

**Results of report on amount of fluorocarbons destroyed pursuant to the Law for
Ensuring the Implementation of Recovery and Destruction of Fluorocarbons
concerning Specified Products in FY 2005
(Joint press release with the Ministry of the Environment)**

Press Release

June 30, 2006

Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

- The amount of fluorocarbons destroyed in FY 2005 has recently been reported by fluorocarbon destruction operators in accordance with the “Law for ensuring the Implementation of Recovery and Destruction of Fluorocarbons concerning Specified Products” (hereinafter referred to as “the Law”).
- The reports indicate that the amount of fluorocarbons destroyed in FY 2005 was about 2,788 tons, down 6% from FY 2004.
- The revision of the Law was approved by the Diet during the current session, to further enforce the recovery of fluorocarbons. METI will promote the recovery and destruction of fluorocarbons through the smooth implementation of the revised law.

1. Aggregated amount destroyed, etc.

The amount of fluorocarbons destroyed in FY 2005, as reported by fluorocarbon destruction operators in accordance with the Law, was about 2,788 tons, down 6% from FY 2004. With respect to types of fluorocarbons, the amounts were about 556 tons of CFC (chlorofluorocarbons), about 1,623 tons of HCFC (hydrochlorofluorocarbons), and about 608 tons of HFC (hydrofluorocarbons). While the CFC destruction decreased because the production was totally phased out in 1996 and after, in accordance with the Montreal Protocol, the destruction of HCFC and HFC increased over that in the previous year.

2. Accepted amounts by type of designated products

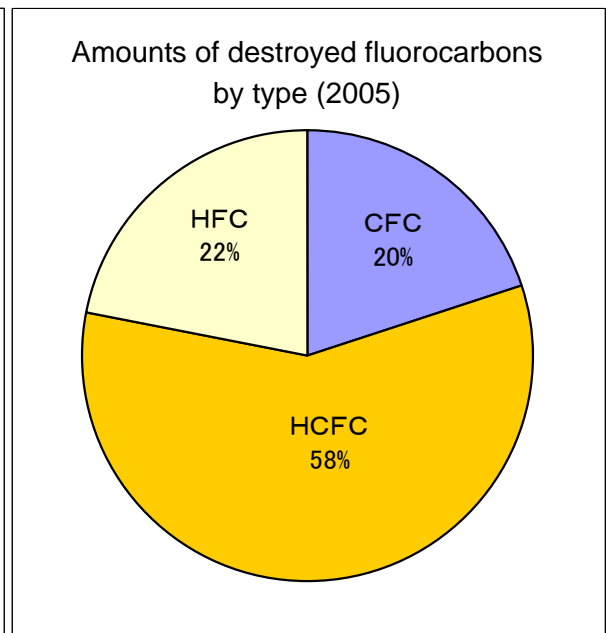
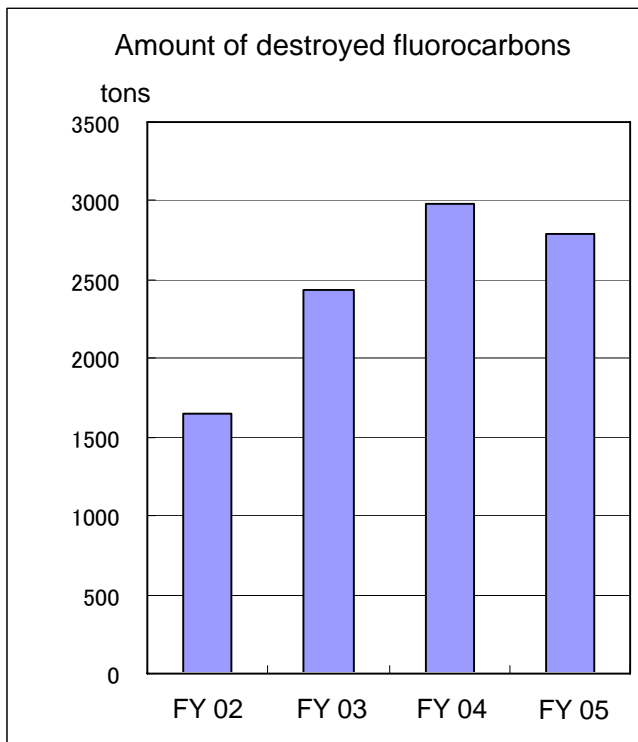
Amounts of fluorocarbons recovered by fluorocarbon destruction operators by type of designated products as defined in the Law are as follows: about 2,108 tons from Category 1 products (commercial-use refrigeration and air-conditioning units), down about 15% from FY 2004, and about 693 tons from Category 2 products (mobile air-conditioners), down about 52% from FY 2004.

