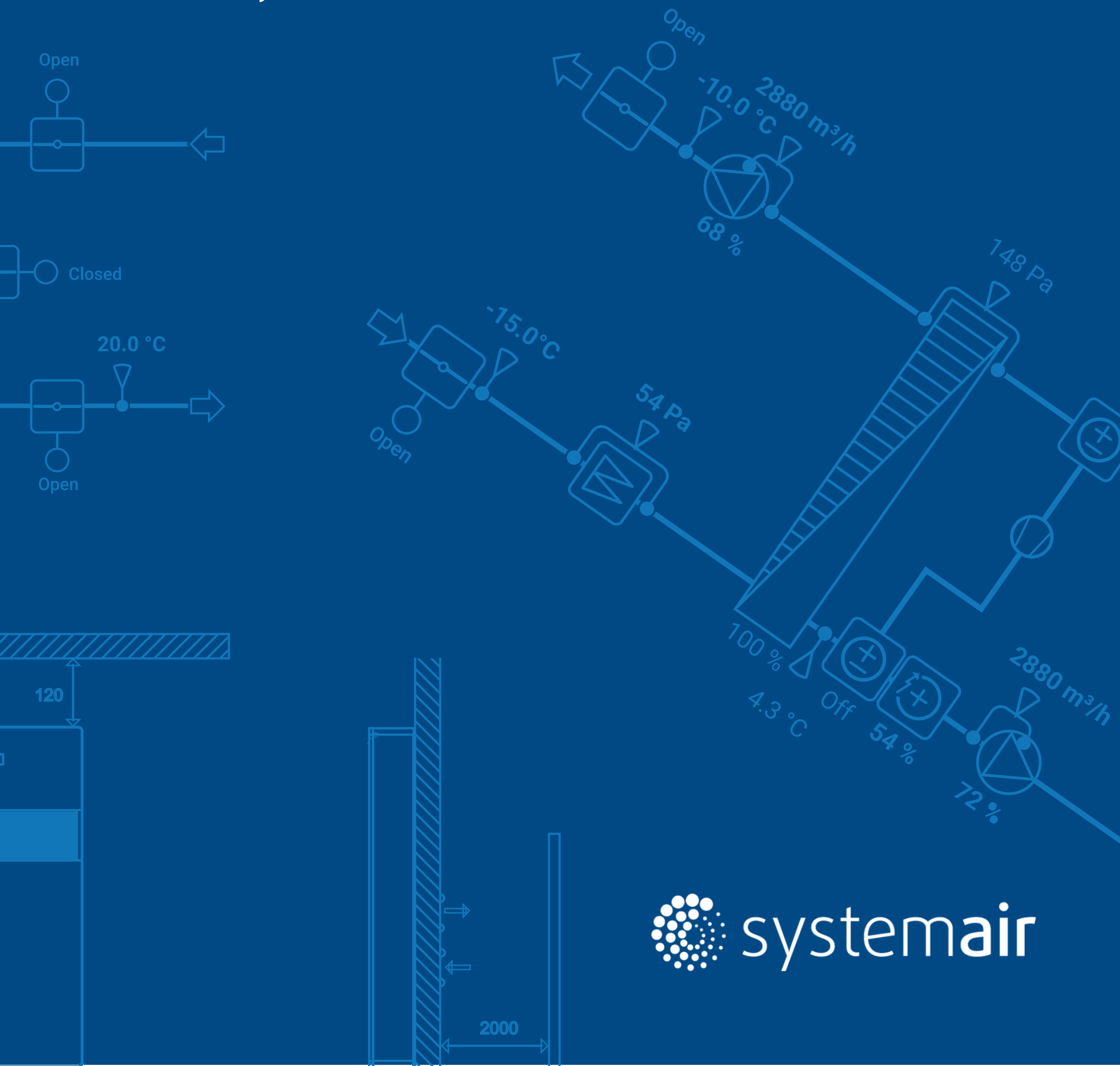


Factsheet

EU F-gas requirements: Regulation (EU) 2024/573

Group Public Affairs
Version 1 – June 2026



1. Fundamentals

Naming and referencing

Official name	Regulation (EU) 2024/573 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 February 2024 on fluorinated greenhouse gases, amending Directive (EU) 2019/1937 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 517/2014 (Text with EEA relevance)
Short name(s)	• Regulation (EU) 2024/573 on fluorinated greenhouse gases (F-gas) • Regulation 2024/573
Also known as	• F-gas Regulation
Predecessor	Regulation (EU) 517/2014 on fluorinated greenhouse gases

