Call for experts

Refrigerants – toxicity and safety

Application deadline: 31/03/2022

ECOS is looking for experts in the field of refrigerants’ environmental impact, toxicity, and safety to represent and defend environmental interests in the development of standards and related policies. Our experts provide us with technical and scientific input, help us draft reports and represent ECOS in standardisation processes and multi-stakeholder discussions.

ECOS is an international NGO with a network of members and experts advocating for environmentally friendly technical standards, policies and laws. With 20 years of experience, ECOS represents over 50 national and European members, including the European Environmental Bureau, Friends of the Earth Europe, Transport & Environment and WWF. ECOS is a partner organisation of the standardisation organisations CEN and CENELEC, a member of ETSI and a liaison organisation to IEC & ISO. Learn more about ECOS at www.ecostandard.org.

Refrigeration technology is crucial for our food supply, health care, industrial processes, indoor climate and more. Fluorinated refrigerants, that are dominating large parts of the sector, have a long track record of negative environmental impact. Ozone depleting CFCs have been replaced by global warming HFCs that are now subject to phase-down efforts but are still wide-spread. Currently, the new generation of low-GWP fluorinated refrigerants - HFOs - are being promoted by strong industry interests as the sustainable future for refrigeration. Research however indicates that HFOs are a source of accumulating TFAs in aquatic environments, and that they may break down into high-GWP HFCs.

ECOS therefore advocates for a transition to natural refrigerants, which are a cost effective alternative and whose environmental impact is low and known. We advocate for an ambitious revision of the EU F-gas regulation and we monitor and contribute to the development of standards that impact how different types of refrigerants can be used in practice.

To this end, we are looking to strengthen our existing pool of experts who help provide scientific and technical input to underpin our arguments, and who represent ECOS in relevant fora. We are specifically looking for candidates with a background and expertise in atmospheric chemistry, toxicology, toxicity and/or safety classification, who are committed to the values and objectives of an environmental NGO.

The nominated expert will:
- Participate in technical meetings of European and international standardisation organisations (CEN and ISO) to promote ECOS objectives;
- Prepare technical official comments and contributions to ECOS position papers and reports;
- Report to and liaise with the responsible ECOS Programme Manager;
- Exchange information with ECOS member organisations and other experts when needed.

In return, ECOS offers:
- A daily fee for preparation of meetings, participation and reporting, as well as other relevant tasks;
- Reimbursement of travel costs;

ECOS - Environmental Coalition on Standards
Rue d’Edimbourg 26 · 1050 Brussels · Belgium
T +32 2 894 46 68 · info@ecostandard.org · www.ecostandard.org
• Per diem to cover accommodation and subsistence costs.
• A network of skilled and progressive experts dedicated to representing the environmental interest.

Please send your CV and cover letter outlining your motivation and demonstrating your suitability to support and represent ECOS to Carolina Koronen (carolina.koronen@ecostandard.org) by 31-03-2022 COB. Applications will be assessed by the secretariat on a rolling basis, applying ECOS procurement policy. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.