

Set of questions	Type of company activity	
	Importer / manufacturer of RAC equipment pre-charged with HFCs	Producer / importer of bulk HFCs
		<i>Incumbent quota holder having received quota based on a reference value</i>
<b>Introduction</b>	<p><b>Introduction</b></p> <p>When importing RAC (refrigeration, air conditioning, heat pump) equipment pre-charged with HFCs from non-EU countries into the EU after 1st January 2017, you will need to hold authorisations to use HFC quota unless the HFCs were previously acquired on the EU market. RAC equipment importers need to acquire authorisations from producers or bulk importers of HFCs which were allocated HFC quota by the European Commission. Quota and authorisations bear the unit of tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent.</p> <p>The use of authorisations to cover imports of RAC equipment is NOT limited to the year the quota was acquired.</p> <p><b>Where to acquire authorisation to use HFC quota?</b></p> <p>A list of incumbent quota holders for the years 2015-2017 list was published in Commission <a href="#">Implementing Decision 2014/774/EU</a>. The incumbents cover 89% of total HFC quota for 2015-2017. The lists of companies having received quota from the new</p>	<p><b>Overview on the HFC quota system</b></p> <p>Starting in 2015, the amount of HFCs that can be placed on the market is subject to quantitative limits in the so-called HFC phase-down. The cap and phase-down of HFCs is implemented through a quota system calculated on a CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent basis.</p> <p>In order to legally place bulk HFCs on the EU market companies must hold sufficient quota. Quotas are allocated to companies in accordance with Article 16 and Annexes V and VI of the new F-Gas Regulation 517/2014: Companies can receive quota based on their historic activities ('reference value') and/or based on a declaration on additional need of quota. Quota allocated to a company based on its reference value may be transferred to other companies. Conversely, declaration-based quota cannot be transferred.</p> <p>In relation to compliance with the HFC phase-down, however, Article 15(2) of the F-Gas Regulation defines a number of categories of bulk HFCs placed on the market that are exempted from the phase-down. These include imports for destruction, feedstock use, export, military equipment and semiconductor manufacture. Supply for the manufacture of pharmaceutical metered dose inhalers will be exempted from 2018.</p> <p>Starting in 2017, companies importing RAC (refrigeration, air conditioning, heat pump) equipment pre-charged with HFCs will need to hold so called "authorisations" to use HFC quota. RAC equipment importers need to acquire authorisation from producers or bulk importers of HFCs which were allocated HFC quota by the European Commission. Quota and authorisations bear the unit of tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent.</p> <p><b>Using HFC quota</b></p> <p>Companies that were allocated HFC quota by the European Commission thus may make use of their quota by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Placing bulk HFCs on the EU market,</li> <li>• Transferring the quota to another producer/ bulk importer (does not apply to declaration-based quota), or</li> <li>• Authorising the use to an importer of HFC-charged RAC equipment.</li> </ul> <p>Amounts of quota authorised are considered placed on the EU market by the authorising quota holder at the date when the authorisation is given, irrespective of the time when the RAC equipment importer will use it to cover the equipment import.</p> <p>Quota holders having received their quota exclusively based on a declaration (i.e. without a reference value) must accompany an authorisation with a physical supply of bulk HFCs.</p>

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	<p>entrants reserve for 2015-2017 (11% of total HFC quota) are not publicly available. However, in 2017 a more comprehensive list of companies of incumbent quota holders for the years 2018-2020 will be published, following the recalculation of reference values (based on amounts of HFCs placed on the market in 2015-2016).</p> <p><b>Relevant guidance documents</b> More guidance for equipment importers is given in an <a href="#">information document</a> published by the European Commission. Some technical guidance how an authorisation can be given and received within the <a href="#">HFC registry</a> is given <a href="#">here</a>.</p>	<p>Quotas bear a 'time stamp' and can only be used in the calendar year for which they were allocated by the European Commission.</p> <p>Quota holders' compliance with the quota system is checked by companies' annual reports under Article 19 of the F-gas Directive. Those reports need to be verified by independent auditors in case the placing on the market exceeded 10 000 t CO<sub>2</sub>e of HFCs.</p> <p><b>Who are the quota holders?</b> A list of incumbent quota holders (i.e. having received quota based on their reference value) for the years 2015-2017 list was published in Commission <a href="#">Implementing Decision 2014/774/EU</a>. The incumbents cover 89% of total HFC quota for 2015-2017. The lists of companies having received quota based on their declarations from the new entrants reserve for 2015-2017 (11% of total HFC quota) are not publicly available. However, in 2017 a more comprehensive list of companies of incumbent quota holders for the years 2018-2020 will be published, following the recalculation of reference values (based on amounts of HFCs placed on the market in 2015-2016).</p> <p><b>Relevant guidance documents</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical <a href="#">guidance</a> for submitting a Quota Declaration in the <a href="#">HFC registry</a></li> <li>• Technical <a href="#">guidance</a> for providing an authorization in the <a href="#">HFC registry</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Technical guidance</a> on how to submit an annual report in the EEA's business data repository (BDR) under Article 19 of the <a href="#">F-Gas Regulation 517/2014</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Frequently asked questions</a> (FAQ) related to the annual companies' reporting under Article 19 of the <a href="#">F-Gas Regulation 517/2014</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Guidance</a> on the verification of annual companies' reports under Article 19 of the F-Gas Regulation</li> </ul>
<b>Knowledge of Regulation and market (for all types of company activity)</b>	<p>Awareness of need for quota / authorisation</p> <p>Awareness of options to give / receive transfers and give authorisations</p> <p>Awareness of options to identify (other) quota holders as potential providers of transfers / authorisations</p>	

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Experience with authorisation and transfer markets (for all types of company activity)	Institutional relations to contract / negotiation partner	
	Agreed / discussed price for transfers / authorisations	
	Agreed / discussed other relevant contractual arrangements for transfers / authorisations	
	Reasons for failure to agree on a transfer / authorisation	
	Order of magnitude of own quota / authorisation demand	
Key challenges for providing / receiving transfers/ authorisations		
Quota use in 2015 (only for HFC producers / bulk importers / quota holders)	<b>Introduction</b> Options to use quotas are explained above. Quotas bear a 'time stamp' and can only be used in the calendar year for which they were allocated by the European Commission. In this section we would like to inquire to what degree you made use of your 2015 quota. You will find the relevant numbers in the annual report that under Article 19 of the F-Gas Regulation, you were to submit by 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2016 in the EEA's <a href="#">business data repository</a> (BDR): Your calculated quota demand for 2015 is displayed in section 9F of that report. You may compare this with the available quota for 2015 as displayed in section 9G. In case 9G exceeds 9F, that difference was not used. It will not be possible to make use of such unused 2015 quota in later years.	
	Degree of quota use 2015	
	Reasons for incomplete quota use 2015	
Declarations for new entrants quota 2015 – 2017 (only for new entrant quota holders)	<b>Introduction</b> As mentioned above, producers and bulk importers of HFCs without a reference value may annually by 31 <sup>st</sup> May submit a <a href="#">declaration</a> to be allocated a share of the so-called new-entrants reserve which covers 11 % of total available quota for the years 2015-2017. In this section we would like to inquire on your experience with this process.	
	Declaration for new entrants' quota submitted for which years 2015 – 2017?	
	In case not all years, why?	
other	Any other comments	