Scope

- **Fluorinated greenhouse gases** listed in Annexes I, II, and III of the F-gas Regulation, whether alone or as mixtures
- **Products and equipment**, and parts thereof, **containing F-gases** or whose function relies upon those gases

Purpose

Regulation (EU) 517/2014 worked: in 2015-2023, total F-gas and hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) emissions in the EU27 fell by respectively 32.2 % and 31.4 %.

Nonetheless, the **EU climate targets envisage a 55 % reduction of total F-gas and HFC emissions by 2030** compared to 1990.

- The new **F-gas Regulation intends to phase out high-Global Warming Potential (GWP)** gasses in air conditioners, heat pumps, and refrigeration.
- A **phase-out by 2050** is achieved through a diminishing quota system combined with bans (depending on the specific F-gas and application).
- Low-GWP, **natural refrigerants replacing F-gases are already available** - see the [EU Commission's website for an overview of alternatives](#).

Exemptions

F-gas requirements do not apply in case of:

- Immediate export: F-gas is not contained in products or equipment and not made available to any other person within the EU prior to the export
- Use in equipment designed for military use

In addition, hydrofluorocarbons (HFC), which are a subset of F-gas, are subject to exemptions in case of:

- Imports solely intended for destruction (e.g., in approved destruction facilities)
- Use as feedstock (e.g., in chemical processes where HFCs are transformed in other substances)
- Use for the etching of semiconductor materials or the cleaning of chemicals vapour deposition (CVD) chambers within the semiconductor sector

Temporary exemptions for up to four years may also be granted by the EU Commission for use in specific applications (i.e., application-specific) in case:

- No technically and economically feasible alternatives to HFCs exist, or their use is critical for technical, safety, or public health reasons
- Sufficient supply of HFCs cannot be ensured without entailing disproportionate costs
- The EU Commission considers data from the European Medicines Agency when evaluating exemptions for medical applications (e.g., metered-dose inhalers)



2. Main changes

Limits on Global Warming Potential (GWP)

The F-gas Regulation sets different GWP limits and timelines for

- maintaining existing products containing F-gas; and
- placing new products on the market.



See [Annexes I-III](#) and [VI](#) of the F-gas Regulation for a list GWP levels for each F-gas and HFC.

a) GWP limits for maintaining existing products

Specific limits have been set for existing appliances to ensure a smooth transition while encouraging a replacement to more environmentally friendly products and systems. As such, **restrictions on refrigerants in service and maintenance apply, with the exception of recycled and reclaimed refrigerants** (see below for limits and timeline).

The exemption for recycled and reclaimed refrigerants must fulfil two conditions:

- It may only be used by the company that recovers the refrigerant or the company for which the recovery was undertaken during service, maintenance, or the product's or system's end-of-life.
- No refrigerant can be used if none is recovered (i.e., recycled or reclaimed).

Note that these limits only apply to the handling, refilling, replacement, and recycling of refrigerants. The **regular maintenance of the appliance in question can continue as usual** (e.g., replacement of a broken fan or panel), as the new F-gas requirements do not cover maintenance and repair activities that are unrelated to F-gas.

The following **timeline with maximum GWP limits** applies to the handling, refilling, replacement, and recycling of refrigerants **when maintaining an existing air conditioner or heat pump** (incl. when integrated in air handling units):

- 1 January 2026: max GWP 2500, except regenerated and recycled refrigerants.
- 1 January 2032: max GWP 2500 also applies to regenerated and recycled refrigerants.

Chillers fall within the scope of the same maintenance requirements, provided that they are intended to fulfil the criteria of providing air conditioner functionalities (i.e., the process of conditioning air to meet the requirements of a space by controlling its temperature, humidity, cleanliness, and airflow).

Note that in case of a reparation, a **leakage check has to be performed** after 24 hours (not on the same day) and within one month following the reparation.



