

CLIMATE LEADERS

GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY PROTOCOL CORE MODULE GUIDANCE

Direct HFC and PFC Emissions from Use of Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Equipment







The Climate Leaders Greenhouse Gas Inventory Protocol is based on the Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHG Protocol) developed by the World Resources Institute (WRI) and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD). The GHG Protocol consists of corporate accounting and reporting standards and separate calculation tools. The Climate Leaders Greenhouse Gas Inventory Protocol is an effort by EPA to enhance the GHG Protocol to fit more precisely what is needed for Climate Leaders. The Climate Leaders Greenhouse Gas Protocol consists of the following components:

- Design Principles Guidance
- Core Modules Guidance
- Optional Modules Guidance

All changes and additions to the GHG Protocol made by Climate Leaders are summarized in the Climate Leaders Greenhouse Gas Inventory Protocol Design Principles Guidance.

For more information regarding the Climate Leaders Program, visit us on the Web at www.epa.gov/climateleaders.

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Introduction

istorically, air conditioning and refrigeration equipment utilized various Ozone Depleting Substances (ODSs), primarily chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs). However, in accordance with the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (Title VI) and the Montreal Protocol, these ODSs are being phased out of manufacture and use in the United States.

Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and, to a lesser extent, perfluorocarbons (PFCs) are used as substitutes for the regulated ODSs.

HFC emissions from the refrigeration and air conditioning sector result from the manufacturing process, from leakage and service over the operational life of the equipment, and from disposal at the end of the useful life of the equipment. These gases have 100-year global warming potentials (GWPs), which are 140 to 11,700 times that of carbon dioxide (CO₂), so their potential impact on

climate change can be significant (see examples in Table 1). By the same token, any reductions of these gases can have a large potential benefit.

This guidance document addresses HFC and PFC emissions from users of refrigeration and air conditioning equipment including household refrigeration, domestic air conditioning and heat pumps, mobile air conditioning, chillers, retail food refrigeration, cold storage warehouses, refrigerated transport, industrial process refrigeration, and commercial unitary air conditioning systems. This guidance document also addresses emissions from fixed and portable fire suppression equipment, which must also replace the use of ODSs, such as halon, with HFCs and PFCs. HFC and PFC emissions from aerosols, solvent cleaning, foam blowing, or other applications are not addressed by this protocol as emissions from these applications should be determined via mass balance methods.

| Table 1: Global Warming Potentials | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|--------|--|
| Common Name | Formula | Chemical Name | GWP* | |
| HFC-23 | CHF_3 | trifluoromethane | 11,700 | |
| HFC-32 | CH_2F_2 | difluoromethane | 650 | |
| HFC-125 | C_2HF_5 | pentafluoroethane | 2,800 | |
| HFC-134a | $C_2H_2F_4$ | 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane | 1,300 | |
| HFC-143a | $C_2H_3F_3$ | 1,1,1-trifluoroethane | 3,800 | |
| HFC-152a | $C_2H_4F_2$ | 1,1-difluoroethane | 140 | |
| HFC-227ea | C_3HF_7 | 1,1,1,2,3,3,3-heptafluoropropane | 2,900 | |
| HFC-236fa | $C_3H_2F_6$ | 1,1,1,3,3,3-hexafluoropropane | 6,300 | |
| PFC-116 | C_2F_6 | hexafluoroethane (perfluoroethane) | 9,200 | |
| PFC-14 | CF_4 | tetrafluoromethane (perfluromethane) | 6,500 | |
| PFC-410 | C_4F_{10} | perfluorobutane | 7,000 | |

^{*} Global Warming Potential from Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Second Assessment Report (1995). Climate Leaders use of the Second Assessment Report Global Warming Potential values is consistent with current international agreements.

1.1. Gases Included

Ozone depleting substances include a number of different compounds such as CFCs, HCFCs, and halons all of which have global warming potentials. As mentioned, these ODSs are being phased out of production due to their ozone depleting properties. However, some entities may still use these substances directly or in blends within refrigeration, air conditioning, or fire suppression equipment.

It is customary to exclude CFCs, HCFCs, and halons from greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories because they are regulated and are being phased out by the Clean Air Act. These substances are also excluded from GHG inventories because their global warming potentials are complicated by the fact that they deplete stratospheric ozone, which is a greenhouse gas. Climate Leaders allows for reporting of these ODSs as memo items on a Partner's GHG inventory. They are reported as total release of gases but no global warming potentials are applied and they do not contribute to a Partner's total CO₂-equivalent emissions inventory. Therefore, Partners that currently use ODSs and switch to HFCs or PFCs may show an increase in their overall GHG emissions inventory. Documenting the use of these ODSs will account for this increase. Climate Leaders considers shifts from any ODSs to HFCs and PFCs when evaluating a Partner's reduction goal if this switching is a significant source of emissions reductions.

