



## ***News Release***

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### **Aggressive Plan Designed to Slash Emissions of Greenhouse Gases Announced by Houston-based Daikin North America LLC**

HOUSTON, Sept. 18, 2014 – Daikin North America, the world’s largest air conditioning and heating equipment manufacturer, and its subsidiary Goodman Manufacturing Company L.P., announced today a commitment to help slash greenhouse gas emissions by developing low-global warming potential (GWP) air conditioners and/or heat pumps.

Daikin aims to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions in 2020 to one-quarter of its 2005 emissions. The manufacturer plans to introduce a full product line of lower-GWP refrigerant air conditioners and heat pumps, after working with the EPA and other stakeholders to permit these refrigerants in both building codes and the Clean Air SNAP program.

The Daikin commitment was announced during a recent White House event where the Obama administration announced a series of voluntary commitments by the air conditioning and heating industry, plus some of the country’s largest chemical firms and retailers, to move rapidly away from R-134a refrigerant and similar compounds used in nearly every office, home and automobile in the country.

Developing the next generation of air conditioning technologies would shrink emissions of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs); factory-made gases used in air conditioning and refrigeration that scientists say are up to 10,000 times more potent than carbon dioxide and are helping to drive climate change. Without action such as the one Daikin announced today, HFC emissions in the United States are expected to nearly double by 2020 and triple by 2030.

As part of the Climate Action Plan President Obama launched last year, the administration is partnering with industry leaders such as Daikin to develop safer HFC alternatives and incorporate climate-friendly technologies into their products. The air conditioning and heating industry is committing to invest \$5 billion in low-GWP research and development funds over the next decade.

“Daikin and Goodman are taking an aggressive, leading role to expedite the adoption of safety codes and standards that establish reasonable requirements for the use of lower-GWP alternatives to replace the high-GWP substances now in use throughout our industry,” explained Takeshi Ebisu, president and CEO of Daikin North America.

In addition, Daikin is opening its basic technology patents of R-32, a Daikin-developed refrigerant that significantly reduces climate impacts from the air conditioning sector. This allows any company to use R-32 without payment of royalties for manufacturing in developing countries. In the U.S., Daikin will permit any company to use its R-32 basic technology patents without the payment of royalties for manufacturing, provided that the company using the patents offers Daikin the use of an equal number of that company’s patents without payment of royalties.

R-32’s global warming potential is two-thirds less than the substances it will replace. The company says that enabling large-scale introduction of R-32 air conditioning products in the U.S. can reduce CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent greenhouse gas emissions by up to 75% in the air conditioning sector, compared to the emissions from current technology.

While rarely found in the U.S., R-32 technology is rapidly gaining worldwide acceptance. Since November 2011, several companies have sold almost three million R-32 ductless air

conditioners in Japan, and there are increasing numbers of R-32 air conditioner sales in India and Europe.

“The proliferation of R-32 air conditioners worldwide, including in the U.S., will result in a substantial reduction in direct and indirect climate impacts from the air conditioning industry,” said Ebisu.

The administration is simultaneously stepping up diplomatic efforts to encourage major U.S. trading partners to phase out production of the potent greenhouse gas, according to White House officials.

According to the Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI), nearly \$2 billion has been spent by the industry since 2009 researching energy-efficient equipment and the utilization of low GWP refrigerants.

Both Daikin and Goodman have long developed and employed technologies designed to create a market for more responsible air conditioning and heating products, such as Daikin’s inverter, which can cut indoor climate energy consumption by up to 30 percent compared to non-Inverter units.. Goodman was at the forefront of creating technologies like its SmartCoil™ 5mm condensing coil designed to increase cooling efficiency, use less material and spread adoption of a chlorine-free refrigerant.

For more information, visit [www.daikincomfort.com](http://www.daikincomfort.com) or [www.goodmanmfg.com](http://www.goodmanmfg.com).

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#### **About Daikin Industries**

Daikin Industries, Ltd (DIL) is a global Fortune 1000 company with more than 50,000 employees worldwide, making it the number one residential, commercial, and industrial HVAC manufacturer in the world. Daikin is engaged primarily in the development, manufacture, sales and aftermarket support of heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration equipment, refrigerants and other chemicals, as well as oil hydraulic products. DIL is headquartered in Osaka, Japan, has manufacturing operations in 18 countries and a sales presence in more than 90 countries. Additional information about Daikin Industries is available at [www.daikin.com](http://www.daikin.com).

#### **About Goodman**

A member of the DAIKIN group, Houston-based Goodman Global, Inc. is a leading manufacturer of heating, ventilation and air conditioning products for residential and light-commercial use. Goodman's products are predominantly sold through company-operated and independent distribution networks, with more than 1000 total distribution points throughout North America. Goodman is ISO 14001:2004 accredited, an international certification that recognizes manufacturing processes and policies that are sustainable. For more, visit [www.goodmanmfg.com](http://www.goodmanmfg.com)