



# Industry Overview of the Environmental Performance of Non-CO<sub>2</sub> [R744] Alternatives

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# Content

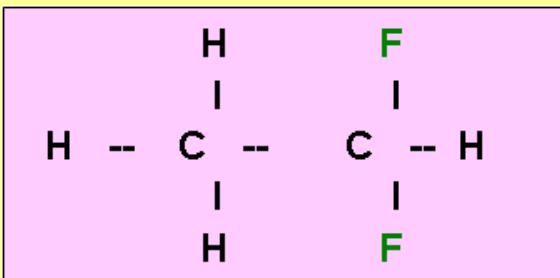
Possible Non-R744 Alternatives  
Comparison of Properties  
Pro's and Con's  
Service/Risk issues  
Life Cycle Analysis of Viable Alternatives  
Impact of Multiple Alternatives  
Conclusions/Recommendations

## Acknowledgements:

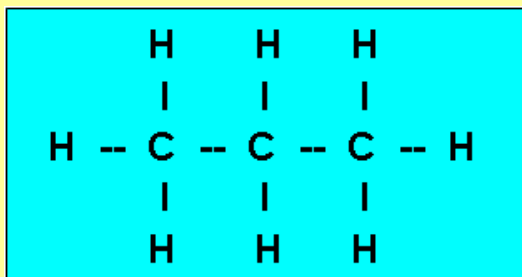
- ❖ James A. Baker
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  - ❖ Hans Fernqvist
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  - ❖ Roberto Monforte
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  - Red Dot
  - Honeywell
  - Air International
  - Sun Test



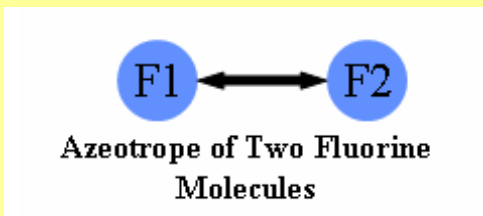
# Non-R744 Alternatives



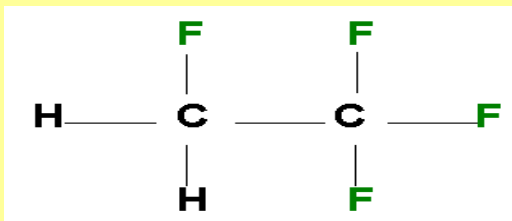
**R152a [with Secondary Loop]**  
**ASHRAE A2 [slightly flammable]**  
**Material Compatibility-similar to R134a**  
**GWP=140**



**R290 [with Secondary Loop]**  
**ASHRAE A3 [flammable]**  
**GWP = 11**



**Blend "H"**  
**ASHRAE A1 (likely)**  
**Material compatibility similar to R-134a**  
**GWP <<150**



**R134a**  
**ASHRAE A1 [non-flammable]**  
**GWP = 1300**



# Refrigerant Properties

Refrigerant	R134a	R744	R290	Blend-H	R152a
Global Warming Potential(GWP)	1300	1	11	<<150	140
Ozone Depletion Potential(ODP)	0	0	0 [VOC]	0	0
Operating Pressures (Max.)	2500 kPa (~400 psig)	13,500 kPa (1950 psig)	2500 kPa (~400 psig)	2500 kPa (~400 psig)	2500 kPa (~400 psig)
Max Discharge Gas Temperatures [°C]+	125	145	120	115	135
ATEL(PPM)++	50,000	40,000	50,000	TBD	50,000
TWA [ppm]+++	1000	5000	1000	TBD	1000
Compression Ratio+	5/6	2-3	4.5-5.5	4.5-5.5	4.5-5.5
Refrigerant Flow +	Base	90%	60%	140%	65%

\*ODP=Ozone Depletion Potential with R12 as a reference of 1.0  
 \*\*GWP=Global Warming Potential with R744 as a reference of 1.0

+ Based on ARCPR data

++James Calm report, Sept., 2000  
 +++OSHA web site  
 ATEL=Acute Toxicity Exposure Level  
 TWA=Time weighted average  
 [8 hr. exposure limit]



