

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

REEF's Cool House Brings Sustainable Cooling to the Center of Climate Week NYC to Celebrate 10-Years of the Kigali Amendment

The immersive event celebrated 10 years of the Kigali Amendment and brought together industry, policymakers, building owners, and climate leaders to accelerate the next decade of cooling.

NEW YORK, September 22, 2026 — in the heart of Midtown Manhattan - as world-leaders gathered nearby for the United Nations General Assembly - the Refrigerant Emissions Elimination Forum (REEF) convened the sustainable cooling community at **The Cool House: The Unofficial Cooling Destination of Climate Week NYC**. The Cool House brought together leaders from industry, government, philanthropy, emergent and alternative refrigerant technologies, and the built environment to not only celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the Kigali Amendment but also explore how the world can meet the rapidly growing demand for cooling while reducing refrigerant emissions and climate impact over the next decade.

The Cool House kicked off with an Opening Plenary commemorating the **10-year anniversary of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol**. The plenary included remarks and reflections from multiple distinguished guests on the past decade and highlighted the partnerships and collaborations that will shape the next 10-years. Our speakers included Dr. Bernadette Arakwiye, Rwanda's Minister of Environment, as well as Martina Otto, Head of Secretariat of the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), Tapio Reinikainen, Chief Specialist at the Finnish Environment Institute, David Doniger, Senior Attorney and Strategist at the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), Avipsa Mahaptra, Climate Campaign Director at the Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA-US), and Suzanne Hagell, Chief of GHG Mitigation at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

The Cool House program combined live technology demonstrations, interactive exhibits and discussions spanned from lifecycle refrigerant management and next-generation refrigerants and cooling technologies to data centers, workforce development, and making the business case for cleaner cooling. Participating organizations included the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, Trane Technologies, Copeland, A-Gas, Hudson Technologies, ClimateWorks Foundation, the Natural Resources Defense Council, Environmental Investigation Agency, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, RMI, NYC Public Schools, Genentech and others.

Programming examined the cooling transition from multiple perspectives, including **the future of healthy and resilient buildings; workforce training; the next decade of cooling policy and technology; refrigerant recovery and reclamation; next-generation data center cooling; the transition from A2L to A3 refrigerants; the business case for portfolio-wide refrigerant action; and end-of-life refrigerant management.**

“Cooling is becoming one of the defining climate and infrastructure challenges of the coming decades, but it is also an area where we already have tremendous opportunities to act,” said **Aleisha Khan, Executive Director of REEF**. “The Cool House is about bringing together the people who can turn those opportunities into action — from the technicians handling refrigerants in the field to building owners, manufacturers, policymakers and innovators. Ten years after Kigali, the question is no longer whether the cooling transition is possible, but how quickly and effectively we can deliver it.”

The event also featured an **Innovative Cooling Showcase**, which provided attendees with hands-on access to technologies including leak-detection systems, refrigerant tracking platforms, recovery equipment, advanced HVAC technologies, and emerging non-vapor-compression cooling solutions.

“The Kigali Amendment demonstrated what is possible when governments, industry and civil society align around a shared problem,” Khan added. “The opportunity now is to build on that success by treating refrigerant management and sustainable cooling not simply as compliance issues, but as fundamental parts of climate strategy, operational resilience and responsible asset management.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE COOL HOUSE

- **REEF Launches Owner-Operator Demand Survey to enhance data on Market Demand for Low-GWP Refrigerant Adoption**

REEF announced a new initiative to better understand and aggregate owner-operator demand for low-global-warming-potential (low-GWP) refrigerant technologies across the U.S. building sector. The initiative will begin with a national demand survey of building owners and operators to identify current and anticipated needs, barriers to adoption, technology requirements, procurement priorities and expected demand over the next decade.

“Building owners and operators ultimately shape the market through the systems they specify and purchase,” said Aleisha Khan, Executive Director of REEF. “By understanding that demand together, we can give the market a much clearer picture of what customers will need over the next ten years and help accelerate the availability and adoption of practical, lower-impact cooling solutions.”

- **NASRC and NYSDEC announced the New York Natural Refrigerant Workforce Development Program**

The North American Sustainable Refrigeration Council (NASRC) announced a statewide initiative to build the natural refrigerant technical capacity, recruitment pipeline, and industry coordination needed in New York. As part of the program, NASRC will deliver a series of regionally accessible, hands-on natural refrigerant technician trainings across the state. These low-cost trainings combine a vendor-neutral classroom session with guided learning at a live operating system, helping refrigeration technicians build practical knowledge of system operation, service, maintenance, controls, and troubleshooting.

