

News Release

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INDEPENDENT TESTING CONFIRMS NEW LOW-GLOBAL-WARMING POTENTIAL REFRIGERANT IS SAFE AND BEST ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTION

GENEVA, March 4, 2009 – At the Geneva Motor Show held here today, Honeywell announced that leading global automobile industry associations, manufacturers and independent testing experts have confirmed that Honeywell's new low-global-warming-potential refrigerant, HFO-1234yf, is safe for use in mobile air conditioning and is the most environmentally-preferable solution to meet new, more stringent regulations in Europe.

The most prominent testing was conducted by SAE International, a respected global association of 115,000 engineers and related technical experts in the automotive, aerospace and commercial-vehicle industries.

The group said in December 2008 that, "Of all the proposed alternatives considered, HFO1234yf has significant environmental benefits compared with current refrigerants, and additionally poses no significant safety concerns, thus offering the greatest potential to meet environmental and consumer needs."

SAE International's comments were based on its Cooperative Research Program (CRP), which was launched in 2007 to extensively investigate the safety and performance of HFO-1234yf as well as alternatives such as CO₂. The research, which is available at SAE International's Web site (<http://www.sae.org/standardsdev/tsb/cooperative/altrefrig.htm>), did not identify any significant risks associated with using HFO-1234yf in mobile air-conditioning systems.

In fact, comprehensive life-cycle-climate-performance modeling done with global accepted testing methodology found that compact cars using HFO-1234yf emit 20-30 percent fewer global warming emissions than CO₂-based systems.

The CRP's membership includes major automobile manufacturers from Europe, Asia, and the U.S., who together account for approximately 70 percent of all new vehicle sales in the European Union and worldwide.

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Numerous, recognized independent testing authorities with specific expertise in areas including toxicology, safety and efficacy contributed to the research. They included:

- INERIS – Institute National de l'Environnement Industriel et des Risques (France)
- TNO Pharma (The Netherlands)
- DNV Climate Services (Japan)
- WIL Research Laboratories (USA)
- Exponent Engineering and Scientific Consulting (USA)
- Gradient Corporation (USA)

“These tests prove that HFO-1234yf is the best replacement for R-134a in mobile air conditioning,” said Rene Mueller, managing director for Honeywell Fluorine Products in Europe, Middle East, Africa and India at the Geneva Motor Show. “In addition to its superior safety performance, HFO-1234yf offers the best environmental properties, and is the easiest for OEMs to adopt.”

HFO-1234yf is a more energy-efficient refrigerant, which means that automobiles with air conditioners using HFO-1234yf will use significantly less fuel.

HFO-1234yf also performs better than CO₂ in all climates. Because minimal changes are necessary to adapt current mobile air conditioning systems to use HFO-1234yf, rapid global adoption and rapid environmental benefits are more likely. It also may be possible to retrofit the existing fleet of automobiles, leading to an even greater positive environmental impact.

For more information on HFO-1234yf, visit www.1234facts.com.

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