1.2. Manufacturing vs. Use Phase Emissions

This document only applies to GHG emissions resulting from the use of refrigeration, air conditioning, and fire suppression equipment. HFCs and PFCs may be released from equipment leaks throughout their operating life or from catastrophic leaks. Also, when equipment is repaired or disposed of, HFCs and PFCs may be released if proper recovery processes are not used. Under the Climate Leaders reporting approach, Partners are only responsible for emissions that result at their own facilities. These emissions may take place during the installation, use, or disposal of HFC/PFC containing equipment. Partners are not responsible for emissions that occur during the manufacturing of equipment that arrives pre-charged to their facility or from the mishandling of HFCs or PFCs sent offsite for third party recycling, reclamation, or disposal. Guidance for estimating emissions from the manufacturing of refrigeration and air conditioning equipment is found in the Climate Leaders guidance for Direct HFC and PFC Emissions From Manufacturing Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Equipment.

Methods for Calculating Emissions

ost large companies will have emissions from refrigeration and air conditioning equipment in one form or another, however, the potential emissions sources and level of data available may differ greatly. For instance, a supermarket chain with large refrigeration systems may have on-site storage of refrigerants and track detailed data concerning refrigerant use while an industrial company may simply use air conditioning in its office space and not track detailed data on refrigerant use. Often companies whose core business does not include the use of this type of equipment exclude the associated GHG emissions from their corporate GHG inventory as not material. However, the materiality of a source can only be established after it has been assessed. This does not necessarily require a rigorous quantification of all sources, but at a minimum, an estimate based on available data should be developed for all sources of emissions.1

Three methods with varying levels of accuracy and data collection required are outlined in this guidance to estimate GHG emissions. All Climate Leaders Partners are required to estimate GHG emissions from HFC/PFC containing equipment such as refrigeration and air conditioning equipment with one of the following methods. Partners are required to include this estimate in their GHG emissions inventory submitted to EPA.

Section 2.1 describes a preliminary Screening Method to estimate emissions from refrigeration, air conditioning, and fire suppression equipment based on the type of equipment used and emission factors. This method requires the least actual data collection. If emissions from this equipment are determined to be significant when compared to a Partner's other emission sources (e.g., stationary combustion, mobile sources, etc.), then one of the other methods should be applied to better estimate emissions.

Section 2.2 describes a Material Balance Method of estimating HFC and PFC emissions from refrigeration and air conditioning equipment use. This method requires available data on the total inventory of refrigerants at the beginning and end of the reporting period, purchases during the reporting period, and changes in total equipment nameplate capacity. This material balance method can also be used to estimate emissions from fire suppression equipment.

Section 2.3 describes a Simplified Material Balance Method that is appropriate for entities that do not maintain and track a stock of refrigerants, and do not have any changes in their equipment capacity over the reporting period.

2.1. Screening Method

The screening method relies on the use of emission factors which are equipment specific. Therefore, this protocol provides two different screening methods, one for refrigeration and air conditioning equipment and a second for fire suppression equipment.

¹ See Chapter 1 of the Climate Leaders Design Principles for more on materiality and significance of emissions sources.

2.1.1 Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Equipment Screening

Under this approach, a Partner multiplies the amount of refrigerant in the equipment by an emission factor for the specific type of equipment and emission event. The disadvantage to using this approach is that emission factors are highly uncertain. Therefore, this method is proposed as a screening test only. Consequently, if a Partner determines that emissions from refrigeration and air conditioning equipment may be significant, it is recommended that one of the other methods then be used. Estimating emissions with the Screening Method requires the following steps:

Step 1: Perform an inventory of equipment.

Determine the number and types of refrigeration and air conditioning equipment (by equipment category, see Section 4.1) including the types of refrigerant used and the total charge capacity of each piece of equipment.

Step 2: Determine installation emissions.