“New York’s transition away from harmful HFC refrigerants will only succeed if the technician workforce is prepared to lead it.” said **Danielle Wright, Executive Director of NASRC**. “By investing in accessible, hands-on training, NYSDEC is helping ensure that technicians across the state have the skills needed to safely install, service, and maintain the next generation of refrigeration technology.”

NASRC is seeking host partners, applications are open until October 23rd. This program is funded by the NYSDEC and NYS Environmental Protection Fund.

- **Hudson Technologies, Inc. (NASDAQ: HDSN) announced it has signed a joint development agreement with Icorium Company for the commercialization of Icorium’s patented extractive distillation technology.** ([Full Details](#))

The collaboration is expected to broaden and complement Hudson’s existing fractional distillation systems with the potential for rapid and more complete processing of more complex refrigerant compositions through Icorium’s single-stream extractive method. The technology under development pursues the ability to split complicated refrigerant mixtures into their core components – including azeotropes – with a yield and throughput previously unknown in the industry. The ability to separate and purify traditionally difficult refrigerant blends will simplify recovery of used refrigerants by allowing

contractors to combine refrigerants in cylinders, reducing onsite recovery time and also enabling Hudson to extract the maximum refrigerant possible from every pound of refrigerant recovered, thereby producing a faster transition from stock to saleable product.

- **A-Gas Opens Canada’s Only AHRI-Certified Refrigerant Testing Lab** ([Full Announcement](#))

A-Gas announced that its Dartmouth, Nova Scotia facility has received AHRI laboratory certification, making it the only AHRI-certified refrigerant testing lab in Canada. The certification will allow Canadian customers to access faster refrigerant analysis and testing while reducing cross-border shipping, customs requirements and associated costs. The Dartmouth facility joins A-Gas labs in Texas and Ohio as one of three AHRI-certified A-Gas laboratories in North America.

“A-Gas is incredibly proud to bring businesses a resource within Canada to meet their testing and analysis needs without the added burden of trans-border logistics,” said Andrew Stride, General Manager, A-Gas Canada.

- **REEF and the Leeds School of Business Launch National Sustainability Case Competition on the Future of Cooling.** ([Full Announcement](#)).

REEF announced a new partnership with the **Leeds School of Business at the University of Colorado Boulder** to launch “**Cooling at a Crossroads: Aligning Financial Performance, Operational Execution, and Climate Strategy**,” as part of the Leeds Sustainability Case

Competition. The competition will challenge graduate student teams to develop a practical business strategy for addressing one of the fastest-growing climate and operational challenges facing companies today: how to meet increasing demand for cooling while managing cost, reliability, refrigerant transition and emissions reduction. \$25,000 in prizes; register by December 6, 2026 to compete in Boulder, CO on February 20, 2027.

“The refrigerant transition is not simply a technical or environmental challenge — it is increasingly a business strategy challenge,” said **Aleisha Khan, Executive Director of REEF**. “Companies need leaders who can connect climate ambition with capital planning, operations and financial performance. This competition allows the next generation of business leaders to tackle exactly that challenge.”

About the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol

On October 15, 2016, in Kigali, Rwanda, 197 parties to the Montreal Protocol reached an agreement to phase down the production and consumption of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) - synthetic chemicals widely used as refrigerants in heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration (HVACR) equipment. While lacking the ozone-depleting characteristics of their chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) and hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC) predecessors - which have been phased out and are currently being phased out under the Montreal Protocol, respectively - HFCs are still extremely potent greenhouse gases with global warming potentials (GWPs) hundreds to thousands of times greater than carbon dioxide. Recognizing the impact of HFCs on the climate, Parties agreed to a global phase down of HFC use by 80-85% by 2047. By 2100, full implementation of the Kigali Amendment could avoid up to 0.5 Degrees Celsius of warming. Nearly a full decade later, the Kigali Amendment has been ratified by more than 170 countries and the phase down has driven a surge in exciting technological innovations as well as new market opportunities for businesses around the world.

About REEF

The **Refrigerant Emissions Elimination Forum (REEF)** is a nonprofit organization focused on accelerating business action on refrigerant emissions and advancing lifecycle refrigerant management. REEF brings together building owners and operators, technology providers, policymakers, NGOs and other stakeholders to share knowledge, develop practical solutions and accelerate the transition toward climate-friendly cooling.

For more information, visit **reefclimate.org**.

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