



CoolNews

Monthly periodical for the European contractors society working in the Refrigeration, Air-Conditioning and Heat pump sector

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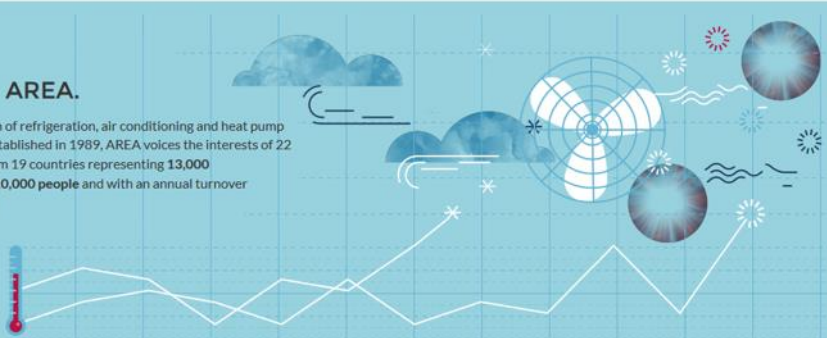
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Welcome to AREA.

the European association of refrigeration, air conditioning and heat pump (RACHP) contractors. Established in 1989, AREA voices the interests of 22 national associations from 19 countries representing **13,000** companies employing **110,000** people and with an annual turnover approaching **€ 23 billion**.

[Learn more](#)



LATEST NEWS



AREA expands its international dimension
13 JUN 2016



AREA guide on equipment for flammable refrigerants available in Italian
24 MAY 2016



Per Jonasson re-elected President of AREA
18 MAY 2016



Turkey joins AREA
17 MAY 2016



2015 ANNUAL REPORT

THE EUROPEAN VOICE of refrigeration air conditioning & heat pumps contractors



May 2016



The Union of European Air-Conditioning, Refrigeration and Heat Pump Contractors

EQUIPMENT FOR REFRIGERANTS WITH LOWER (A2L) AND HIGHER (A3) FLAMMABILITY

VERSION 1.0 APRIL 2016

AREA (European Association of Refrigeration, Air-Conditioning and Heat Pump Contractors) is the European organisation of air conditioning, refrigeration and heat pump contractors. Established in 1989, AREA represents the interests of 22 national associations from 19 European countries, representing about 13,000 companies, 110,000 people and an annual turnover of € 23 billion. AREA's main objective is to represent the interests of its members and to promote the development of the sector.

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AREA AFFAIRS

AREA speaks at IRI Seminar



AREA Past President and TF Fgas Chairman Graeme Fox and Secretary General Olivier Janin spoke at a seminar of the Institute of Refrigeration Ireland. Mr. Fox presented the implementation and application of the Fgas Regulation whilst Mr. Janin explained how the EU works and what the role and activities of AREA are.

The IRI Seminar took place on Thursday, 12th May, the day before the AREA General Assembly spring meeting started. The event was organised in Dublin by the IRI.



Per Jonasson re-elected President of AREA

On 14th May 2016, Per Jonasson was re-elected President of AREA for 2 years on the occasion of the AREA General Assembly spring meeting in Dublin. The AREA Board remains relatively stable with only one person change.

21 out of 23 members gathered in Dublin on the occasion of AREA spring General Assembly meeting hosted by the Institute of Refrigeration Ireland. Per Jonasson was unanimously given another two-year mandate and Coen van de Sande (NVKL, the Netherlands) was nominated Vice-President. Wolfgang Zaremski (VDKF, Germany) took the position of Treasurer.

Marco Buoni (ATF, Italy), who is representing AREA at many events and meetings worldwide, was given the title of Vice-President International Affairs. This decision reflects the key position of Mr. Buoni, who has notably played an important role in deepening the cooperation with UNEP.

Stig Rath (VKE, Norway) joined the Board as Director in replacement of Peter Bachmann (BIV, Germany) who left after 6 years. Members expressed their thanks to Peter, who contributed to AREA's work and value, especially by strengthening the collaboration with Chillventa. Stig has been involved in AREA for several years and currently chairs the Task Force Skills.



Photo (left to right):
Marco Buoni, Wolfgang Zaremski, Per Jonasson, Coen van de Sande, Graeme Fox and Stig Rath

SOSIAD officially joins AREA

AREA is proud to announce that [SOSIAD](#), the Turkish Association of Refrigeration Industry and Businessmen, joined AREA on 14th May 2016 on the occasion of the AREA General Assembly spring meeting in Dublin. AREA now counts 23 members in 20 countries.

Created in 2005, SOSIAD is a national association serving the refrigeration sector that represents RAC contractors, wholesalers and manufacturers. Among its activities, SOSIAD organises training programmes with its industry partners, develops and adapts new standards and offers consulting services. Its primary aim is to establish a robust, progressive and innovative base for the Turkish refrigeration industry in a sustainable economy, ensuring compliance with national and international standards and regulations, in cooperation with national and international refrigeration societies.