Identify any new equipment that was installed during the reporting period and was charged on-site. Emissions from equipment that was charged at the manufacturer are not the responsibility of the reporting entity for equipment use (see Section 1.2). For each new piece of equipment use Equation 1 to estimate emissions:

Equation 1: Estimating Emissions from Installation

Emissions from Installation = $C_N \times (k/100)$

where:

- C_N = amount of refrigerant charged into the new piece of equipment
- k = assembly losses in percent of amount charged

Step 3: Determine operating emissions. This step estimates losses from equipment leaks and service losses over the life of the equipment. For all pieces of equipment, use Equation 2 to estimate emissions:

Equation 2: Estimating Emissions from Operation

Emissions from Operation = $C \times (x/100) \times T$

where:

- C = charge capacity of the piece of equipment
- x = annual leak rate in percent of capacity
- T = time in years used during the reporting period (e.g., 0.5 if used only during half of the reporting period and then disposed)
- **Step 4: Determine disposal emissions.** Identify any pieces of equipment that were disposed of during the reporting period. For each piece of disposed equipment, use Equation 3 to estimate emissions:

Equation 3: Estimating Emissions from Disposal

Emissions from Disposal = $C_D \times (y/100) \times (1 - z/100)$

where:

 C_D = charge capacity of the piece of equipment being disposed of

y = percent of the capacity remaining at disposal

z = percent of refrigerant recovered

Step 5: Calculate total emissions. Add the emissions from each piece of equipment for each type of emission, installation, operation, and disposal to get total emissions. Calculate separate totals for each type of refrigerant used.

Section 4.1 provides default emission factors and describes the different categories of equipment for which there are default factors.

2.1.2 Fire Suppression Equipment Screening

Fire suppression equipment can be divided into two broad categories, fixed and portable equipment. This Screening Method provides an emission factor for each type of equipment. Under this approach the Partner multiplies the capacity of the equipment by an emission factor for fixed or portable equipment. If a Partner determines that emissions from fire suppression equipment may be significant, it is recommended that one of the other methods then be

used. Estimating emissions with the Screening Method requires the following steps:

Step 1: Perform an inventory of equipment.

Determine the number and types of fire suppression equipment, by gas type, and the charge capacity of each piece of equipment.

Step 2: Calculate total emissions. Add the capacities of each portable unit for each gas and of each fixed unit for each gas and multiply the total capacity by the appropriate emission factor. Emissions from fixed systems are assumed to be 1.5 percent (0.015) of the total capacity of the units for each gas. Emissions from portable equipment are assumed to be 2 percent (0.02) of the total capacity of the units for each gas. The emission factors provided for this screening method are as provided in the *Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks*: 1990-2005.

2.2. Material Balance Method

The Material Balance Method tracks emissions of HFCs and PFCs from equipment through a mass balance analysis. Releases of HFCs and PFCs can be calculated based on the inventory (storage not equipment), purchases and sales of refrigerants as well as changes in total capacity of equipment during the emissions reporting period. The inventory should be tracked at the facility level by type of refrigerant. Equation 4 shows the basic principles involved in this approach.

Equation 4: Material Balance of Refrigerant

 $I_B + P + C_B = I_E + S + C_E + Emissions$

where:

 I_B = refrigerant in inventory (storage not equipment) at the beginning of reporting period

P = refrigerant purchased during the reporting period

C_B = total capacity of refrigerants in equipment at the beginning of the reporting period

 I_E = refrigerant in inventory (storage not equipment) at the end of reporting period

S = refrigerant sold or otherwise disposed of during the reporting period

 C_E = total capacity of refrigerants in equipment at the end of the reporting period

Equation 4 can be rewritten to more easily calculate emissions as shown in Equation 5.

Equation 5: Estimating Refrigerant Emissions with the Material Balance Method

Emissions = $I_B - I_E + P - S + C_B - C_E$

Equation 5 should be applied to each type of refrigerant used. Calculating emissions with the Material Balance Method requires the following steps for each type of refrigerant:

Step 1: Calculate the change in inventory. Subtract the inventory at the end of the

reporting period from the inventory at the beginning of the reporting period to calculate the change in inventory. The inventory of refrigerants is defined as the total stored on site in cylinders or other storage. This does not include refrigerants contained within equipment.

Step 2: Determine purchases and other acquisitions. Purchases and other acquisitions may include refrigerant: (a) purchased from producers or distributors, (b) provided by manufactures with or inside equipment, (c) added to equipment by contractors or other service personnel (but not if that refrigerant is from the Partner's inventory), and (d) returned after off-site recycling or reclamation.

Step 3: Determine sales and disbursements.

Sales and disbursements may include refrigerant: (a) in containers or left in equipment that is sold, (b) returned to suppliers, and (c) sent off-site for recycling, reclamation, or destruction.