See [Art. 13](#) of the F-gas Regulation for the full maintenance requirements of existing products containing F-gasses.



b) GWP limits for placing new products on the market

Below is an overview of the maximum allowed GWP of the refrigerants used in appliances that are brought on the EU market. It concerns the limits for chillers, plugin and self-contained air conditioners and heat pumps, incl. monoblock, and split air conditioners and heat pumps. Please note that **air handling units with integrated heat pumps fall under the GWP limits for self-contained air conditioners and heat pumps**.

This means that **various commonly used F-gasses will be phased out**. At varying starting dates, it will affect R32 (GWP 675), R134A (GWP 1430), or R410A (GWP 2088).

Please note that the starting date in the overview below is always 1 January of the indicated year.

Table 1: GWP limits for placing new products on the market

Product type		2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	
	Chillers ≤ 12 kW	No Impact		GWP 150						No F-gas			
	Chillers > 12 kW	No Impact		GWP 750									
 	Self-contained AC & HP ≤ 12 kW	No impact		GWP 150						No F-gas			
	Self-contained AC & HP > 12-50 kW	No impact		GWP 150									
	Self-contained AC & HP > 50 kW	No impact					GWP 150						
 	Split AC & HP A2W ≤ 12 kW	< 3 kg GWP 750		GWP 150							No F-gas		
	Split AC & HP A2A ≤ 12 kW	< 3 kg GWP 750				GWP 150						No F-gas	
	Split AC & HP > 12 kW	< 3 kg GWP 750				GWP 750				GWP 150			



See [Annex IV](#) of the F-gas Regulation for the full list and explanations of GWP limits for new products containing refrigerants that are brought on the market.



c) Certification

The F-gas Regulation introduces certification requirements for handling both F-gas and natural refrigerants (ammonia, CO₂, hydrocarbons). These certification requirements have been included in light of safety considerations and **must be renewed every seven years**.

Specific certification requirements must be developed by the individual EU Member States. They had until 22 February 2025 to adopt certification requirements for installers and handlers of refrigerants.



More information on the minimum certificate requirements for installers and handlers of refrigerants and the mutual recognition of such certificates within the EU can be found in [Regulation \(EU\) 2024/2215](#).

d) Compliance with the F-gas Portal

The [F-gas Portal](#) is the EU's platform designed to implement the high-GWP refrigerants quota phase-out (incl. quota allocation), manage import and export requirement provisions, and facilitate reporting requirements under the new F-gas Regulation. Systemair is a registered company, since we handle F-gasses for our imported and exported chillers, air conditioners, and heat pumps.

Additionally, the F-gas Portal serves as an access point for the EU Commission and the Member States' market surveillance authorities, facilitating the enforcement and monitoring of the F-gas Regulation.



More information on the F-gas Portal can be found in [Regulation \(EU\) 2024/2473](#).



More information on the quota and reporting obligations is [available on the EU Commission's website](#).



3. Content and requirements

Enacting clauses

- **Chapter I: General provisions**
 - Subject, scope, definitions
- **Chapter II: Containment**
 - Emissions prevention, leak detection, recovery and destruction, certification
- **Chapter III: Restrictions & control of use**
 - Placing on the market and sale, product labelling & information, control of use
- **Chapter IV: Production and sales reduction**
 - Production, production rights, quota and quota allocation, F-gas Portal
- **Chapter V: Trade**
 - Imports and exports, trade controls
- **Chapter VI: Reporting emission data**
 - Reporting by undertakings and collection of emission data
- **Chapter VII: Enforcement**
 - Cooperation, exchange of info, obligation to carry out checks, reporting of breaches
- **Chapter VIII: Penalties & additional legislation**
 - Penalties, additional legislation
- **Chapter IX: Transitional and final provision**
 - Review, repeal of Regulation 517/2014, entry-into-force, application

Annex

- **Annexes I-III: F-gasses as referred to in Art. 2(a)**
 - I. HFCs, PFCs, other fluorinated compounds
 - II. Unsaturated H(Chloro)FCs, fluorinated substances used or inhalation anaesthetics, and other fluorinated substances
 - III. Fluorinated ethers, ketones and alcohols, and other fluorinated compounds
- **Annex IV: Prohibitions to place on the market as referred to in Art. 11(1)**
- **Annex V: Production rights for placing HFCs on the European market**
- **Annex VI: Method of calculating the GWP of mixtures, referred to Art. 3(1)**
- **Annex VII: Maximum quantities and calculation of reference values and quota for placing HFCs on the market, referred to in Art. 17**
- **Annex VIII: Allocation mechanism referred to in Art. 17**
- **Annex IX: Data to be reported, referred to in Art. 26**
- **Annex X: Correlation table with Regulation 517/2014**



