



# Press Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Zero Zone Joins GreenChill Advanced Refrigeration Partnership**

**North Prairie, WI:** Zero Zone, Inc., a leader in refrigeration innovation, has become a partner in GreenChill, a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency cooperative alliance of supermarket operators, refrigeration systems manufacturers and chemical companies who are committed to sustainable business practices.

The goals of the GreenChill Advanced Refrigeration Partnership include:

- To support supermarkets' transition to non-ozone-depleting refrigerants;
- To reduce emissions of both ozone-depleting and greenhouse gas refrigerant emissions;
- To promote supermarkets' adoption of advanced refrigeration technologies; and
- To reduce the environmental impact of the supermarket industry on the ozone layer and climate change.

"We are proud to partner with GreenChill in this very important effort," said David Morrow, President of Zero Zone. "With nearly 35,000 supermarkets in the US, reducing emissions of ozone-depleting refrigerants and greenhouse gases in the supermarket industry will have a very positive impact on our country and our planet. We are looking forward to working closely with other manufacturers and food retailers to set sustainability guidelines for our industry. To that end, we have named Mark Westphal and Bruce Hierlmeier, PE as our representatives in the GreenChill Partnership. Mark is our Vice President of Sales & Marketing and Bruce is our Engineering Manager. In association with other GreenChill partners, they will establish leak tightness standards for manufacturing, installation and maintenance of refrigeration systems as well as developing guidelines for supermarkets considering advanced refrigeration technologies."

Zero Zone designs and manufactures refrigeration systems that include options for oil and refrigerant management. This critical equipment guards against catastrophic system leaks while responsibly managing resources. Zero Zone also offers distributed refrigeration systems which drastically reduce the amount of refrigerant and copper piping usually required in traditional refrigeration systems. For over 47 years, Zero Zone has produced energy-efficient, refrigerated, glass door display cases for the retail food industry, providing an energy-saving alternative to open multi-decks for frozen foods, ice cream, dairy, deli and beverages. With its GreenChill partnership, Zero Zone broadens its pledge to provide refrigeration solutions that are efficient, cost-effective and which further the goals of sustainability for Zero Zone and its customers.

"We are very proud that Zero Zone has joined our GreenChill Partnership," said Dave Godwin, Acting Branch Chief, EPA Stratospheric Protection Division. "The addition of Zero Zone to the Partnership means that we now have four out of the five leading refrigeration systems manufacturers as members in the Partnership, so we have quite a lot of industry expertise in the team."

For more information about GreenChill, please see attached pages or visit:

[epa.gov/ozone/partnerships/greenchill](http://epa.gov/ozone/partnerships/greenchill)

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# The GreenChill Advanced Refrigeration Partnership

## What is EPA's GreenChill Advanced Refrigeration Partnership?

GreenChill is an EPA cooperative alliance with the supermarket industry and other stakeholders to promote the adoption of technologies, strategies, and practices that reduce emissions of ozone-depleting substances (ODS) and greenhouse gases (GHGs) and increase refrigeration system energy efficiency.

The GreenChill Partnership provides information-sharing and other assistance to facilitate compliance with existing ODS and refrigerant leak rate regulations. The 2010 phasedown of certain hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), especially HCFC-22, marks a major step in the transition to alternative refrigerants and an opportunity to use improved technologies for supermarkets. Because many alternative refrigerants are GHGs (e.g., hydrofluorocarbons – HFCs), it is important during this transition to consider reducing emissions of all refrigerants, not just ODS.

## What are the GreenChill Partnership Goals?

The goals of the GreenChill Partnership are to provide supermarkets and organizations supporting this industry with information and assistance to:

Transition to non-ODS refrigerants.

Reduce both ODS and non-ODS refrigerant emissions.

Promote supermarkets' adoption of alternative refrigeration technologies that offer qualities such as:

- Reduced ODS/GHG emissions (e.g., reduced refrigerant charges and leak rates)
- Potential for improved energy efficiency
- Reduced maintenance and refrigerant costs
- Extended shelf life of perishable food products
- Improved system design, operations, and maintenance.

Reduce the total impact of supermarkets on ozone depletion and global warming.

## Who can Join GreenChill?

The GreenChill Partnership includes members from a number of sectors related to supermarket refrigeration, including retailers, chemical companies, and equipment manufacturers. Networking opportunities include a variety of other groups such as food and beverage manufacturers, trade organizations, and store designers. Partners join by agreeing to work toward attaining the GreenChill goals and completing a Partnership Agreement with EPA.

### Regulatory Context

The majority of the approximately 34,000 supermarkets in the U.S. use HCFC-22, an ODS and GHG, as their primary refrigerant.

Production of HCFC-22 for use in new equipment in the U.S. will be phased out on January 1, 2010. Limited production to service existing refrigeration equipment will be allowed until 2020.

Owners of commercial refrigeration equipment that leaks more than 35% of its ODS refrigerant charge in a year are subject to mandatory leak repair time lines and record-keeping requirements. These regulatory requirements may include equipment retirement or conversion to non-ODS refrigerants.



### Benefits of the GreenChill Partnership

Potential annual industry-wide GHG emission reductions of 4 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub>. This is equivalent to removing 800,000 cars from roads.

Potential annual industry-wide savings of over \$12 million from reduced refrigerant costs.

Access to the latest information on ozone-friendly alternative refrigerants, improved technology, and servicing practices that help reduce refrigerant leak rates and emissions.

Tools to assist with attaining corporate environmental stewardship and sustainability goals.

**For more information, please contact:**

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## Why Join the GreenChill Partnership?

Under the current regulatory framework, a switch from ODS to non-ODS refrigerants is a logical consideration when remodeling or constructing a new store. While it is currently legal to run existing equipment indefinitely, HCFC-22 refrigerant production for servicing that equipment will stop by 2020. The GreenChill Partnership presents an opportunity to prepare for this and other deadlines, prepare for future leak repair regulations, and be recognized for efforts to take steps above and beyond actions required under the Clean Air Act. Benefits of the GreenChill Partnership include:

**Opportunities for information sharing among partners.** This could include best practices for the implementation of alternative refrigerants and alternative refrigeration technologies such as secondary loop and distributed refrigeration systems.

**Benchmarking and recognition/awards.** A benchmarking system will allow partners to evaluate their progress toward partnership goals in relation to their peers. Awards will be given to recognize outstanding achievements by partners.

**Publicity, marketing, and outreach.** Partners will gain access to a variety of marketing materials to highlight their participation and achievements of setting and meeting GreenChill Partnership, environmental stewardship and sustainability goals.

**Networking opportunities.** The GreenChill Partnership will facilitate interactions between supermarkets, various vendors, and other stakeholders allowing partners to identify and assess options in commercial refrigeration products and practices.

**Environmental benefits.** The Partnership will benefit the environment by reducing emissions of ODS and GHGs and the impact of supermarket refrigeration systems on ozone depletion and global warming.

## What is EPA's Role in the GreenChill Partnership?

The specific roles that EPA provides will vary according to the type of GreenChill partner. Overall roles and responsibilities include the following:

**Supporting the transition to non-ODS refrigerants and new technologies** by promoting research on alternative refrigeration technologies.

**Facilitating information-sharing** among partners to develop best practices as stores move to non-ODS refrigerants and alternative refrigeration technologies.

**Ensuring confidentiality** of all partner information.

**Providing opportunities to recognize and promote** both partners' participation and the GreenChill Partnership's achievements to a broad audience.