* Recovery of refrigerant fluorocarbons in mobile air-conditioners has been conducted pursuant to the Automobile Recycling Act since January 2005.

Results of reported amounts destroyed in FY 2005

		(kg)	CFC	HCFC	HFC	Total
Amount held at the beginning the year			9,393	21,742	5,332	36,467
Amount accepted	Category 1		257,376	1,635,545	215,005	2,107,926
	Category 2		299,906	-	392,938	692,844
	Total		557,283	1,635,545	607,943	2,800,770
Amount destroyed			556,176	1,623,043	608,480	2,787,700
Amount held at the end of the year			10,499	34,244	4,795	49,538

*Figures in the table are rounded off to whole numbers, so some totals do not correspond to the accumulated figures.



Notes

CFC (chlorofluorocarbons): A type of fluorocarbon. They are used as refrigerants, floating agents, detergents, etc. They are ozone layer-depleting substances and are controlled substances in the Montreal Protocol. They are also gases with a potent greenhouse-effect.

HCFC (hydrochlorofluorocarbons): A type of fluorocarbon. They are ozone layer-depleting substances and are controlled substances in the Montreal Protocol. Their ozone layer depletion potentials are smaller than those of CFC. They are also gases with a potent greenhouse-effect.

HFC (hydrofluorocarbons): A type of fluorocarbon substitute. Although they have no ozone layer- depletion potential, they are also gases with a potent greenhouse-effect and are designated substances to be reduced in the Kyoto Protocol.

Reference 1

Results of reported amounts destroyed in FY 2004

(kg)		CFC	HCFC	HFC	Total
Amount held at the beginning the year		10,123	50,513	6,538	67,175
Amount accepted	Category 1	718,578	1,575,308	195,901	2,489,787
	Category 2	235,033	-	221,016	456,048
	Total	953,610	1,575,308	416,917	2,945,835
Amount destroyed		953,814	1,604,094	418,120	2,976,028
Amount held at the end of the year		9,919	21,727	5,335	36,982

*Figures in the table are rounded off to whole numbers, so some totals do not correspond to the accumulated figures.

Reference 2: Future plans

The prefectural governments accumulate reports on fluorocarbons recovered in FY 2005 from the recovery operators of Category 1 fluorocarbons (commercial-use refrigeration and air-conditioning units) and those of Category 2 fluorocarbons (mobile air-conditioners). The accumulated reports of both Categories will then be submitted to the Ministers of Economy, Trade and Industry, and of the Environment by the end of July 2006 and September 2006, respectively. The ministries will compile and announce these reports then.

Reference 3: Significance of the announcement under the Law

The recovery and destruction of fluorocarbons used in Category 1 products (commercial-use refrigerating and air-conditioning units) became compulsory at the time of disposal of products in April 2002, and those of Category 2 products (mobile air-conditioners) in October 2002 under the Law. With the Automobile Recycling Act fully enacted on 1 January, 2005, refrigerant fluorocarbons of mobile air-conditioners on vehicles which were disposed of before this date have been recovered pursuant to the Law, whereas those which were disposed of on and after this date have been recovered pursuant to the Automobile Recycling Act.

The Law stipulates that fluorocarbon destruction operators shall report the amounts of fluorocarbons destroyed during each fiscal year to the competent minister within 45 days from the end of the fiscal year (Article 34, Paragraph 3). The competent minister shall compile data in the reports to announce information about the status of recovery and destruction of fluorocarbons from the designated products (Article 46).

As the ministry has received the reports for FY 2005, it hereby announces the aggregation of fluorocarbons destroyed during the fiscal year. For car air-conditioners, the amount destroyed is the sum of fluorocarbons recovered pursuant to the Law and those recovered pursuant to the Automobile Recycling Act.

As of June, 2006, 81 destruction operators authorized by the competent minister are destroying fluorocarbons.

Reference 4: Related Articles of the Law (tentative translation)

Article 34, Paragraph 3:

The fluorocarbons destruction operators shall annually report to the competent minister the amount of destruction in the previous fiscal year and other items defined by the competent ministerial ordinances with respect to each type of fluorocarbon pursuant to the relevant

ministerial ordinances.

Article 46:

The competent minister shall compile the data received pursuant to notices provided in Article 22, Paragraph 3; reports provided in Article 34, Paragraph 3; or other provisions of the Law, and shall announce the status of recovery and destruction of fluorocarbons in designated products, and other information concerning fluorocarbons.