

# F-GAS REGULATIONS



**How might they  
affect your business?**

*Independent  
Heating  
&  
Cooling*



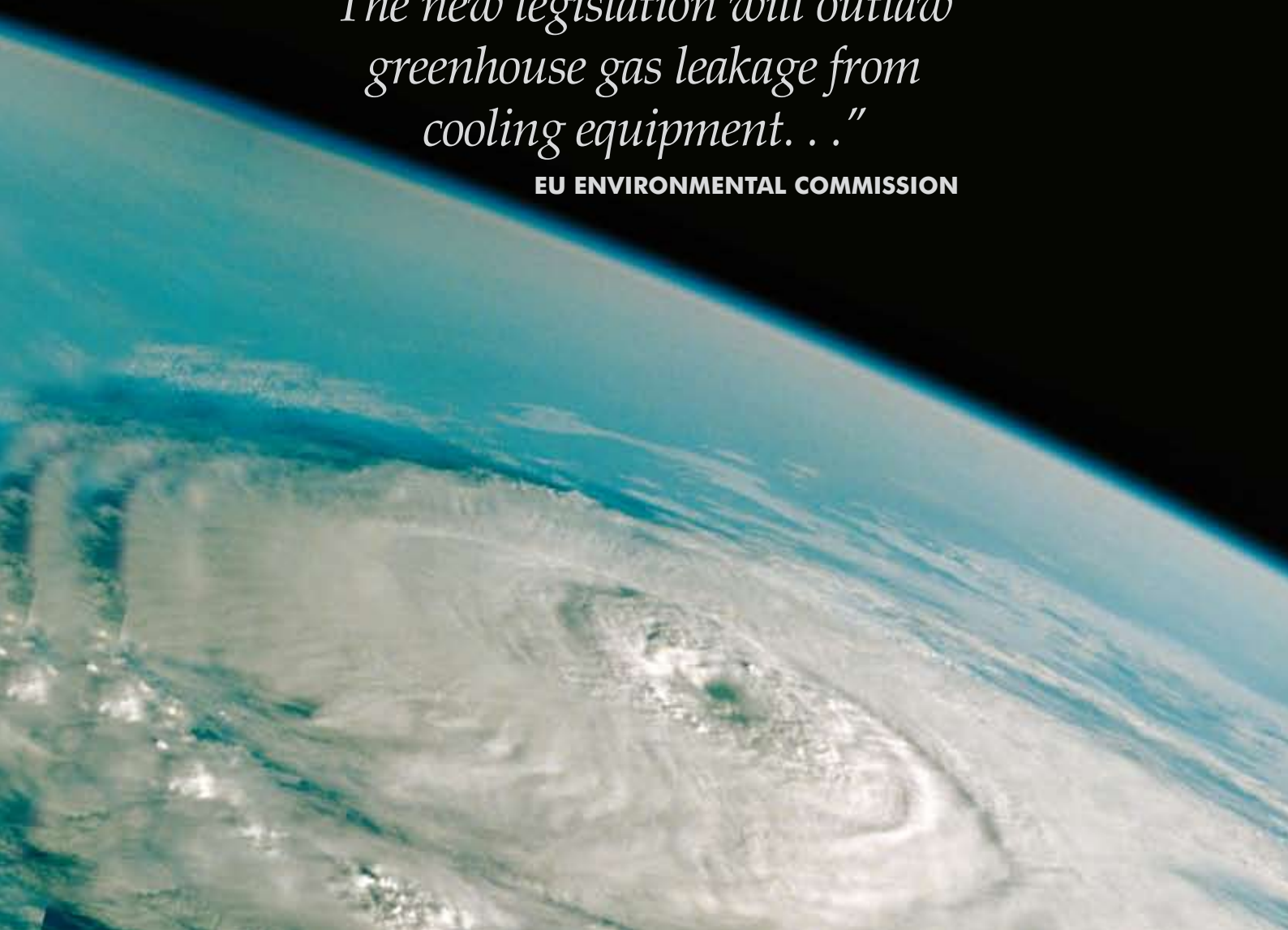
## **CLIMATE CHANGE – GREEN – ENVIRONMENTALLY AWARE**

All terms which we hear and read of every day, whilst continuing with our usual lifestyle pretty much unchanged except for a few minor amendments like trying to recycle, and becoming more resistant to unnecessary packaging.

But governmental regulations and agreements such as Kyoto are beginning to bite and *will* change the way we operate – a process that will become more familiar over the next few years – and the first place we are seeing these changes is in the commercial and industrial sector.

*“Some fluorine gases have a greenhouse effect thousands of times greater than CO<sub>2</sub>. The new legislation will outlaw greenhouse gas leakage from cooling equipment. . .”*

**EU ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**






The European F-GAS Regulations state that new controls are being introduced relating to the use of hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs). This affects the maintenance and repair of air conditioning systems containing HCFCs. As a guide, any unit manufactured prior to 1 January 2004 should be monitored as there will be a ban on the use of virgin HCFCs from 1 January 2010.

In simple terms, if your existing system utilises HCFCs you may continue to use them for the time being. However, after 1 January 2010 engineers will be unable to top-up any refrigerant leaks or replace major components in the refrigerant circuit such as compressors.

The weight of the responsibility for F-Gas Regulation will

fall on you, the end user. You will have the legal obligation to ensure that refrigerant does not leak and is recovered properly during servicing and replacement of cooling systems. You will also have a clear duty of care to closely monitor all equipment on your premises that uses more than 3kg of refrigerant (approx 5kw output).

This is where Independent Heating and Cooling can help. We will ensure all refrigeration and air conditioning plant is properly monitored and maintained on a regular basis, and a log kept of quantity and type of refrigerant involved. As part of our continued improvement of customer services we are already able to offer this service with all of our engineers qualified to the necessary grades.



*This is an important shift in emphasis with F-Gas Regulation. The responsibility for maintaining all of the paperwork to prove due diligence is with the building or facilities manager – not the contractor as with previous regulations.*

**ALTHOUGH THE ENGINEER MUST BE DULY QUALIFIED, THE ONUS IS ON THE BUILDING OWNER (OR AGENT) TO PROVE COMPLIANCE.**

The F-Gas Regulations are too lengthy to detail here, but we would be happy to expand on them with regard to your own installation. In most cases, there is no need for you to take action at present – but as a responsible manager it is in your interest to be aware of the regulations and how they may affect your planning

decisions regarding air conditioning or heating for the future. As specialists in this field we are able to assess your needs and suggest some useful strategies for forward planning.

Please feel free to contact our technical department for a free, no obligation consultation.

*Whatever the problem – we have the solution*

**Independent  
Heating  
&  
Cooling**

Telephone: 01323 449000

Unit 10 Apex Park, Hailsham, East Sussex BN27 3JU

Fax: 01323 440099

Email: [sales@hotice.co.uk](mailto:sales@hotice.co.uk)

Web: [www.hotice.co.uk](http://www.hotice.co.uk)