development is important to minimize cost impact and make for a smooth transition
- Service infrastructure is important and takes time for proper development

# **Global product markets\***

	Air Cooled	<b>Water Cooled</b>
· US\$	1.3 billion	0.8 billion
• Units	25,000	20,000
<ul><li>Average size (tons/KW)</li></ul>	148/503	220/748
<ul> <li>Refrigerant amount (millions of kg)</li> </ul>	3.4	4.0
*Trane estimates		

>40% is in A5 countries

# **Environmental impact**

#### ODP impact:

◆ A5 Countries = ~176 ODP-tonnes (100% HCFC-22)

#### Direct GWP opportunity:

◆ A5 Countries = ~1.2 million tonnes CO2-eq (100% transition from HCFC-22 to HFC-134a)

### CO2 emissions impact from energy efficiency

- Specifics depend on country policies
- Energy efficiency impact > direct GWP impact

#### **Investments**

- Refrigerant capacity & supply chain development
  - Facility expansion or transition
  - Capacity/demand ramp-up is critical

Global & country-specific capacity vs. demand growth is critical to smooth ramp-up

#### **Investments**

# Product technology transfer

- Varies significantly by facility type (from <US\$1 million to US\$10 million)</li>
- New hardware (refrigerant-handling equipment) ...capital investment
- New software (run-test facilities)...manpower/expense investment

Solutions are known, execution is critical

#### **Investments**

### Service infrastructure

- ◆ Training (By person)
- New equipment (By truck or facility)
- Cannot happen all at once

Solutions are known, execution is critical

## Challenges for the transition

# Capacity & supply chain development

 Certainty of transition is important to cost & reliable supply

#### **Technology transfer**

- Performance/cost
- Product reliability
- Non-refrigerant customer requirements

#### Service infrastructure

- Training
- Equipment acquisition
- Over time, not all at once

# Consumers show little value for non-ODS fluids

- Investments are risky without firm phase out schedules
- The tendency is to retain HCFC-22 systems

Consensus needed for a balanced solution, considering fluid GWP, energy efficiency, safety

# Non-HFC fluid technology

Non-HFC fluid technology was considered, but it increases indirect CO2 emissions due to poor energy efficiency or raises significant human safety considerations

# CO2 efficiency comparison

#### Coefficient of Performance

HFC-410A	6.56	
HFC-134a	6.94	105-93% advantage over CO2
CO2	3.40	
HCFC-22	6.98	

Trane estimates: theoretical fluid efficiency

Chilled water application conditions

## **Human safety considerations**

# Use in current designs has significant safety concerns:

- Hydrocarbons
  - High explosive energy
  - Servicing and for building occupants
  - Residential and commercial applications
- Ammonia:
  - Flammable and toxic
  - Most applications today are installed remotely, at significantly higher costs

#### **Lessons learned**

- Performance/cost penalty when moving from HCFCs to HFCs
  - Non-refrigerant technology needed to offset cost add
  - Examples: Heat exchanger, compressor
- Service infrastructure development takes time
  - Start awareness early, clarify phase out schedule
- Energy efficiency policy coinciding with HFC introductions leverages development
  - Minimize cost increase
  - Cost-effective climate change mitigation

#### What does the future hold?

- Considering energy efficiency, fluid GWP, safety and cost...
- Considering that vapor compression technology delivers, by far, the most cost effective energy efficiency...
- Considering indicators in energy efficient, safe, low GWP alternatives...

- Now: "Best" solutions for near-term compliance
- Next: "Efficient, safe, Low-GWP alternatives" within next decade
- Following: commercialization into applications