# R152a [secondary loop]

## Pros

- ❖ Similar components/systems as R134a (direct expansion), i.e. easy to introduce
- ❖ **GWP < 150**
- ❖ **Reduced refrigerant charge [40%] and emission rate**
- ❖ **Refrigerant cost lower than R134a**
- ❖ **Similar charge, service, and troubleshooting procedures as R134a**
- ❖ **High ignition point (454°C)**
- ❖ **Improved city traffic and idle performance**
- ❖ **Improvement to interior noise/refrigerant flow noises**
- ❖ **Opportunity for engine off cooling**

## Cons

- ❖ **Flammability – safety concerns related to vehicle accidents**
- ❖ **Increased system mass/cost**
  - Additional fluid pump required
  - Additional plumbing required
- ❖ **Secondary circuit needed**
  - EN378/EN7003 standards must be met
- ❖ **Would still require recycling/recovery**
- ❖ **Training of service personnel**
- ❖ **Industry/Consumer acceptance**
- ❖ **Oil compatibility/durability needs confirmation**
- ❖ **Potential delay in initial cool-down after long soaks**
- ❖ **Increased packaging space**
- ❖ **Contains fluorine (not considered a “natural refrigerant”)**

*Adapted from 2003 Phoenix Forum Workshop Results*



# R290 [secondary loop]

## Pros

- ❖ Low-GWP[11]/natural refrigerant
- ❖ Reduced refrigerant charge and emission rate
- ❖ Opportunity for engine off cooling
- ❖ Improve control of flow to auxiliary cooling coils
- ❖ Low refrigerant/oil cost
- ❖ Refrigerant already available world wide
- ❖ Improvement to interior noise-no refrigerant flow noises
- ❖ Established leak testing methods

## Cons

- ❖ Increased system mass/cost
  - Additional fluid pump required
  - Additional plumbing required
- ❖ Flammability – safety concerns
  - Additional safety equipment needed
- ❖ Would still require recovery [safety]
- ❖ Training of personnel
- ❖ Industry/Consumer acceptance
- ❖ Potential delay in initial cool-down after long soaks
- ❖ VOC
- ❖ Increased packaging space
- ❖ Two fluids need to be managed/sealed

*Adapted from 2003 Phoenix Forum Workshop Results*



# Fluid H

## Pros

- ❖ **GWP  $\ll$  150**
- ❖ **Non-flammable**
- ❖ **Performance very close to R-134a**
  - **May only require minor changes to system**
- ❖ **Uses similar lubricant to R-134a**
- ❖ **Similar discharge pressure/temperature to R134a**
- ❖ **Higher mass flow – better flow distribution at low loads**
  - **May need to change heat exchanger pass configuration at high loads**
- ❖ **Service hardware and leak detection same as R-134a**
- ❖ **Will have similar benefits from modifications studied during IMAC project as R-134a.**

## Cons

- ❖ **Refrigerant composed of some new molecules**
  - **New molecule must pass all toxicity testing**
  - **New manufacturing processes required**
  - **Material compatibility needs to be confirmed**
- ❖ **Time required to complete toxicity testing and build plants**
- ❖ **Higher cost refrigerant**
- ❖ **Contains fluorine (not considered a “natural refrigerant”)**
- ❖ **Potential VOC**
- ❖ **New proposal with further evaluation required**



# Refrigerant Leakage

<b>A/C System Choice</b>	<b>Available Options</b>	<b>Potential For Improvement</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>R134a Current Production</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	
<b>Improved R134a [IMAC]</b>	<b>Compressor Fittings Elastomers</b>	<b>50%</b>	
<b>Secondary loop-R152a</b>	<b>Compressor Fittings Elastomers</b>	<b>50%</b> [~95% environmental]	<b>Additional Coolant joints required</b>
<b>Secondary Loop-R290</b>	<b>Compressor Fittings Elastomers</b>	<b>50%</b> [~99% environmental]	<b>Mineral oil is used Additional Coolant joints required</b>
<b>Blend "H"</b>	<b>Compressor Fittings Elastomers</b>	<b>50%</b> [~99% environmental]	<b>Cost of refrigerant will require better seals</b>
<b>R744</b>	<b>Metal hoses Improved compressor</b>	<b>50%</b> [99.9% environmental]	<b>Smaller molecule</b>

