

EU Standardization Request M/555 on flammable refrigerants

The standardization request M/555 was published by the European Commission in November 2017 with the intention to enable a wider use of flammable refrigerants, especially of those classified A3 according to European standard EN 378-1: 2016. The lecture presented an update on the associated work, which shall be completed until November 2020 by CEN TC 182 WG 12.

Additional concerns on the use of flammable refrigerants are set out by national legislation in the member states. Although standardization itself cannot change national legislation, the Commission is expecting a technical specification for the safe use of flammable refrigerants, which could be used as proposal for changes in national legislation.

The future development in refrigeration, air-conditioning and heat pump technology will have to face the consequences arising from the phase-down of refrigerants being used in the past for most applications. The industry will have to consider all practicable concepts with special regard to the "real challenge": the still limited knowledge about flammable refrigerants.

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