



BRITISH REFRIGERATION ASSOCIATION - a FETA association

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BRA REFRIGERATION END USERS SECTION
HELD ON 16th NOVEMBER 2023
COMMENCING AT 10:30am (hybrid meeting)

Issued:

PRESENT

Paul Arrowsmith	Chair	Sainsburys (online)
Neil Roberts		Climalife (online)
Ian Dickinson		The Co-operative Group (online)
John Skelton		M&S (online)
James Ashford		Tesco
Chris Yates		FETA
Martyn Cooper		FETA

GUEST

Steve Benton	Cool Concerns (online)
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1 Welcome and Apologies

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting.

2 FETA Competition Law Guidelines

FETA Competition Law Guidelines were highlighted to attendees. These are available in the meeting room and at www.feta.co.uk/members/events-and-meetings/schedule-of-all-feta-meetings. Under the new circumstances, accepting the Outlook meeting notice was taken as acknowledgement of the guideline's existence.

3 Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd March 2022

These were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

Chris Yates noted that the FETA IAQ group had been relaunched.

Neil Roberts noted that the new FETA website had been launched and requested that members review any BRA documents.

4 Updates

4.1 F Gas Review 2023

The Secretary advised that, following an extended trialogue process, the EU had reached agreement on their F Gas review. This has to go through some formalities, but the likely implementation date is now 1st April.

CY/MC met with DEFRA at the beginning of November. They expect to issue their consultation just after Christmas, with a view to getting legislation in front of parliament before the summer recess. Target for implementation remains 1st January 2025. As regards the quota, there seemed to be some assumptions being made on the amount of reclaim material that will be in the market. We are seeking clarification on this point.

CY noted that we have set up a small F Gas strategy group, to look at lobbying activities ahead of the UK proposal. A briefing document has been written, together with an e mail for MP's. We plan to arrange meetings with MP's during Q1 2024 [see attached documents]

We have also been in touch with the Association of Convenience Stores on F Gas. They advised their members are now raising concerns over this. We will be maintaining this contact [they were invited to this meeting but were unable to make it]

We are maintaining our contact with the F Gas lead at the Climate Change Committee. They were keen to know how our discussions with DEFRA go.

4.2 PFAS

The Secretary updated members on this issue.

DEFRA have issued a policy paper regarding PFAS for comments. The F Gas section is very balanced. We will continue to work with the stakeholder forum on this subject.

4.3 PE(S)R

There was a detailed discussion on this topic, with much useful information supplied by Steve Benton. There are two useful HSE documents – GS4 and L122 [copies attached with minutes] SB noted that this is a straightforward subject, but it will require further discussion.

5 FETA Website

With the new website now launched, Neil Roberts asked that all members review BRA documents for relevance and accuracy.

ACTION: All

6 Discussion on CO₂ matters with Steve Benton

SB gave an overview on his experiences with CO₂ and CO₂ training. He noted that training is widely available, but that competency issues will increase with wider use of non-F Gases. CO₂ systems are different (high pressures) but are widely understood across the retail sector. This knowledge is spreading with the installation of smaller systems. He noted that an understanding of first principles is key.

John Skelton felt that it was important to get CO₂ systems as near to HFC systems as possible. There needed to be better training.

There was some discussion on practical limits for CO₂ and the need for appropriate leak detection at ground level.

7 Suggestions for future speakers

It was suggested that we ask the TICR team to present to the group.

ACTION: Secretary

8 Any other business

Embodied Carbon is a subject we need to add to future agendas.

ACTION: Secretary

9 Meeting dates for 2024

21st March, 7th November

Chair.....

Date.....