*Adapted from 2003 Phoenix Forum Workshop Results*



# Pro's/Con's-System mass

	Blend "H"	R290	R744	R152a
Evaporator	Same	Same	-10%	Same
Compressor	Same	Same	+10%	Same
Condenser	Same	-20%	+10%	Same
Charge	+5%	-45%	-40%	-45%
IHX	NA	+1.1 kg	+1.1 kg	NA
Plumbing/lines	Same	Increased due to secondary loop	~Same [Diff mat'ls]	Increased due to secondary loop
Safety system	---	+ 0.2/0.4 kg	+ 0.2/0.4 kg	NA
Added Components	---	Secondary loop [+5 kg]	Accumulator [+1.4 kg]	Secondary loop [+5 kg]

R134a Baseline=Base  
 Mass Estimates based on ARCRP Phase I data



# Indirect Emissions Improvement Potential

<b>A/C System Choice</b>	<b>Improvement from Base</b>
R134a	Baseline
Improved R134a [IMAC]	20-35%
Secondary loop-R152a	5-15%
Secondary Loop-propane	~Same
Blend "H"	10-20%
R744	10-20%

**Based on LCCP Analysis**



# Service Infrastructure

<b>A/C System Choice</b>	<b>Service Investment/equipment Costs</b>	<b>Technician Training Certification</b>	<b>Leak Test</b>
<b>R134a</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Baseline</b>
<b>Improved R134a [IMAC]</b>	<b>Minimal Need to meet new SAE Std</b>	<b>Need to meet new SAE Std</b>	<b>Same</b>
<b>Secondary loop-R152a</b>	<b>More compared to current equipment-flammability</b>	<b>More extensive</b>	<b>Same technology as R134a</b>
<b>Secondary Loop-R290</b>	<b>More compared to current equipment-flammability</b>	<b>Increased diagnostics, training</b>	<b>Technology exists</b>
<b>Blend "H"</b>	<b>Similar to R134a New equipment required</b>	<b>minimal</b>	<b>Same technology as R134a</b>
<b>R744</b>	<b>New, but less compared to current equipment</b>	<b>High pressure, training</b>	<b>Needs to be developed</b>

*Adapted from 2003 Phoenix Forum Workshop Results*



# Risk Assessment

<b>A/C System Choice</b>	<b>Prod./ Shipping</b>	<b>Service areas</b>	<b>Passenger Exposure</b>
<b>R134a</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Baseline</b>
<b>Improved R134a [IMAC]</b>	<b>No change</b>	<b>Reduced-less service</b>	<b>Reduced-less leakage</b>
<b>Secondary loop-R152a</b>	<b>Flammability Concern</b>	<b>Training Recovery/Recycling Sensors Electrical std-safety</b>	<b>Risk slight increase from R134a</b>
<b>Secondary Loop-R290</b>	<b>Safety valve for 2ndary loop</b>	<b>Training Recovery/Recycling Sensors Electrical std-safety</b>	<b>Risk assessment needed if this is to be pursued</b>
<b>Blend "H"</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>R744</b>	<b>Handling for high pressure refrigerant</b>	<b>Training Venting Sensors</b>	<b>Risk slight increase from R134a</b>

*Adapted from 2003 Phoenix Forum Workshop Results*



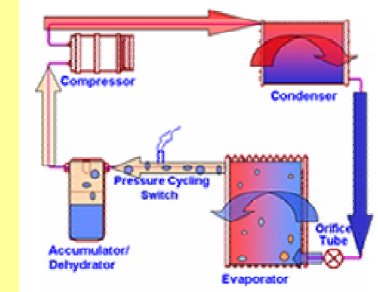
# Costs Vs Benefits

AC System Choice	Reduced Direct Emissions	Reduced Indirect Emissions	Added Cost [Euros]	Service Cost	Investment	Time to Market [Years]
R134a	Baseline	Baseline	Baseline	Baseline	Baseline	Current
Improved R134a [IMAC]	50%	20-35%	20	Baseline	+	1-3
Secondary loop R152a	~95%	5-15%	60	110%	++	3-5
Blend "H"	~99%	10-20%	TBD	100%	+	3-5
Secondary Loop R290	~99%	~Equal	60	120%	++	4-6
R744	~99.9%	10-20%	60-150	100%	++++	3-6

