



Supplier Environmental Disclosure Questions – Commercial Refrigerator/Freezers (except Lab Grade)

These questions are designed to be used in the RFI or RFP purchasing process to ask suppliers for answers on the environmental attributes (as well as other key aspects) of the product.

#	Supplier Question	Preferred Answer	Rationale
1.	Is this product Energy Star qualified? (Yes/No)	Yes	<p>Energy Star qualified refrigerator/freezers are refrigerators that are at least 20% more efficient than standards set by the National Appliance Energy Conservation Act (NAECA) and freezers that are at least 10% more energy efficient than NAECA. Products must not exceed maximum energy consumption in kWh per day, as determined by internal volume, door type, configuration, and unit type under the new Version 2.0 Energy Star specification.</p> <p>Lab grade refrigerators and freezers do not qualify under Energy Star.</p> <p>Standards can be downloaded from http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=refrig.pr_crit_refrigerators</p>
3.	What is the daily energy use in watt hours (Wh) per day?	#Wh/day	A comparison of watts hours per day (24 hours) would need to compare similarly sized products and add-on operations.
4.	Does this product have a top-mounted freezer? (Yes/No/NA)	Yes	<p>Energy Star studies show that top-mounted freezer compartments are more energy efficient.</p> <p>http://energystar.supportportal.com/link/portal/23002/23018/Article/23690/What-s-more-energy-efficient-a-refrigerator-with-a-top-mounted-freezers-bottom-mounted-freezer-or-a-side-by-side</p>
5.	Is this product free of an ice-maker or through-the-door dispenser? (Yes/No)	Yes	<p>Energy Star studies generally show that automatic ice makers and through-the-door dispensers generally are less energy efficient than refrigerators with out.</p> <p>http://energystar.supportportal.com/link/portal/23002/23018/Article/19034/Is-it-more-efficient-to-have-a-through-the-door-ice-dispenser-or-to-not-have-one-and-open-the-freezer-door-to-get-ice</p>
6.	Are there separate controls for freezer and the refrigerator? (Yes/No)	Yes	Separate temperature controls allow for more efficient cooling tailored to the needs of the client.
7.	Is this product free of intentionally-added halogenated flame retardants (HFRs) above 1000 ppm (including chlorinated and	Yes	HFRs are defined as chemicals that contain a carbon-halogen bond and are intended to inhibit ignition and the spread of flames. Halogens include fluorine, chlorine, bromine, and iodine. Most halogenated organic flame retardants are persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic. Effective alternatives are available.

	brominated flame retardants)? (Yes/No)		See Fact Sheet on What Purchasers Can Do To Phase Out HFRs and a list of HFRs http://www.noharm.org/lib/downloads/bfrs/Purchasers_Can_Reduce_BFRs.pdf
8.	Is this product free of HCFC as a refrigerant? (Yes/No)	Yes	EPA has issued mandates as part of the Clean Air Act to phase out the use of HCFC as a refrigerant to reduce the impact to greenhouse gas emissions. HCFC refrigerants are potent greenhouse gases. An alternative to HCFC is hydrocarbons, which are not greenhouse gases. Some lab equipment may be exempt. For more information, see EPA's website http://www.epa.gov/ozone/title6/phaseout/hcfc.html . Washington Post article on refrigerants, http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/12/26/AR2010122602363.html
9.	Is this product covered under a Product Take-Back Program at the end of life and recycled by a service in business for at least one year? (Yes/No)	Yes	Product take-back programs encourage vendors to take responsibility for their products at the end of life that may encourage design changes to reduce environmental impacts. Some states have passed appliance recycling laws and certify appliance recyclers that are qualified to handle appliances.
10.	Is this product's packaging free of polystyrene? (Yes/No)	Yes	Polystyrene (CAS 9003-53-6) is a plastic polymer from the monomer styrene. It comes in many forms: sheet, expanded or extruded foam, or as oriented polystyrene. What is commonly known as Styrofoam™ refers only to the extruded form of polystyrene. Also referred to as 'PS' with the SPI (Society of the Plastics Industry) resin code 6, polystyrene is difficult for hospitals to recycle and there are alternatives. Polystyrene is made with styrene. ⁱ The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) classifies styrene as a possible carcinogen. ⁱⁱ Foam blowing agents (called hydrochlorofluorocarbons, HCFCs) used to make polystyrene foam are compounds that have an ozone depletion potential ⁱⁱⁱ .
11.	Is this product free of polyvinyl chloride (PVC)? (Yes/No)	Yes	PVC is being targeted for phase-out by many medical facilities because PVC manufacturing results in releases of dioxin, a potent carcinogen.
12.	Is this product free of intentionally added mercury in all components? (Yes/No)	Yes	Mercury is a known neurotoxicant and mercury contamination continues to affect fisheries in the US and around the world. Substitutes for mercury-containing components in electronics are widely available.

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ⁱ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, "Air Toxics- Styrene," <http://www.epa.gov/ttnatw01/hlthef/styrene.html>, website viewed June 2011

ⁱⁱ Ibid

ⁱⁱⁱ *Phaseout of HCFCs*, Ozone Layer Depletion, U.S. EPA, <http://www.epa.gov/ozone/title6/phaseout/classtwo.html> viewed September 2011