



For Immediate Release

Contact: [Courtney Nogas](#), AHRI Manager, Public Affairs

Direct: 703.600.0377

## **ICARHMA Annual Meeting Held in Portland, Oregon**

Refrigerant policy, energy metrics, standards, certification issues among topics discussed

**Arlington, VA (August 20, 2010)** -- The International Council of Air-Conditioning, Refrigeration, and Heating Manufacturers' Associations (ICARHMA) held its annual meeting August 8-11, 2010 in Portland, Ore. The meeting was hosted by the U.S. member to the Council, the Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI), which serves as the 2010 Secretariat. Attendees included representatives from Brazil (ABRAVA), Canada (HRAI), China (CRAA), Europe (EUROVENT), Japan (JRAIA), Korea (KRAIA), which, together with the United States, comprise the current membership of the Council.

Following two days of networking tours of Portland and the surrounding area, including the Oregon Coast, Mount Hood, and the Columbia River Gorge, attendees settled in for an intensive day of meetings on topics of mutual concern.

The chief topic of discussion was future refrigerant policy and potential successor refrigerants to the most extensively used worldwide today, hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). Following a briefing about efforts by the United States and other countries to include a phase-down of HFCs under the Montreal Protocol, a panel discussion was held, featuring representatives from equipment manufacturers Johnson Controls and Ingersoll-Rand/Trane; component manufacturer Emerson; and refrigerant manufacturers Daikin and Honeywell.

Following the panel session, the president of the Japan Society of Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (JSRAE) gave a presentation on refrigerant management systems and their role in responsible refrigerant use.

The Council agreed to develop a refrigerant policy statement and tasked AHRI to lead the effort. The Council also tasked AHRI with drafting a proposal for a global research program to evaluate alternative refrigerants modeled after the Alternative Refrigerants Evaluation Program (AREP) that was led by AHRI predecessor ARI following the phase out of CFC refrigerants.

Following the panel discussion, each participating organization provided updates on developments in their nations that would be of interest to the group as a whole. Topics included refrigerant policy, certification, renewable energy regulations, responsible refrigerant use, technician training, and green building codes.

Later in the day, a representative from JRAIA briefed the Council on the concept of developing an energy metric, the annual performance factor (APF), a new energy performance metric. The concept is currently being developed by ISO TC 86, SC 6, WG1 and is intended to apply to three ISO standards that cover testing and rating of ducted, non-ducted, and multi-split system.

It was the consensus of the Council that information regarding the development of this new energy metric is of utmost interest to the members, has many policy implications, and that the Secretariat should provide the members with more information on the subject to allow discussions at policy levels as well in their respective national standards bodies

ICARHMA members will next meet in conjunction with the AHR Expo in January 2011 in Las Vegas, Nev. The Heating, Refrigeration, and Air-Conditioning Institute of Canada (HRAI) will host the next Annual Meeting, scheduled for fall 2011.

#### [About ICARHMA](#)

ICARHMA is a organization of associations representing manufacturers of air conditioning and refrigeration and heating equipment in their respective countries. The Council, which currently includes members from Brazil, Canada, China, Europe, Japan, Korea, and the U.S., serves as a forum for the discussion of issues affecting the global air-conditioning, refrigeration, and heating industry. ICARHMA members provide a valuable contribution to the global economy and to consumers world-wide.

#### [About AHRI](#)

The Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI) is the trade association representing manufacturers of air conditioning, heating and commercial refrigeration equipment. An internationally recognized advocate for the industry, AHRI develops standards for and certifies the performance of many of these products. AHRI's 300 member companies account for more than 90 percent of the residential and commercial air conditioning, space heating, water heating, and commercial refrigeration equipment manufactured and sold in North America.

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