Photo (left to right): Kadis Isa (SOSIAD), Per Jonasson (AREA) and Kivanc Aslantas (SOSIAD)

AREA spring General Assembly meeting

AREA spring general assembly meeting took place on 13-14 May 2016 in Dublin. The event was kindly organised by the Institute of Refrigeration Ireland. That general assembly meeting was quite eventful. In addition to the election of a new Board and the welcome of a new member (SOSIAD), several important decisions were made.

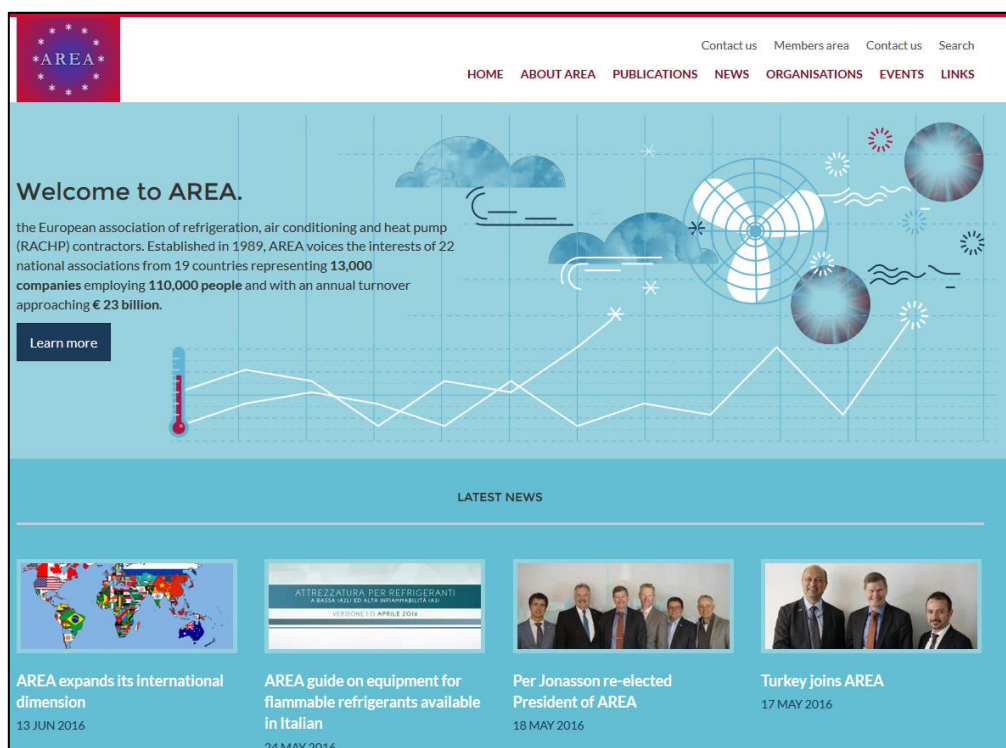
First, AREA unanimously adopted a new membership fee calculation method. The new method addresses the substantial differences in fee levels observed so far whilst “upgrading” the status of all current associate members to effective members. This will not only provide a solid financial basis for the future of AREA but also make AREA more “representative” as all its members are now able to vote and be elected in the Board.

Second, in view of its increased international activities and the links AREA is building with a number of RAC associations worldwide, it was felt sensible to open membership to non-European associations representing installers and contractors with an observer status. This will also address a need to increase competence in developing countries, where UNEP is supporting the creation and financing of national associations. A new category of membership – international observers – was therefore created.

Consequently, AREA statutes were amended to reflect these various changes, notably on the different types of membership: deletion of intermediate members, limitation of associate membership to sectors related to RACHP contractors and introduction of a new category, international observers. It was also specified that associate members and international observers do not have voting rights.

AREA has a new website

AREA new website went online a few weeks ago. More modern and with a fresh layout, it also shows better AREA’s news and work, notably the publications. Some more work is needed to correct some small problems but it should be fully operational in the coming weeks.



BREXIT: no immediate impact on AREA

On 23rd June, 52% of British voters decided that the UK should withdraw from the European Union. Without entering into a discussion on the actual content of the decision, it must be pointed out that there is no impact on AREA and more particularly as far as the presence of our two British members is concerned.

Indeed, Article 4 of AREA statutes provide that *“Effective Members are national associations (...) established in Europe and validly representing the profession”* and that *“International observers are legally established national or regional organisations representing installers and contractors and located outside Europe.”*

The statutes refer to Europe from a geographical point of view and not to the EU. This is shown by the fact that Norway and Turkey are effective members of AREA although neither country belongs to the EU.

