Features of the customs’ service work when handling ozone-depleting substances

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In 1987, the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer was signed. Thus, by 2030, the Russian Federation must completely abandon the consumption of ozone-depleting substances. For this, a number of measures are being taken:

- Replacement of ODS-fueled equipment with alternative technology using approved refrigerants;
- Reduction and reorganization of ODS production;
- Development of alternative refrigerants;
- Control of imported / exported ozone-depleting substances across the state border of the Russian Federation.

If the substance contains no halogen atoms other than fluorine, it is not an ozone depleting substance.

WHY ODS ARE PROHIBITED
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Purpose of work:
To reveal the peculiarities of customs’ work with ozone-depleting substances, especially when counterfeiting this group of substances.

Tasks:
- Reveal existing regulatory documents;
- Get acquainted with the licensing system;
- Determine the main methods of monitoring ozone-depleting substances at customs checkpoints.
REGULATORY DOCUMENTS

- Federal Law of the Russian Federation No. 96 of 05/04/1999 "On the Protection of Atmospheric Air"
- Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 378 of 03.07.1992 "On measures to ensure the fulfillment of obligations under the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer"
  - Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 176 dated April 19, 2017
  - Order of the Federal Customs Service of Russia No. 1003 dated August 21, 2007
Order of the Federal Customs Service of October 31, 2008 No. 1349 "On approval of standard requirements for equipment and technical equipment of buildings, premises and structures necessary for organizing customs control at checkpoints across the state border of the Russian Federation"

LICENSING SYSTEM

- Decision of the Board of the Eurasian Economic Commission of November 6, 2014 No. 199 "On the Instructions on the preparation of an application for the issuance of a license for the export and (or) import of certain types of goods and on the registration of such a license and types of goods”

- Decision of the Board of the Eurasian Economic Commission dated May 16, 2012 No. 45 «Decision of the Board of the Eurasian Economic Commission dated May 16, 2012 No. 45 "On a unified form of conclusion (permitting document) for the import, export and transit of certain goods included in the single list of goods to which non-tariff regulation measures are applied in trade with third countries, and methodological guidelines by filling it in».
The quota system proved to be very successful in the period from 2015 to 2020.

In 2020, only two types of ODS could be imported to/ exported from Russia: Domestically produced HCFC-22 and HCFC-141b imported into the country.

Also, the volume of consumption of regulated ODS in 2020 decreased by 20 times. Consumption of substances that deplete the ozone layer between 2015 and 2019 amounted to 399.69 ODP tons annually.

- By Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 1137 of July 29, 2020, it was allowed to import into the country from September 7 to December 31, 2020 only HCFC-141b in the amount of 60,609 metric tons, its imports decreased by almost 20 times.
Document control is the most important task of the customs service in controlling the transportation of ozone-depleting substances.

In addition to checking the trade name, the name of the chemical, the HS code and UN numbers, the following are subject to verification:

- Invoice and packing slip
- Compliance with the country of origin with labeling on the container
- Container numbers
- Importers' address and licenses
- If the substance is "processed", then it is necessary to check the ability of the exporting country to process this substance
- Delivery route from the point of view of economic feasibility
- Realistic prices
INSPECTION OF GOODS

What is paid attention to during the inspection:

➢ Product labeling
➢ Gas can color correctness
➢ Correct spelling and inconsistencies on cylinders or packaging
➢ The authenticity of the color and integrity of the cylinder
➢ Method of labeling the cylinder
➢ Manufacturer's printed contact information on the cylinder
➢ Compliance of the production date on the cylinders with the date in the documents

During the inspection, it is necessary to take samples and carry out analyzes of the substance!
By orders of the Federal Customs Service of Russia No. 1349 dated October 31, 2008 and No. 2509 dated December 21, 2010, regulations were introduced for technical equipment for instrumental control of ODS.

For the operational determination of ODS in the divisions of the Federal Customs Service of Russia, it is used

- Refrigerant indicator "Polyus"

Both are based on the principle of non-dispersive infrared spectroscopy and have the ability to determine a large number of pure and mixed refrigerants. Including prohibited and / or restricted for use under the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the Montreal Protocol on ODS.
The world of refrigerants is changing rapidly; natural refrigerants and hydrofluoroolefins are actively appearing on the market.

- Under these conditions, it is necessary to revise the existing indicating equipment towards:
  - Raman spectroscopy;
  - Identification of natural refrigerants and complex mixtures;
  - Convenience of the operator: lightness, compactness, speed of action;
  - Availability of equipment to provide them with the maximum number of customs control points.

When the refrigerant market is changing so actively, it is necessary to make changes in the equipment, and in the regulatory documentation, and in the existing bases. The development of this area affects all areas of government activity that affect the operation of refrigerants.
In this report, we examined:

- Features of the work of the customs service with ozone-depleting substances;
- The legal framework on the basis of which all regulatory documents for the control of the consumption of ozone-depleting substances are built;
- ODS licensing and quota systems;
- Methods for controlling the ODS turnover by customs officers;
- ODS identification equipment.
Thank you for your attention!

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