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**High Performance, High Efficiency Natural  
Hydrocarbon Refrigerants for Air  
Conditioning and Refrigeration**

# High Performance, High Efficiency Natural Hydrocarbon Refrigerants for Air Conditioning and Refrigeration



# Outline

- **About HyChill**
- **Spotlight on automotive AC**
- **Beyond Australia**
- **Technical barriers**
- **Practical barriers**

# About HyChill

- **Founders of HyChill have been producing HC's for approximately 16 years**
- **HyChill's founders have >40 years experience with hydrocarbons**
- **The HyChill brand is well recognised in Australia and in South East Asia/South Pacific**

# About HyChill

- **HyChill is primarily a supplier of various pure and blended HC refrigerants comprising:**
  - R290 (propane)
  - R600a (isobutane)
  - R170 (ethane)
- **Also: lubricants and f-gas free refrigerant circuit flushing/cleaning agents**

# About HyChill

- **HyChill supplies the following OEM's:**





# OKA – first OEM using HC's



# Spotlight on Automotive AC

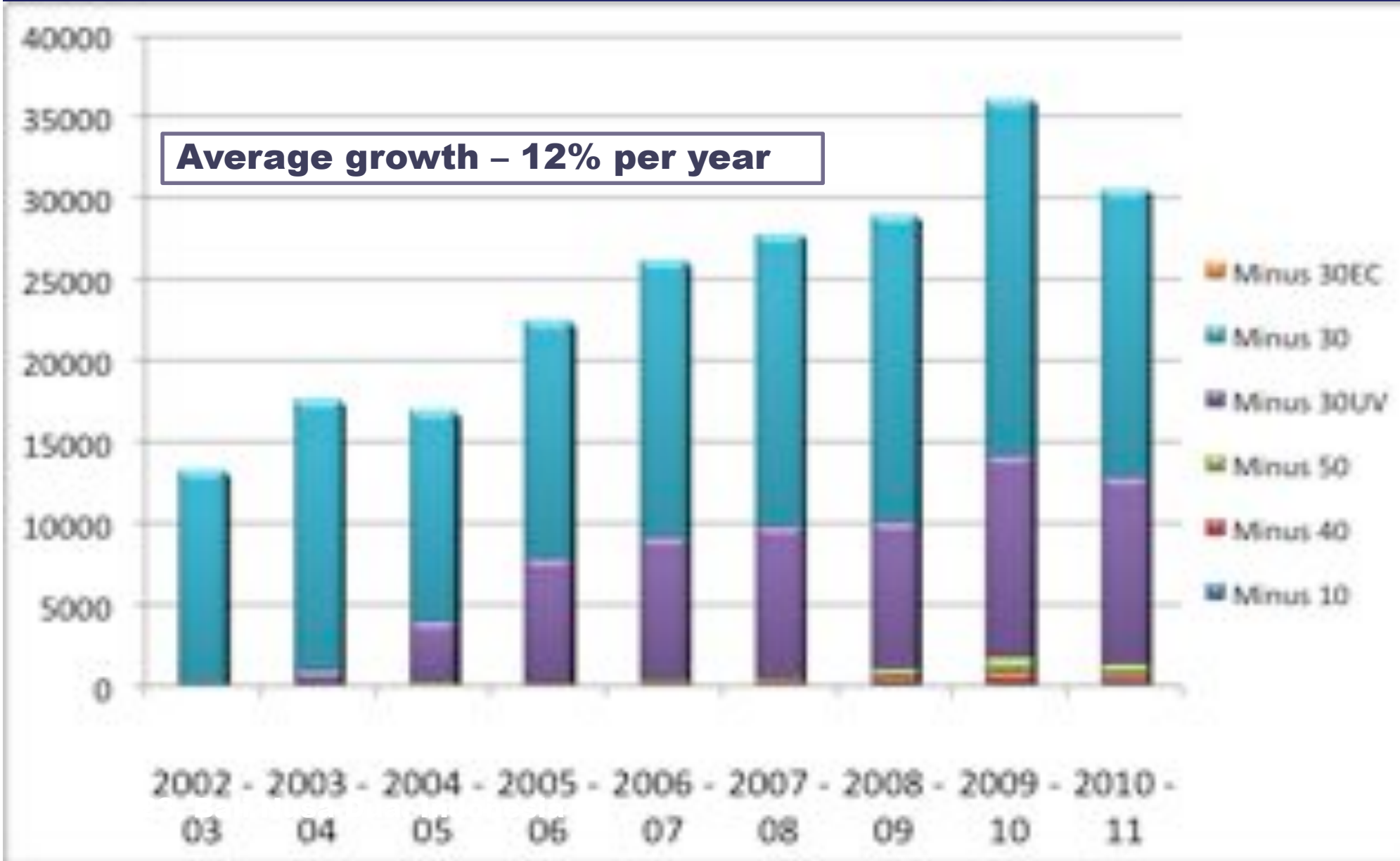
- **HyChill has been selling into the Australian automotive AC sector since the mid 1990's**
- **Considering the initial regulatory barriers, intense “FUD” campaigns by f-gas industry monopolists and the challenges associated with breaking into a monopolised market, the project has been a considerable success**



