

# OZONews

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## 1- Prices of AC Units, Fridges Should Rise (Barbados)

Barbadians are being warned by local distributors to expect increased prices on refrigerators and air conditioning units. This comes with the advent the international phaseout schedule of chlorine-based gases that are hazardous to the ozone layer. The phaseout schedule, which was designed by the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, stipulates that gases which contain chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), be totally phased out and replaced by ozone-friendly gases. Ozone depletion is the main reason why the industry is making a giant step towards making chlorine refrigerants obsolete ... Contracts Manager from TMR Sales and Service Ltd. Peter Thompson, admits that the environmentally-friendly line of products is definitely more expensive and attributes this increase to limited markets. He said, "Presently the markets are low, and the overall equipment cost is high, so you have low demand with a fairly new product which has a lot of research development. As a result, our cost is high and the cost to the consumer is also high." However, Thompson believes that the price will eventually go down. He said, "What we expect to happen when the demand for the equipment changes, and you start selling more, the price will fall, but it wouldn't happen overnight."

**Article @:** <http://www.barbadosadvocate.com/NewViewNewsleft.cfm?Record=10277>

**Source:** Barbados Advocate, 18 October 2002, By Janelle Husbands

## 2- Ozone Friendly Puffers Won't Change Effect of Asthma Medication (Canada)

A small sign recently went up in Peters Drugs on King Street, advising customers that their asthma puffers will be CFC-free as of January. And pharmacy manager Marg Hetherington says quite a few people have asked what it's all about. "Once you explain what the government is doing, getting rid of CFCs [chlorofluorocarbons], they're fine with it," she said. "Obviously, the general consensus is the more of those we get rid of, the better." ... The Federal Provincial Working Group on Ozone-Depleting Substances and Halocarbon Alternatives calculates that Canada has reduced consumption of ozone-depleting substances after signing the Montreal Protocol ... Metered dose inhalers, more commonly known as puffers, account for only a fraction of the CFCs still in use. Until now, they've had a critical use exemption under the Protocol because no suitable alternative to CFCs had been found and approved. That has now changed. Pharmaceutical giant GlaxoSmithKline, the producer of Ventolin and Flovent, both metered dose inhaler products, has found an alternative propellant, hydrofluoroalkane. The company plans to announce this week that both products will be CFC-free as of Jan. 1. After that date all metered dose inhalers sold in Canada containing the drug salbutamol, Ventolin's active ingredient, will be required by law to be CFC free ...

**Article @:** <http://www.kingstonwhigstandard.com/content.asp?contentid=3242>

**Source:** The Kingston Whig-Standard, 21 October 2002, By: Sue Yanagisawa

## 3- Private Sector Participation Vital (Nigeria)

The federal government has reiterated its commitment at involving the private sector in the development of the various sectors of the economy, especially in protection of the environment. The commitment was made in an address by the Director, Pollution Control and Waste Management, Federal Ministry of Environment, Engr. J. J. Enemari, at the launching and introduction of Fire Safety Systems, FM 200 Fill Rig yesterday in Lagos by BASSCOMM Nigeria Limited. Enemari, who represented the Minister of Environment, Alhaji Mohammed Saheed, said in consonance with Article 5

of the Montreal Protocol, the country was under obligation to phase out the use of Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) in all areas of the economy. He said halons used for fire protection have high ozone layer depletion and might be responsible for about 25 per cent of the ozone layer depletion; hence its production and consumption have to be phased out in fulfillment of the Montreal Protocol agreement of which Nigeria was a signatory. He said apart from ozone depleting potential of halon which was an environmental hazard, substitution is being made with a more friendly environmental protection tool, which prevented the destruction of life and property; adding that the growing list of alternatives to halon in conjunction with advanced fire detection and resistance, provides protection from a broad spectrum of potential hazards. "Fire protection is a veritable environmental protection tool. It prevents the destruction of life and property.... The particulate matter and smoke emitted into the air from fire, impact adversely on health.... Continuous uncontrolled periodic wild fires resulted in stunted plant growth and may lead to sparse vegetation cover and finally desertification to set in with grave consequences on the lives of people" Enemari said.

**Article @:** <http://www.thisdayonline.com/news/20021018news18.html>

**Source:** This Day Online, 18 October 2002, By: Bayo Adeleke

#### **4- 'Environmental Curricula' Plan Probed (Bahrain)**

Ways of introducing environmental studies in school curricula is being probed by about 100 experts from 10 Arab countries in a three-days Regional Workshop ... Education Ministry Assistant Under-Secretary for Curricula and Training Dr Imad Taqi said interest in the environment has grown over the previous three years. "This is because of the impact of previous environmental catastrophes and the emergence of new ones," he said. "These problems include an increase in the temperature of the earth, desertification, greenhouse effect, soil erosion, acid rain, the increase in the size of the hole in the Ozone Layer and other phenomena which threaten our planet and the next generations." the ministry hopes to include more information on environmental protection and legislation in the curricula. "This will give students a better understanding of environmental issues and how to deal with them ... The workshop, added Dr Taqi, will help participants exchange experiences on how to best include environmental issues in the curricula. "We will also discuss the experiences of countries which have already integrated environmental studies in the curricula," he said. "This will create a new generation which understands better and which is capable of solving problems."...

**Article @:** [http://www.gulf-daily-news.com/arc\\_Articles.asp?Article=34858&Sn=BNEW&IssueID=25210](http://www.gulf-daily-news.com/arc_Articles.asp?Article=34858&Sn=BNEW&IssueID=25210)

**Source:** Gulf Daily News, 16 October 2002, By: Ebtihal Al Tawash

**OzoNews is available on the OzonAction Programme web site @:**

<http://www.uneptie.org/ozonaction/compliance/ozonews/main.html>

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