

May 2, 2006

To: Potential Sponsors of SAE Cooperative Research Program
Subject: Potential replacement chemicals for R134a to meet European Union regulations in 2011

The SAE Interior Climate Control Committee [ICCC] met on April 4-5, 2006 and is proposing to create a new SAE Cooperative Research Program [CRP] to evaluate potential low GWP replacement mobile A/C refrigerants. This is judged to be the least costly and most expedient manner to evaluate the alternatives from an Industry perspective.

The details of the CRP are still preliminary, and will be better defined over the next couple of months.

The proposal is to have four teams to focus on specific deliverables:

1. Risk Assessment Team
This team should be led by Experts from the Chemical/Toxicologist field from OEM's and Tier One Suppliers. They will assess potential chemicals and determine those that should be evaluated by the other teams. Furthermore, they will assess the potential risks of moving to production with these chemicals.
2. Chemical Compatibility Team
This team should be led by Experts from Tier One Suppliers. They will provide common materials in use today and oversee independent laboratory evaluations of these materials with any new chemical.
3. System Impact Team
This team will be led by OEM's with the support of their Tier One suppliers to fully understand the system impacts of any new refrigerant.
4. Service/Leakage Team
This team should be lead by the Service side. The Mobile Air Conditioning Society [based on their work with the IMAC CRP] should take the lead with the support of OEM's and the Tier One suppliers. This team will address service issues with any new refrigerant as well as the leakage issues.

Timing is critical to make a decision on any new alternative that might be considered for use in future mobile A/C systems. As a result, the committee is asking that all interested sponsors provide a letter/email of commitment no later than **June 15, 2006** to Gary Pollak at SAE.

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Initial estimates, based on 30 sponsoring companies, is that the per-company fee will be around \$50,000. There will be a special meeting during the SAE Alternate Refrigerant Symposium in Phoenix during the week of June 26, 2006 to decide on the final structure of the CRP and then SAE will send invoices to all committed companies after this meeting.



Gary Pollak
SAE CRP Manager



Ward Atkinson
SAE Interior Climate Control
Chairperson