*Adapted from 2003 Phoenix Forum Workshop Results*

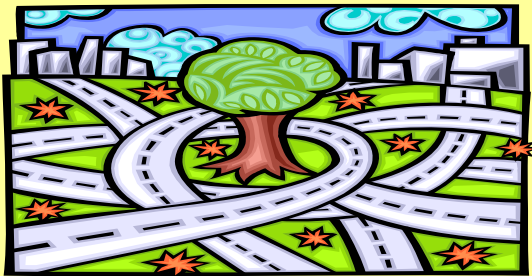
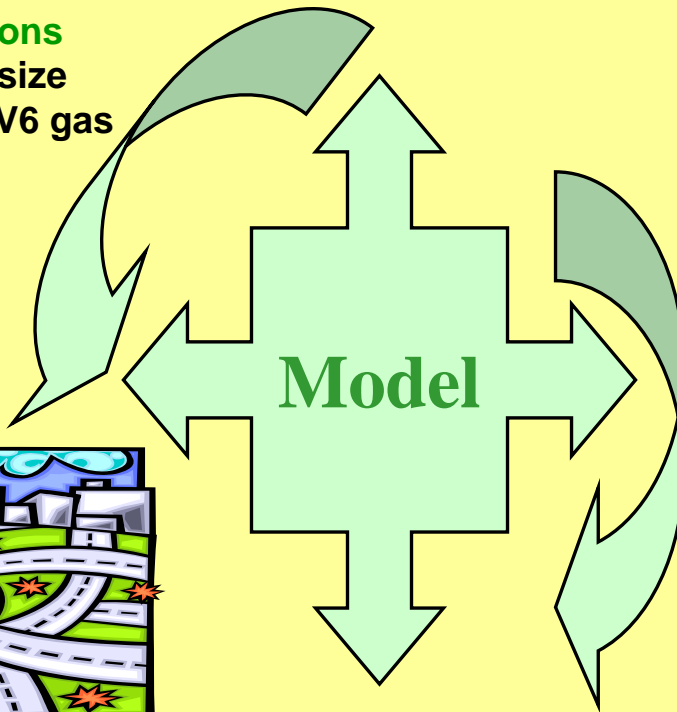


# Life Cycle Model Assumptions



## Vehicle Assumptions

- Car Size-midsize
- Engine type-V6 gas



## Vehicle Usage Assumptions:

- Variable Distance
- Engine Run Time Different for Each City
- Variable Speed Profiles for Different Cities

## Refrigerant System Assumptions:

- Production Leakage
- Total Refrigerant System Mass
- Blower speeds
- Temperature at Evaporator Outlet
- Humidity Effects
- Evaporator Air Inlet conditions
- Blower Power
- Condenser/Gas Cooler Air Inlet air at idle conditions
- Front End Air Flow



