

Revision of the Ministerial order and Notifications under the Act on Rational Use and Appropriate Management of Fluorocarbons

June 2021

Fluoride Gases Management Office, Chemical Management Policy Division,
Manufacturing Industries Bureau, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

1. Outline

Under Article 12 of the Act on Rational Use and Appropriate Management of Fluorocarbons (Law No. 64 of 2001; hereinafter referred to as the "Fluorocarbons Law"), the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry shall establish and publicize the "Standards of judgement for Manufacturers, etc. of Designated Products" (hereinafter referred to as the "standards of judgement") with regard to the reduction of the environmental impacts of fluorocarbons used in each designated product. In addition, Article 14 of the Fluorocarbons Law stipulates that the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry shall give public notice regarding matters to be indicated by manufacturers.

Among the already designated products, the Minister newly proposes the standards of judgement for part of multi-air conditioners for buildings. In order to do it, the "Ministerial order of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry", which stipulates the scope for manufactures or importers who are designated to receive the recommendation by the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, is revised and the standards of judgement and labeling requirement are newly stipulated in the "Notifications of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry".

<Standards of judgement that is newly established for part of multi-air conditioners for buildings >

Designated products	Global Warming Potential targets	Target fiscal year
Among multi-air conditioners for buildings (separate type with a structure in which two or more indoor units are connected to one outdoor unit, and the air temperature or humidity can be adjusted for each indoor unit), other than the following. 1) Shipped on the premise of using the existing refrigerant piping 2) Equipped with the structure required for refrigerant diversion in order to use cooling and heating at the same time. 3) Equipped with a function to suppress a decrease in heating capacity when the outside air temperature is low 4) A structure that uses water as a heat source 5) A structure with a dedicated heat storage tank for storing heat for cooling or cooling/heating	750 (Value that is weighted average of number of shipments and GWP value shall be smaller than 750. GWP indicates is set in the public notification of GWP)	2025

<Labeling requirement>

Manufacturers shall indicate on their product the kind, amount and GWP value of fluorocarbons in the product, product and type name, and name of the manufacturer. On their product catalog, manufacturers shall indicate the GWP targets and the Target fiscal year in addition to what are indicated on their product.

2. Purpose

To rationalize and reduce the use of fluorocarbons by accelerating innovation with regard to the reduction of the environmental impacts of fluorocarbons used in each designated product and promoting a shift to and dissemination of products which utilize non-fluorocarbon and have low global warming potential.

3. The expected date of enforcement

March 2022