Step 4: Calculate the change in capacity. The change in capacity is the net change to the total equipment volume for a given refrigerant during the reporting period. Note that "total capacity" refers to the full and proper charge of the equipment rather than the actual charge, which may reflect leakage. This term accounts for the fact that if new equipment is purchased, the refrigerant that is used to charge that new equipment should not be reflected in a Partners' inventory. Total capacity also accounts for leaks from equipment over its lifetime, or the difference between the full charge and the amount recovered from retired equipment.

If the beginning and ending total capacity values are not known, this factor can be calculated based on known changes in equipment. The total full charge of new equipment (including equipment retrofitted to use the refrigerant in question) minus the full charge of equipment that is retired or sold (including full charge of refrigerant in question from equipment that is retrofit to use a different refrigerant) also provides the change in total capacity.

Step 5: Calculate emissions. Once the previous four steps have been completed, GHG emissions may be quantified using Equation 5.

As mentioned, this approach should be done for each type of refrigerant and blend used. Section 4.2 describes in more detail the type of data that is used in determining emissions.

2.3. Simplified Material Balance Method

The Simplified Material Balance Method is a simplified version of the Material Balance Method described above. In the simplified method, there are less flows of refrigerant to consider. This method requires information on the quantity of refrigerant: (a) used to fill any new equipment installed during the reporting period, (b) used to service equipment, and (c) recovered from any equipment retired during the reporting period. It also requires information on the total full capacity of installed and retired equipment. This method can be summarized by Equation 6.

Equation 6: Estimating Refrigerant Emissions with the Simplified Material Balance Method

Emissions = $P_N - C_N + P_S + C_D - R_D$

where:

 P_N = purchases of refrigerant used to charge new equipment (omitted if the equipment has been pre-charged by the manufacturer)

 C_N = total full capacity of the new equipment (omitted if the equipment has been pre-charged by the manufacturer)

 P_S = quantity of refrigerant used to service equipment

C_D = total full capacity of retiring equipment

RD = refrigerant recovered from retiring equipment

The above equations should be applied to each type of refrigerant used. Calculating emissions with the Simplified Material Balance Method requires the following steps for each type of refrigerant:

Step 1: Calculate installation emissions. This step is only necessary if the reporting entity installed any new equipment during the reporting period that was not pre-charged by the equipment supplier. Emissions are calculated by taking the difference between the amount of refrigerant used to charge the equipment and the total capacity of the equipment. The difference is assumed to be released to the environment.

- **Step 2: Determine equipment servicing emissions.** Equipment servicing emissions result from the refrigerant that is used to service operating equipment. It is assumed that the servicing refrigerant is replacing the same amount that was lost to the environment.
- **Step 3: Calculate disposal emissions.** This step is only necessary if the Partner disposed of equipment during the reporting period. Emissions are calculated by taking the difference between the total capacity of the equip-
- ment disposed and the amount of refrigerant recovered. The difference is assumed to be released to the environment.
- **Step 4: Calculate emissions.** Emissions are calculated by summing the results of the first three steps.

This approach is used for each type of refrigerant and blend. Section 4.3 describes in more detail the type of data that is used in determining emissions.

Choice of Method

he Detailed Material Balance Method is recommended for Partners who maintain their own equipment. This method requires data from inventories, purchase and service records, and the full and proper charges of equipment. It includes emissions from equipment operation, servicing, and disposal.

The Simplified Material Balance Method is recommended for Partners who have contractors service their HFC/PFC containing equipment. This method tracks emissions from equipment operation, servicing, and disposal. The method requires data on the quantity of refrigerant:

(a) used to fill new equipment during installation, (b) used to service equipment, and

(c) recovered from retiring equipment, as well as the full and proper charges of new and retiring equipment. If notified in advance of the need for this information, the contractor should be able to provide it.

It is recommended that the Screening Method be used only as a screening tool because the emissions factors used in the approach are highly uncertain. Emission factors vary between individual pieces of equipment and over time. Even if the amount of refrigerant added to a piece of equipment has been tracked carefully, permitting the previous leak rate of that equipment to be established, that leak rate can change after a leak is repaired or as the equipment ages.

Choice of Activity Data and Emission Factors

equired data for all emission estimation methods can come from inventory records, purchase records, repair reports, service records, and disposal records. Some equipment will use mixtures or blends, such as R-507A. Care should be taken to account for the GHG emissions from the individual HFCs or PFCs within the blend.

Manufacturer information or information from the EPA Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) Program² should be used to identify the HFC/PFC components in the blend.