Consequently, the UK leaving the EU will not have an impact on the status of AREA's two British members BESA and FETA. You will note that both associations have also indicated that their commitment to AREA remains intact.

REFRIGERATION, AIR-CONDITIONING & HEAT PUMP NEWS

LEGISLATION

Fgas – latest updates

The Fgas Task Force met on 13th May in Dublin. The logbook template was adopted and will be put forward to the European Commission. As far as supply of refrigerants is concerned, it was decided that AREA would work on a best practice document for distributors. Finally, AREA will update its Fgas guide by Chillventa.

As regards refrigerants prices, the study carried out by Ray Gluckman has been transferred to Öko-Recherche. AREA should have access to simplified versions of the quarterly reports that Öko-Recherche will provide to the European Commission.

[Implementing Regulation 2016/879](#) establishing detailed arrangements relating to the declaration of conformity when placing refrigeration, air conditioning and heat pump equipment charged with hydrofluorocarbons on the market and its verification by an independent auditor, has been published in the EU Official Journal.

The Regulation will enter into force on 22nd June 2016 so that:

- Article 1 (DoC) and article 2 (documentation) can apply from 1st January 2017
- Article 3 (verification) and article 4 (submission of verification documents) can apply from 1st January 2018

The European Commission is working on the development of the IT system to enable the pooling system. This work should be completed before the summer and be followed with an update of the [guidance document for importers of pre-charged equipment](#).

UNEP project on training materials

Mr. Buoni presented AREA members with the proposal from UNEP on a project to develop training materials on alternative refrigerants. Funding would be made available to cover the cost. Members considered that relevant TFs should work on the content of the agreement with UNEP. The GA gave the Board a mandate to negotiate with UNEP on the agreement (including the financial part) itself.

EPBD review

The European Commission proposal to review the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive is expected in the first half of October 2016.

In the context of the review process, the European commission carried out a public consultation. The EPBD is assessed as a good framework for improving energy performance in buildings, especially new buildings, and raising awareness. However, the renovation rate is too low and measures are needed to address this. The recast EPBD is likely to tackle the air quality aspect in including indoor climate rules. However, they would only apply to new building mainly and major renovations projects. The role of contractors has also been underlined a few times during the public consultation regarding the installation of efficient equipment, consumer awareness and certification.

Renewable Energy Sources Directive review

In the context of the review of the Renewable Energy Directive, the European Commission carried out a public consultation on the future of the renewables after 2020. As [main results](#), stakeholders unanimously agreed that there are needs for:

- a stable and predictable EU legal framework for renewables;
- defining complementary measures to ensure at least the achievement of the 27% target by 2030;
- developing a market fit for renewables;
- and additional EU action for empowering energy consumers and local authorities.

Stakeholders called on removing barriers hampering the deployment of renewable heating and cooling, which are the lack of energy strategies at the national and local levels, the lack of targeted financial resources and financing instruments and the lack of electricity market design supporting demand response. A number of measures have been identified to support a broader deployment of renewable heating and cooling, such as

- enhancing decentralised energy and self-consumption and thermal storage in buildings and district systems;
- setting mandatory minimum use of renewable energy in nearly zero-energy buildings;
- better aligning the national measures to implement relevant European directives (i.e. the Energy Efficiency Directive, the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive and the Renewable Energy Directive).

In the field of training and certification, mutual recognition of certifications between Member States has been identified as the key priority by 83% of stakeholders.

The Commission proposal for a revised Renewable Energy Directive is expected by the end of 2016.

Ecodesign

The publication of the long awaited Ecodesign Working Plan 2015-2017 is postponed to first half of October 2016 together with proposals to review the Energy Performance of Buildings and Energy Efficiency Directives. As a reminder, the draft working plan included refrigerated containers.

Review of the Energy labelling Directive

European Parliament members of the [Industry, Research & Energy \(ITRE\)](#) Committee voted on the review of the Energy Label Framework mid-June 2016.

Before the vote, MEPs tabled around 700 amendments. MEPs held many negotiations meetings and worked on compromise amendments to facilitate the vote. As a main result, MEPs adopted almost compromises reached before the vote, but MEPs did not trust the Rapporteur: [MEP Tamburrano](#) (Italian, EFDD Group). Indeed, the Rapporteur failed to obtain the green light to negotiate with the Council. Therefore, [the ITRE report](#) will be voted in the Parliament [plenary session](#) on 5 July. Negotiations with the Council are likely to start after the summer break.

In line with the Council views and the Commission proposal, MEPs agreed to go back to the A-G scale that necessarily implies a rescaling of existing labels. MEPs agreed that all labels should be revised within 5 years with 2 exceptions: 6 years for space and water heaters and within 21 months for consumer products, such as dishwashers, refrigerators, and lamps. Once revised, they should remain valid for 10 years.

