



Brand Assurance Anti-Counterfeiting Global Initiative

WIPO-UN-ESCAP-UNEP

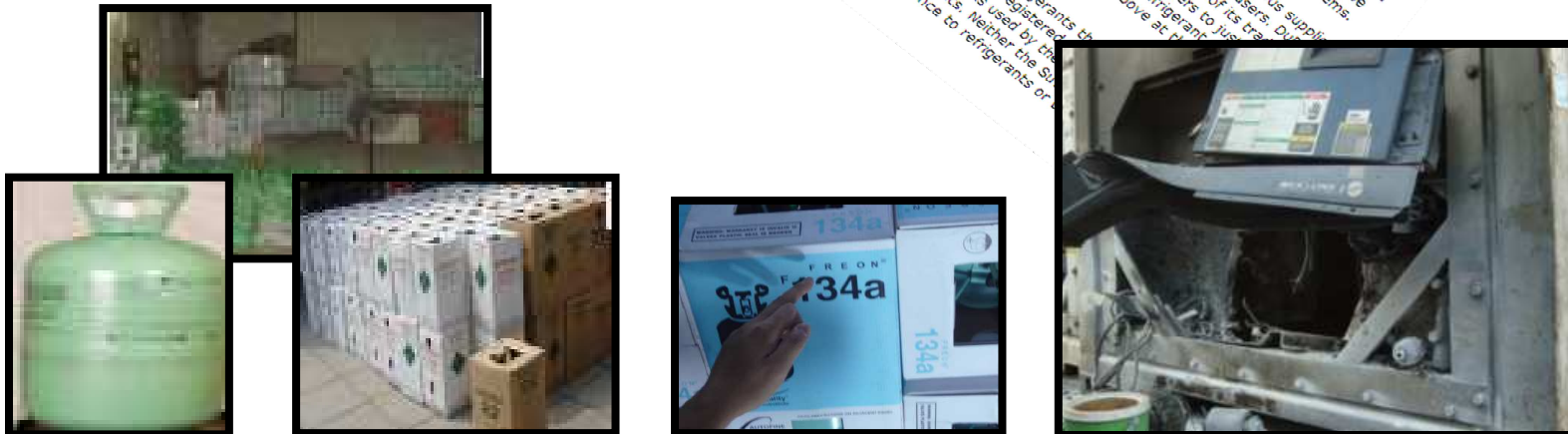
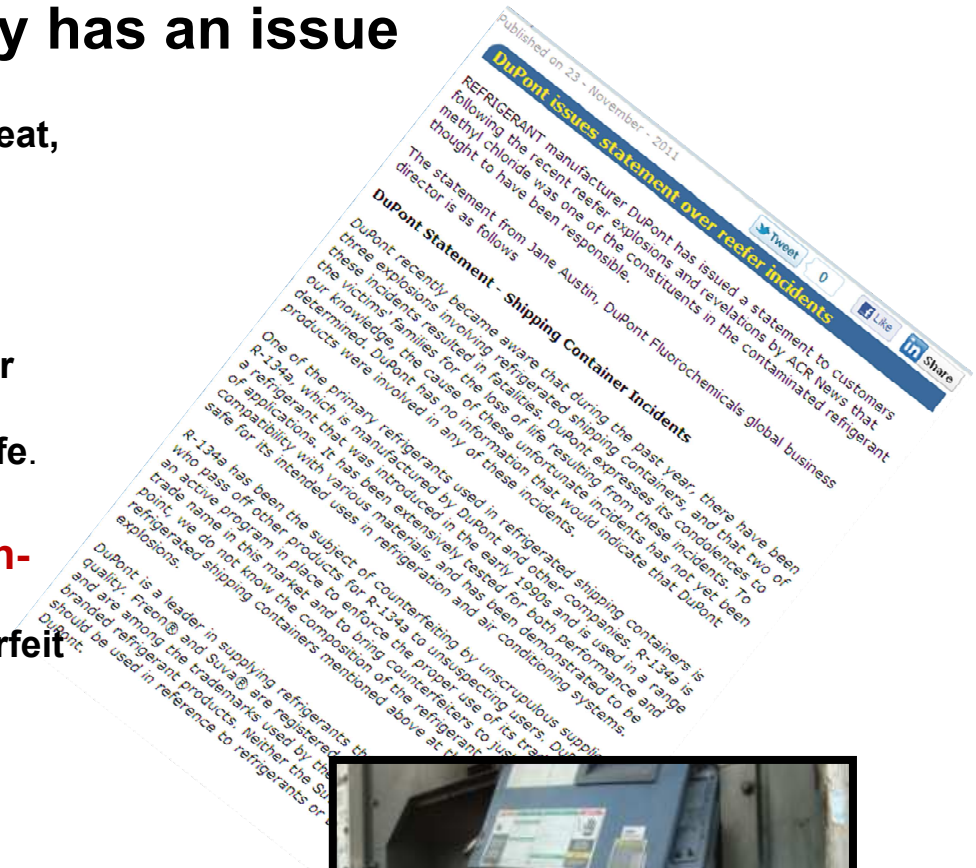
Bangkok, November 21-22, 2013

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DuPont Fluorochemicals, Asia Pacific

Refrigerants: The industry has an issue

- Counterfeit refrigerants pose a global threat, can be **unsafe for use**, and can pose **quality issues** for businesses and customers.
- As was exemplified by the shipping reefer incident, counterfeit refrigerants pose an even **more significant threat**: loss of life.
- DuPont has **multiple investigations on-going** as a result of the shipping reefer incidents to find the source of the counterfeit refrigerants



April 2012

ACR News

The website for air conditioning
and refrigeration professionals

Killer gas found in illegal refrigerant seizure

A CONSIGNMENT of refrigerant seized by Russian customs contained cylinders of the dangerous methyl chloride cocktail blamed for the fatal reefer explosions last year. Rumours of the seizure first appeared in Russian newspaper reports at the end of February.