4.1. Screening Method

The Screening Method requires Partners to determine the following information:

- Type of Equipment
- Number of Units
- Refrigerant Used
- Total Refrigerant Charge for the Equipment (lb.)

For refrigeration and air conditioning equipment, the additional information is required:

- Assembly Emission Factor (%)
- Annual Leakage Rate (%)
- Percent of Capacity Remaining at Disposal (%)
- Recovery (%)

The Screening Method is based on the Tier 2 approach from the 2006 Intergovernmental

Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories.

The IPCC guidelines also includes a table of emission factors for the different phases of the equipment's life by equipment type. The IPCC table provides ranges of values for the different emission factors. However, since this method is intended as a screening approach under Climate Leaders it is recommended that the worst case scenario of the ranges be used. For emission factors use the high range of factors, and for recovery percents and percent of capacity remaining at disposal use the typical values provided by IPCC. These values are provided in Table 2. The ranges in capacity are provided for reference, Partners should use the actual capacity of their equipment.

4.2. Material Balance Method

The recommended approach for Partners who maintain their own HFC/PFC containing equipment is to estimate emissions based on the Material Balance Method. This method requires data that should be available from purchase and service records. The Material Balance Method requires Partners to collect the following data:

- Refrigerant inventory (in storage, not equipment) at beginning of year
- Refrigerant inventory (in storage, not equipment) at end of year
- Refrigerant purchased from producers or distributors in bulk

2 www.epa.gov/ozone/snap/refrigerants/refblend.html

Table 2: Default Emission Factors for Refrigeration/Air Conditioning Equipment

| Type of Equipment | Capacity | Installation Emission Factor | Operating Emissions | Refrigerant Remaining at Disposal | Recovery Efficiency |
|---|-----------|---------------------------------|------------------------|---|------------------------|
| | | k | X | y | Z |
| | (kg) | (% of capacity) (% | of capacity/yr.) | (% of capacity) (| % of remaining) |
| Domestic Refrigeration | 0.05-0.5 | 1 | 0.5 | 80 | 70 |
| Stand-alone Commercial Applications | 0.2–6 | 3 | 15 | 80 | 70 |
| Medium & Large Commercial Refrigeration | 50-2,000 | 3 | 35 | 100 | 70 |
| Transport Refrigeration | 3–8 | 1 | 50 | 50 | 70 |
| Industrial Refrigeration including Food Processing and Cold Storage | 10–10,000 | 3 | 25 | 100 | 90 |
| Chillers | 10-2,000 | 1 | 15 | 100 | 95 |
| Residential and Commercial A/C including Heat Pumps | 0.5–100 | 1 | 10 | 80 | 80 |
| Mobile Air Conditioning | 0.5-1.5 | 0.5 | 20 | 50 | 50 |

Source: 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories

- Refrigerant provided by manufacturers with or inside of equipment
- Refrigerant added to equipment by contractors
- Refrigerant returned after off-site recycling or reclamation
- Sales of bulk refrigerant to other entities
- Refrigerant left in equipment that is sold to other entities
- Refrigerant returned to suppliers
- Refrigerant sent off-site for recycling or reclamation

- Refrigerant sent off-site for destruction
- Refrigerant capacity at beginning of year (in equipment, not storage)
- Refrigerant capacity at end of year (in equipment, not storage)

If beginning and ending capacity values are not known then the following information can be used:

- Total full capacity of new equipment using this refrigerant
- Total full capacity of equipment that is retrofitted to use this refrigerant

- Total full capacity of retiring or sold equipment that used this refrigerant
- Total full capacity of equipment that is retrofitted away from this refrigerant to a different refrigerant

Note: "Total full capacity" refers to the full and proper capacity of the equipment rather than to the actual charge, which may reflect leakage.

4.3. Simplified Material Balance Method

The Simplified Material Balance Method is the recommended approach for equipment users who have contractors service their equipment. If notified in advance of the need for this information, the contractor should be able to provide it. This method requires Partners to collect the following data:

- Refrigerant used to fill new equipment
- Refrigerant used to fill equipment retrofitted to use this refrigerant

- Total full capacity of new equipment using this refrigerant
- Total full capacity of equipment that is retrofitted to use this refrigerant
- Refrigerant used to service equipment
- Total full capacity of retiring equipment
- Total full capacity of equipment that is retrofitted away from this refrigerant to a different refrigerant
- Refrigerant recovered from retiring equipment
- Refrigerant recovered from equipment that is retrofitted away from this refrigerant to a different refrigerant

Note: "Total full capacity" refers to the full and proper capacity of the equipment rather than to the actual charge, which may reflect leakage.

