

Volkswagen Media Services

Press Release

Volkswagen to use CO2 as future refrigerant for air conditioning systems

Consistent step towards protection of climate and environment

Group launches development of CO2 air conditioning systems

Wolfsburg, 08 March 2013 - Following up on the announcement of its ambitious environmental goals, the Volkswagen Group is taking another important step towards sustainability and environmental protection by choosing CO2 as the future refrigerant for its air conditioning systems.

Just a few days ago - at the Geneva International Motor Show - the Volkswagen Group affirmed its goal of becoming the world's most environmentally sustainable carmaker by 2018. To achieve this goal, the Group is investing over two-thirds of its total investment capital in the development of efficient technologies, drive systems and vehicles, as well as in environmentally sustainable production.

In another systematic step towards protecting the climate and the environment, the Volkswagen Group is now announcing its entry into CO2 technology, which will be rolled out progressively over its entire vehicle fleet.

Entry into CO2 technology will further contribute towards climate protection. CO2 (carbon dioxide) as a refrigerant – also known as R744 – is a naturally occurring gas with significantly lower greenhouse gas effects than conventional refrigerants, and it is ideal for use in specially designed automotive air conditioning systems. With a GWP (Global Warming Potential) value of 1, it is 99.3 per cent below the EU specified GWP limit of 150.

More

Volkswagen Group to reduce CO2 emissions to 95 g/km by 2020