UNEP has now confirmed that customs officers at the port of Saint Petersburg seized 1150 cylinders totalling more than 19 tonnes of ozone-depleting substances.

The cylinders originated from China and were shipped by sea via Gdansk in Poland. They were declared as R134a but actually comprised 3320kg of R12, 2490kg of R113, 4980kg of R141b as well 8300kg of the dangerous R22/R40 mixture implicated in three deaths in reefer explosions last year. Investigations are ongoing.

Methyl chloride confirmed in Heatcraft recall

HEATCRAFT Australia has confirmed that the "flammable and poisonous" counterfeit refrigerant responsible for the recall of certain models of Kirby packaged refrigeration units in Australia does have methyl chloride (R40) as one of its constituents. It has also been confirmed that the suspect units were manufactured and charged with the refrigerant at its own factory in China.

Kevin Lee, Heatcraft Worldwide Refrigeration's global technical director told *ACR News* that the units which were supposed to be charged with R134a actually contained a cocktail of R22, R142b and R40. The problem first came to light through the analysis of warranty return compressors.

The units affected are the Kirby 'Drop-in' refrigeration units KPC800-6, KPC1000-6, KPC1400-6, KPC1700-6, KSC2000-6, KSC2700-6, KSC3500-6, with serial numbers 1108xxxxxx to 1202xxxxxx. The units were sold between September 1 2011 and April 10 2012 and sales were restricted to Australia with a few in New Zealand.

Heatcraft customers in Australia have advised to contact their supplier or Heatcraft directly to have the unit replaced. Under no circumstances, says the company, are the units to have the refrigerant replaced by a service technician whilst in-situ.

It was a similar cocktail containing R40 and R22 which was implicated in the deaths of three people last year when refrigerated containers they were working on exploded.



Counterfeit investigation wins TARDEC an environmental award



Counterfeit refrigerant bottle (left); legitimate refrigerant canister from reputable company (right).

UNCLASSIFIED Distribution Statement A. Approved for public release.

“In the months following, through extensive Army-wide integrated vehicle screening initiatives, ***more than 18 different refrigerants were found in military vehicles, including the toxic and reactive R-40*** which initially sparked the formation of the IPT”.

Due to the large varieties of contaminants found in the initial testing stages, a lab analysis is required to determine what mix is in the refrigerant system if it doesn't contain pure R-134a. Some mixtures require special handling and expensive disposal equipment. ***Procedures for safely repairing contaminated vehicles are currently being developed, and for now contaminated vehicles are being isolated until those procedures are validated.***

Our Actions

In 2012, we accomplished the following:

- Removed 693 internet store-front listings of counterfeit refrigerants
- Assisted law enforcement in conducting 7 raids and seizures in multiple regions
- Secured 2051 fake DACs/cans
- Conducted 9 Customs Trainings in target countries: China, Vietnam, Philippines, Dubai, South Africa, Cambodia, etc.
- Completed the implementation of Izon® hologram on all DACs worldwide
- Opened 26 investigations and closed 5 cases (3 major with \$68M compensation)



Successful Action against Counterfeiting in U.A.E.

Outcome:



- Police conducted a raid, seizing counterfeit refrigerant cylinders, machines, printing templates, and counterfeit packaging for DuPont refrigerants.
- Second raid yielded seizure of filling and printing machines.
- Counterfeiter was apprehended and sentenced to two years in prison for the crime of counterfeiting.

Successful Pursuit of Refrigerant Counterfeiter in China



Outcome:

- Defendants fined \$39,400 by Chinese Government
- Settlement agreement including compensation and future fines for any repeat offense.
- Defendants paid DuPont \$32,000 in damage as well as court costs
- Defendants issued formal public apology in China

8. US Refrigerant Manufacturer DuPont Has Announced the Seizure of 300 Cylinders of Counterfeit R134a in Hangzhou Province, China

DuPont identified Hangzhou Sporlan Heating and Refrigeration as a potential counterfeiter through a tip from another, unnamed, refrigerant manufacturer. The seizure of Hangzhou Sporlan facilities was performed by local law enforcement. Counterfeit cylinders and packaging were seized. According to DuPont, the cylinders were marked as if they were counterfeit refrigerant cylinders carrying the trademarks of Hangzhou Sporlan as well as trademarks of another major manufacturer. Hangzhou Sporlan was notified of the seizure and asked to cease to DuPont for the crime committed.

Hangzhou Sporlan agreed to cease to use, advertise or otherwise infringe on the DuPont trademarks and word marks. In addition, the agreement required that Hangzhou Sporlan provide all their suppliers and information associated with bulk refrigerants, including the locations of counterfeit goods so subsequent investigations can be pursued. DuPont stated that whether the cylinders actually contained R134a, a sub-standard gas or a different gas, the counterfeit cylinders present a danger to the marketplace, in terms of potential safety and equipment failure. In addition, counterfeit cylinders marked as HFCs which raises an illegal issue in violation of international treaties, such as the Montreal Protocol.

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https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_6213