Completeness

n order for a Partner's GHG corporate inventory to be complete, it must include all emission sources within the company's inventory boundaries. See Chapter 3 of the *Climate Leaders Design Principles* for detailed guidance on setting operational boundaries of the corporate inventory.

On an organizational level, a Partner's inventory should include emissions from all applicable facilities or fleets of vehicles. Completeness of corporate wide emissions can be checked by comparing the list of sources included in the GHG emissions inventory with those included in other emission's inventories, environmental reporting, financial reporting, etc.

At the operational level, a Partner should include all GHG emissions from the sources included in their corporate inventory. Possible GHG emission sources are stationary fuel combustion, combustion of fuels in mobile sources, purchases of electricity, HFC and PFC emissions from air conditioning equipment and process or fugitive related emissions. Partners should refer to this guidance document for calculating GHG emissions from air conditioning and refrigeration equipment, as well as fire suppression equipment, and to the Climate Leaders Core Guidance documents for calculating emissions from other sources.

When calculating emissions from this equipment use, Partners should include all applicable sources of refrigerant emissions. If a third party is used for any component of refrigerant tracking, the third party should provide any necessary information. For the Screening Method, all pieces of equipment of all different types need to be accounted for. For the Mass Balance Methods, all activities and different types of refrigerants or blends should be tracked.

As described in Chapter 1 of the *Climate*Leaders Design Principles there is no materiality threshold set for reporting emissions. The materiality of a source can only be established after it has been assessed. This does not necessarily require a rigorous quantification of all sources, but at a minimum, an estimate based on available data should be developed for all sources.

The inventory should also accurately reflect the timeframe of the report. In the case of Climate Leaders, the emissions inventory is reported annually and should represent a full year of emissions data.

Uncertainty Assessment

here is uncertainty associated with all methods of calculating GHG emissions. As outlined in Chapter 9 of the *Climate Leaders Design Principles*, Climate Leaders does not recommend Partners quantify uncertainty as +/- % of emissions estimates or in terms of data quality indicators. The effort spent to perform such analysis would be better spent pursuing high quality inventory data.

It is recommended that Partners identify the areas of uncertainty in their emissions estimates and make an attempt to use the most accurate data possible. As mentioned, the emission factor approach to estimating emissions is highly uncertain. Factors vary between individual pieces of equipment and over time.

Even if the amount of refrigerant added to a particular piece of equipment has been tracked carefully, permitting the previous leak rate of that equipment to be established, that leak rate can change after the leak is repaired or as the equipment ages.

The major uncertainty introduced in the material balance approaches occurs with recently installed equipment. Equipment can leak for two or more years before needing a recharge, so emissions over this period are not detected until after they occur. Despite this minor drawback, the material balance approaches provide a highly accurate estimate of emissions from this sector.

Reporting and Documentation

artners are required to complete the Climate Leaders *Reporting Requirements* and report annual corporate level emissions. In order to ensure that estimates are transparent and verifiable, the documentation sources listed in Table 3 should be maintained.

These documentation sources should be collected to ensure the accuracy and transparency of the related emissions data, and should also be reported in the Partner's Inventory Management Plan (IMP).

| Table 3: Documentation Sources | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| Data | Documentation Source | | |
| Inventory at Beginning and End of Year | Stock Inventory documentation | | |
| Purchases | Purchase receipts; delivery receipts; contract purchase or firm purchase records | | |
| Nameplate Capacity of Equipment | Delivery receipts of equipment; records of physical inspection of nameplates; shipping or disposal records of equipment | | |
| Amounts Charged to Equipment | Repair records; repair invoices; daily reports | | |
| Amounts Recovered from Equipment | Repair records; repair invoices; daily reports; disposal records | | |

Inventory Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC)

hapter 7 of the *Climate Leader Design*Principles provides general guidelines for implementing a QA/QC process for all emission estimates. For the use of refrigeration and air conditioning equipment the following items must be addressed:

- Care should be taken that releases are not double-counted (e.g., from reporting both refrigerant blend and individual blend component use).
- Verify that your inventory is complete.

 Because the GWP of HFCs and PFCs are so large (particularly when compared to carbon dioxide and methane), failure to account for even relatively small releases of HFCs and PFCs can make a big difference when the releases are converted to a CO₂-Equivalent basis. Also, tracking specific HFCs and PFCs separately is important, because of the differing GWPs, and the frequent use of refrigerant blends.



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