In addition, MEPs backed up the Commission proposal to set a database with both public and market surveillance interfaces, despite opposition of EPP MEPs (Christian Democrats). The Council also supported such a database. Equipment manufacturers raised strong concerns: while market surveillance need to be improved, the database is likely to result in additional burden in terms of costs and human resources. MEPs

Review of the Energy Efficiency Directive

As regards the implementation of the current Energy Efficiency Directive, the European Parliament adopted a [resolution](#) in June 2016 urging Member States to fully and rapidly implement the EED. Provisions. The poor implementation of the Directive is hindering its full potential according to the Commission report. In addition, the European Parliament restated its call for a 40% binding energy efficiency target by 2030 instead of the current 27% target.

In order to increase the renovation of the existing residential building, the European Parliament calls on Member States to implement tax schemes and loan as well as reward as the uptake of energy-efficient heating and cooling. In addition, the European Parliament calls to set aside the necessary resources for training of installers, so as to ensure a high level of quality in renovations.

The European Commission published a [study](#) on "Energy Efficiency in Enterprises: Energy Audits and Energy Management systems". It aims to provide guidance to Member States authorities to implement Article 8 of the EED, notably the establishment of transparent and non-discriminatory national minimum criteria for energy audits

BRIEF NEWS

Study on the heating & cooling sector in Europe

Further to its Communication '[An EU Heating & Cooling Strategy](#)' of February 2016, the European Commission (DG Energy) launched a study: 'Mapping and analyses of the current and future (2020 - 2030) heating/cooling deployment powered by fossil & renewables energies'. It aims to provide the current picture of the EU heating and cooling sector as well as possible future trajectories until 2020 and 2030.

The first results provided some interesting findings & figures:

- the final energy for heating and cooling represents 51% of the total final energy consumption at European level;
- space heating is the most relevant end-use with a share of 52% (and 30% for process heating), while cooling uses represent only 5% of energy consumption (space cooling & process cooling);
- two third of final energy for heating and cooling is supplied by fossil fuels and 14% by renewable energy sources; cooling is almost predominantly generated by electricity.

BUILD UP skills campaign

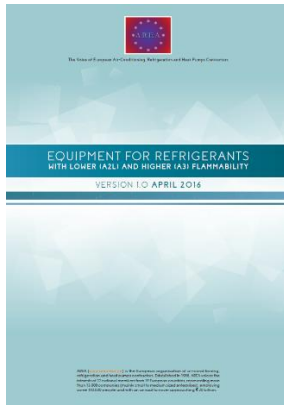
The Commission will also extend the work of the BUILD UP skills campaign to improve training for building professionals, in particular through a new module for energy experts and architects.

In parallel, the [Cyprus Energy Agency](#) launched a project called "[BUILD-UP Skills We Qualify](#)". The objective is to train 4,500 workers in the field of energy efficient building technology. The overall objective is to boost the construction of low energy consumption building and buildings renovation.

PUBLICATIONS



AREA has published its [2015 Annual Report](#). Hard copies were distributed at the last spring general assembly meeting.



AREA has published a [guide on equipment for low GWP flammable refrigerants](#). This guide gives service technicians a tool to understand the equipment that should be used to service refrigeration plants containing flammable low GWP refrigerants in category A2L (lower flammability) or A3 (higher flammability).

It is available in English, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish and Turkish. Other linguistic versions are under preparation.

EVENTS

AREA speaks at ATMOsphere 2016

AREA Vice-President Marco Buoni spoke at the ATMOsphere Europe conference held on 19-20 April in Barcelona. Mr. Buoni addressed the topic of training on low GWP refrigerants.



Workshop on Assessment of Global Training Programs

UNEP held an International Stakeholder workshop on assessment of the global training programs in the refrigeration servicing sector on 11-12 April 2016 in Paris. AREA Vice-President Marco Buoni gave two presentations:

- Present scenario in refrigeration and air conditioning capacity building in Europe, classroom training and REAL Alternatives, gaps
- Projects for training in developed and developing countries on alternative technologies - AREA perspectives and guidelines



Joint Network and Thematic Meetings of the ODS Officers of Africa and West Asia



UNEP OzonAction and the Ministry of Environment, Water and Climate of the Republic of Zimbabwe organised the joint meeting of Ozone Officers' Network for Africa and West Asia on 17-23 March 2016 in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. The meeting took place at a critical time in the life of the Montreal Protocol when countries are striving to meet their commitments of phasing out hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) while addressing technological challenges related to different consuming sectors and trying to maximise the climate benefits by leapfrogging to energy efficient, low-GWP alternatives and technologies where feasible.

AREA Vice-President Marco Buoni took part and gave a presentation on training & certification schemes for servicing technicians.

This newsletter is reserved to AREA members

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