# Spotlight on Automotive AC

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# HyChill Australian Sales



# Market share analysis

Based on: 2008 “Energy Strategies” report for Australian Government (2006 data)

- **Energy Strategies – in 2006:**
  - **Service consumption: 557 MT HFC-134a**
  - **Crash consumption: 310 MT HFC-134a**
  - **SERVICE MARKET SUBTOTAL:**  
**867 MT HFC-134a in 2006**
  - **New vehicle consumption: 229 MT HFC-134a**
  - **GRAND TOTAL:**  
**1096 MT HFC-134a in 2006**

# Market share analysis

Based on: 2008 “Energy Strategies” report for Australian Government (2006 data)

- **HyChill – in 2006:**
  - **Total sales into Australian automotive sector: 25.8 MT**
  - **Equivalent quantity of HFC-134a avoided: 25.8 x 3 = 77.4 MT equivalent**
- **In other words:**
  - **77.4 / 867 = 8.9% of auto service market in 2006**
  - **77.4 / 1096 = 7.1% of total auto market in 2006**

# Market share analysis

Extrapolating to 2010 based on Australian  
Bureau of Statistics data

- **ABS 2006 Passenger vehicles: 11,215,555**  
**ABS 2010 Passenger vehicles: 12,269,305 (+9.39%)**
- **Therefore, extrapolated HFC-134a consumption:**  
**Service: 948 MT Total: 1199 MT HFC-134a in 2010**
- **HyChill sales in 2010: 34.3 MT hydrocarbon**  
**(equivalent of  $34.3 \times 3 = 102.9$  MT HFC-134a)**
- **Therefore, 2010 market share:**  
**10.9% of service market, 8.5% of total consumption**



# Market share analysis

## Additional notes

- **The figures just provided are conservative because:**
  - **Have not accounted for vehicles manufactured for export**
  - **Have not accounted for other HC suppliers in Australian market**

# Spotlight on Automotive AC - Safety Studies

- **Safety of retrofitting HC's to R134a and R12 MAC's was proven back in 2004 via peer reviewed data published in the International Journal of Refrigeration**
  - **Approx 20 million car-user-years without a single cabin fire**

*Maclaine-cross, I. L., Usage and Risk of Hydrocarbon Refrigerants in Motor Cars for Australia and the United States, [International Journal of Refrigeration](#), Vol. 27 No. 4, pp. 339-345, June 2004.*

# Spotlight on Automotive AC

- **Interestingly, the main selling point of HC's in MAC's in Australia is performance:**
  - **Significantly faster “pull down”**
  - **Superior cooling capacity**
  - **Excels in extremely hot climates/conditions**
- **Many end users and installers are unaware of the climate benefits of their choice of refrigerant**

# Spotlight on Automotive AC - Climate benefits

- **HyChill's contribution to climate via MAC's:**
  - Total sales in excess of ~260 tonnes
  - This represents in excess of 1,000,000 (1 Million) MAC system charges (average 240gram per vehicle)
  - Resulting in avoidance of use of ~780 tonnes of f-gases
- **In other words, the use of our MAC refrigerant in Australia has avoided over 1,000,000,000 kilograms (1 million tonnes) of CO2-e emissions (conservatively)**

# Beyond Australia

- **Relevance of HyChill's MAC success to Article 5 countries:**
  - **It has already been done – you can do it too!**
  - **It works**
  - **It is proven safe**
  - **It creates massive climate savings and improves vehicle fuel economy and passenger comfort simultaneously**



# Beyond Australia

- **Retrofitting larger f-gas systems**
  - **HyChill not directly involved**
  - **Retrofitting f-gas systems is technically feasible but requires specific skills and training (particularly for systems with larger charges)**
  - **A large number of retrofits have been conducted by third parties across Asia (see Greenpeace “Cool Technologies: Working without HFC’s” 2010 edition)**
  - **The “real” future is new systems designed specifically for HC’s**

# Technical barriers

- **No technical barriers to natural refrigerants for basically any application**
- **HC's (or other natural refrigerants) can be applied to virtually any application to produce superior efficiency and ROI than any HFC/HFO system.**
- **Natural refrigerants industry consensus that moving beyond HFC's by 2020 is feasible**

# Practical barriers

- **Breaking in to a monopolised industry is difficult**
- **Commercial “break in” challenges: Volume vs. Price**
- **Access to information**
- **Access to training**
- **Access to markets:**
  - **F-gas industry currently dominates RAC safety standards and creates arbitrary trade barriers to HC’s**
- **Reach/resources:**
  - **F-gas industry commits more time to spreading “FUD” about natural refrigerants than NR industry has resources to counter.**

# Conclusion

- **It's only a matter of time**
  - **Technical superiority of naturals is already demonstrated and quite well recognised**
  - **As the historical record of HC usage across various applications grows, it will become obvious to more and more people that HC's can be applied safely – the only remaining significant barrier to adoption by the mass markets.**