

## Refrigerants Gain Job Site Attention

By: Peter Powell

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So what can you do with natural refrigerants and where can you do it? That formed the basis of case studies presented at the second Atmosphere America Natural Refrigerants Conference in Washington, D.C.

The summer event came amidst a tightening regulatory landscape especially in Europe with regards to the familiar f-gas synthetic refrigerants. But for this conference, the current drive for naturals comes, first, in showing that they can work in refrigeration applications most commonly cooled by f-gases such as HCFCs and HFCs; and, second, that the natural option can be less costly.

It was in those contexts that many case histories were offered (.....)

### Conquering HC Barriers

Douglas Schmidt, North American sales manager, commercial products, [Embraco North America](#), led a presentation focused on conquering the barriers of HC technology.” Schmidt put his presentation in the context of a sense of urgency. “World climate changes mean urgent actions are mandatory, yet the international community is still far from a global agreement about emission reduction. There are good intentions but not any specific actions for f-gas regulations.”

Meanwhile, some of the technology barriers for HCs involve training, which he said is improving the initial investment which may require governmental incentives, and the current EPA SNAP 150-gram limit. He cited chest freezers, vertical freezers, ice machines, and glass door merchandisers.

“We have achieved some great progress so far, but more action is required to move the market. With 150-gram propane charges, it is possible to cover most unitary, plug-in applications. The two circuit solution can provide additional gains in terms of cabinet efficiency.”

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