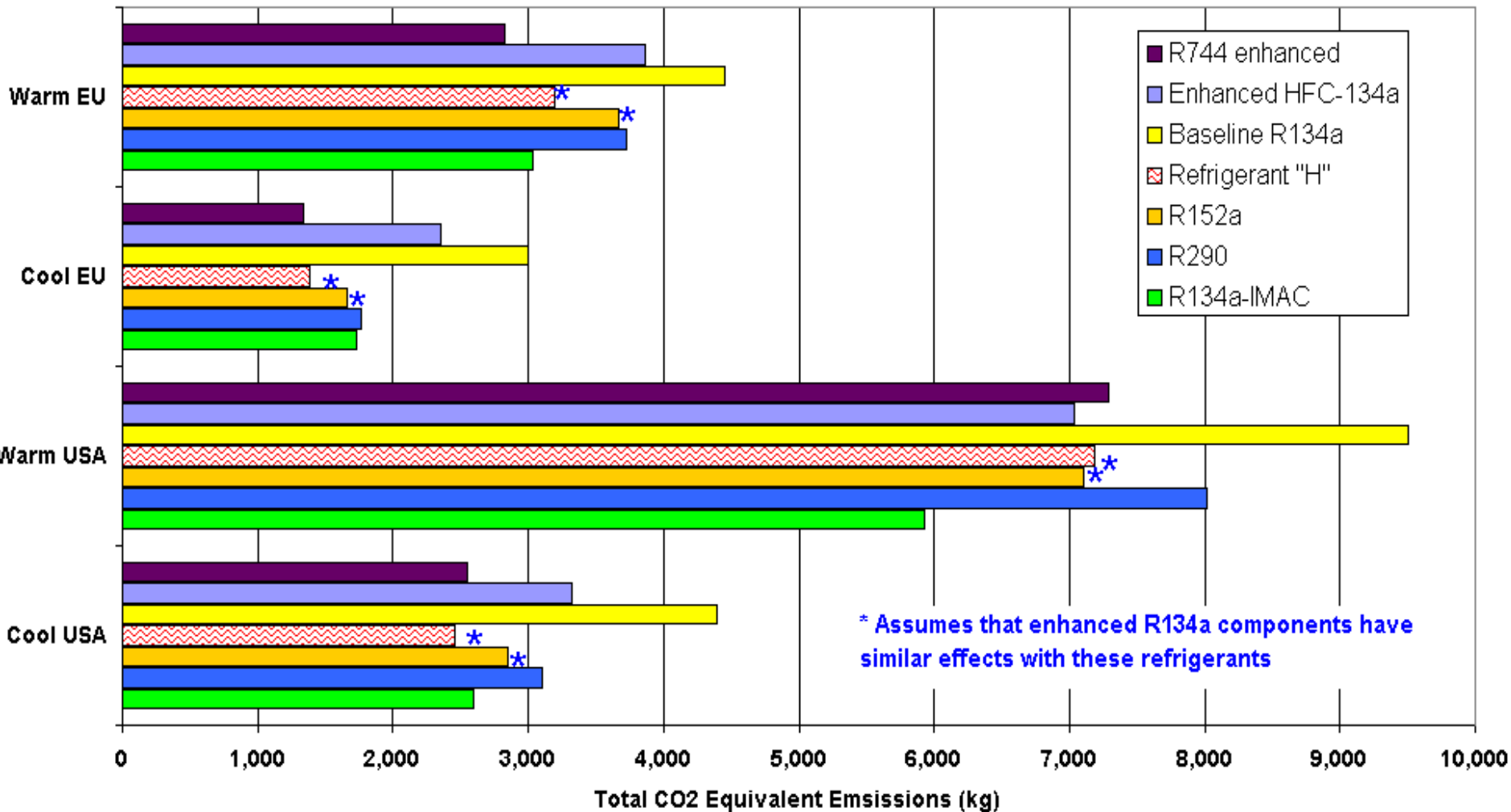
## Environmental Assumptions:

- Energy to produce refrigerant
- Transportation, End-of-Life and By-Product Emissions
- Ambient Temperature Operation



# LCCP-Viable Alternatives

**Comparison of Total CO2 Equivalent for Various Refrigerant Alternatives**



**LCCP [kg. of Equivalent CO2]**



# Impact of More than One Global Refrigerant in MACS

- ❖ **Multiple Pieces of charge equipment in the plants**
- ❖ **Increased development costs to develop multiple refrigerants**
- ❖ **Vehicle timing to market may be affected**
- ❖ **Mixing of refrigerants needs to be carefully considered**
- ❖ **Addition of suction line heat exchangers require training in assembly plants and service**
- ❖ **If secondary loop is needed, additional coolant fill required and additional training**
- ❖ **Service (technician training, development of service & diagnostics tools)**
- ❖ **Increase complexity of vehicle assemble (flow space if technology requires refrigerant specific HVAC modules)**
- ❖ **Aftermarket problems servicing 2 or more refrigerant systems.**



# Conclusions

- ❖ **Environmental Considerations based on LCCP**
  - In cool climates, Refrigerant “H” and R744 have similar life cycle performance and are the best choices for life cycle
    - Refrigerant “H” is relatively new and more development is required
  - The IMAC R134a system is best in very warm climates
  - Results are depending on drive cycle and system loading conditions
- ❖ **AC system considerations**
  - System complexity/cost increases with all alternatives
  - Two or more global refrigerant systems will present hardships in industry/service in the future
- ❖ **Relative ease of industry conversion**
  - Some of these Non-R744 options represent an easier conversion and some require significant further development for optimization
- ❖ **Risk Assessment**
  - Flammable refrigerants are not considered a viable options without significant development of safety systems [i.e.; secondary loop, relief systems, etc.]
  - New refrigerant options will need new risk assessments

**Thank you for your kind attention!**