

AVA TECHNICAL NEWSLETTER No: 15

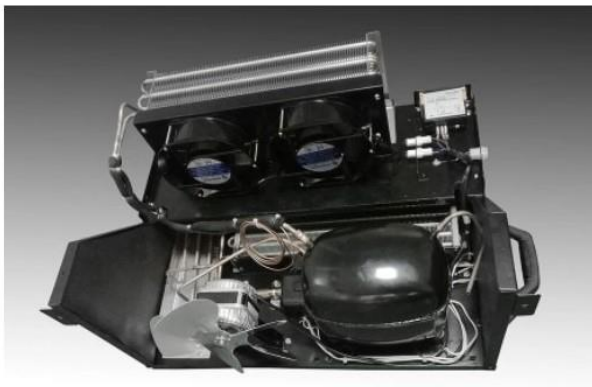
MARCH 2022

Welcome to technical newsletter number 15, written by the AVA technical committee specifically for technical managers in the industry. We hope you will find it interesting. We would appreciate any comments or suggestions for items to be covered in future newsletters.

This Newsletter is intended to be of use to all members, but particularly those dealing with Technical or Operational matters. If you feel a colleague would benefit from receiving this Newsletter too, please pass it on to them or they can register their interest via info@the-ava.com

This Technical Newsletter and previous issues can be found in the AVA Members Area of the website here: <https://www.the-ava.com/members/advice-hub/members-newsletters/>

Refrigeration Gas: R134a



R134a is no longer permitted in new machines. R134a machines that are in the operator's stock can still be placed on new sites but new refrigerated machines bought from the manufacturer must have a refrigerant gas with a Global Warming Potential of less than 150.

The ban is on the production of virgin R134a refrigerant and the production/sale of new refrigerated equipment using it. Any existing virgin R134a can still be sold/purchased but it can only be used for the repair of

existing equipment. Recovered R134a can also be used in repair of existing equipment.

The production of R134a has to be phased down, so that, while the gas is readily available at present and prices have not risen dramatically it will eventually get more expensive. For comparison, R404a, which was banned in new equipment a few years ago, is now about £100/Kg if you can find it. The price rise of R134a is likely to be more dramatic as it is used far more widely.

Equipment with R134a can be sold on as long as it was originally produced with that refrigerant and sold new before the cut-off date.

As long as supplies of R134a are available it can be used to repair or refill existing equipment. There are gases being offered as drop-in replacements, the so-called HFOs, the R 1,2,3,4 series. A number of other HFC refrigerants are also being offered outside Europe but most of these have been designed to comply with regulations that permit a GWP of greater than 150.

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UKCA Marking

Just a reminder that the requirement to mark products sold in the UK with a UKCA mark rather than a CE mark has been put back from January 2022 to January 2023. Until then either the relevant CE or UKCA mark is acceptable. The CE mark is still the relevant mark for Northern Ireland which remains part of the single market for goods.



Climate Change



UK government Regulations require all companies whose share price is quoted on the London Stock Exchange to publish data on their carbon emissions and the government has also determined that organisations bidding for large government projects must include a carbon reduction plan as part of the bid (PPN 06/21). This will have an impact on vending because most ways of measuring the amount of carbon dioxide for which your business is responsible divide the emissions into 3

categories or “Scopes”.

- Scope 1 emissions are direct greenhouse gas emissions (generally carbon dioxide or methane) that occur from sources that are controlled or owned by the company; for example, emissions resulting from fuel combustion in boilers, roasters or vehicles.
- Scope 2 emissions are indirect greenhouse gas emissions associated with the purchase of electricity, heat, or cooling. They are accounted for by the company as they are a result of the company's energy use.
- Scope 3 emissions include those related to the way the company does business but not directly under their control, including staff commuting, incoming and outgoing logistics and the energy emitted in providing facilities at work including vending.

It is likely that large clients will increasingly ask vending companies for their carbon emissions (or carbon footprint) and for their carbon reduction plan.

Companies generally have the data needed to calculate their scope 1 and 2 emissions from utility invoices and bills for petrol and the AVA can provide conversion figures for converting energy consumed to carbon dioxide emitted. Electricity purchased from a supplier who guarantees their electricity is provided by

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renewable sources is responsible for almost no emissions. Guidance on how to calculate your scope 1 and 2 emissions is available on the AVA website and the AVA is developing guidance for the calculation of scope 3 emissions. However, just knowing your scope 1 and 2 emissions will make a good start to reducing them and providing some information to those clients who ask. You may also be asked for the energy consumption of your machines. This information should be readily available from the manufacturer.

You will have seen a lot about terms like carbon neutral or zero carbon which suggest that the process or business has no net effect on the carbon dioxide level in the atmosphere. Most companies claiming to be carbon neutral at present are “offsetting” – that is, they are paying into a scheme that guarantees to capture an amount of carbon from the atmosphere to equal that emitted by the company. These claims should be regarded with some scepticism.

Plastics Tax.



HM Revenue & Customs

plastic cups.

The plastics tax of £200 a tonne on any single use plastic items not containing 30% recycled materials comes into force on April 1st this year. This will apply to any single use item in which the majority of the weight is made up of plastic, so it does not apply to paper cups but does apply to composite items and it applies to the entire weight of the item, not just the plastic part.

For example, this will add around £2 per case on 1,000

Calorie Labelling

Also in April, this time the 6th, catering and vending companies with more than 250 employees will have to provide the calorie count for their food and drink. While this may not apply to many vending operators directly, it is likely that caterers will ask for the calorie count of drinks.

Further AVA guidance will be issued by the Commodities committee soon.



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Banning of some single use plastic items



The government is currently consulting on a proposed ban on a number of single use plastic items, specifically, cutlery, balloon sticks and expanded polystyrene cups and plates. The AVA has responded to the consultation to ensure that the ban does not include polystyrene vending cups. The AVA has responded in similar fashion to a proposal by the Northern Ireland government.

Deposit Return Schemes

The Scottish government has laid out a detailed plan for the introduction of their deposit return scheme which will start on a small scale in August this year and be fully functioning in September 2023. The English government is currently considering the responses to a consultation on the subject and it is likely that there will be a scheme in England and Wales with a possible start in 2024. We will keep you up to date if there is progress.

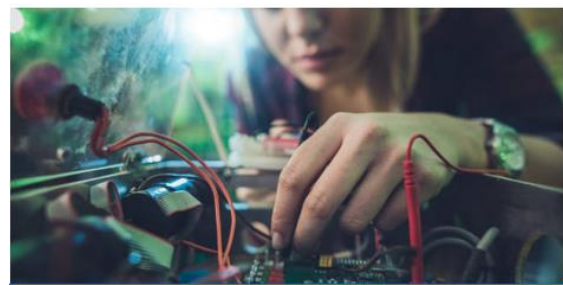


AVA Technical Day: September 14th, 2022

The first Technical Day in 2018 was so successful that the AVA has decided to repeat the exercise, again at Campden BRI in Chipping Campden.

The current list of subjects includes:

- measuring your carbon footprint
- developments in payment systems.
- legislation that will impact vending from 2023 onwards
- AVA Training



If there is anything particular you would like to hear about, do let us know, as soon as possible so that we can recruit a suitable expert.