4. Useful documents

Public authorities



[Impact assessment report \(CLIMA.A2/ETU/2019/0016\) – Final version of 14 Mar 2022](#)



[Summary of the impact assessment report \(SWD\(2022\)97\) of 5 Apr 2022](#)



[Opinion of the Regulatory Scrutiny Board on the impact assessment \(SEC\(2022\)156\) of 25 Feb 2022](#)



[EU Commission guidance on F-gas legislation \(webpage\)](#)



[Overview of EU F-gas legislation, incl. derogations \(webpage\)](#)

Associations



[EHPA Guideline on the F-gas Regulation \(Nov 2024\)](#)

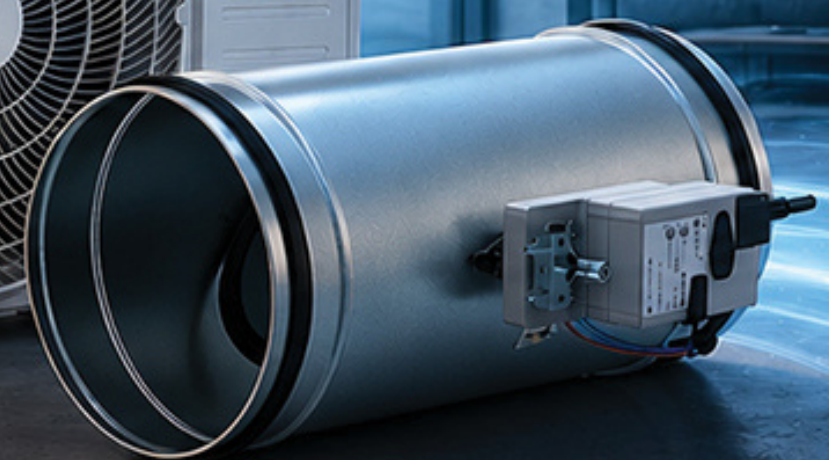


[Eurovent Certification explanation on the impact of F-gas requirements \(webpage\)](#)



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5. FAQ

Question

Answer

Concerning appliances containing F-gasses that are placed on the market in accordance with the timelines in Table 1 of this document: can they be installed after the GWP limit deadlines? This is relevant for customers that have these products in stock.

Yes, because the product is already placed on the market – there is not requirement to change or replace products that have already been placed on the market. However, servicing limits may apply (see answers below).

Who is affected and responsible for the F-gas limits?

All suppliers (manufacturers, importers, distributors, or any other entity bringing products on the EU market) within the EU are affected. Responsible are the ones that place an appliance containing F-gas on the market. Note that products intended exclusively for export are also covered, except several exceptions (see '1. Fundamentals').

Do existing systems need to be retrofitted?

No, not immediately, and it depends on the situation and the system in question:

- Phase-down quotas make it harder to source virgin F-gasses for maintenance of existing appliances.
- A servicing ban applies as of 1 January 2026 for using virgin F-gasses $GWP \geq 2,500$ (e.g., R404A, R507), while recycled and reclaimed F-gasses can be used for maintenance and servicing until 1 January 2032.
- For new appliances, the GWP limits depend on the product type and when it is placed on the market, and they only apply as of the deadlines in Table 1.

What if I need to replace my older units?

Please assess the availability of your desired appliance on the market. Units that have been placed on the market after the deadlines listed in Table 1, must fulfil the F-gas limits.

Are natural refrigerants safe?

Yes, provided that they are properly handled and installed, like with any other refrigerant. R290 (propane) must comply with EN 378 and the IEC 60335-2-40 standards to answer flammability concerns, and R744 (CO₂) required specialised components due to the higher pressures.



For us, it was clear from the beginning: the EU's F-gas Regulation is an opportunity to support true sustainability in the HVAC sector, and we are ready to contribute.

Silas Jäger, AC Product Manager, Systemair Group



Need support?

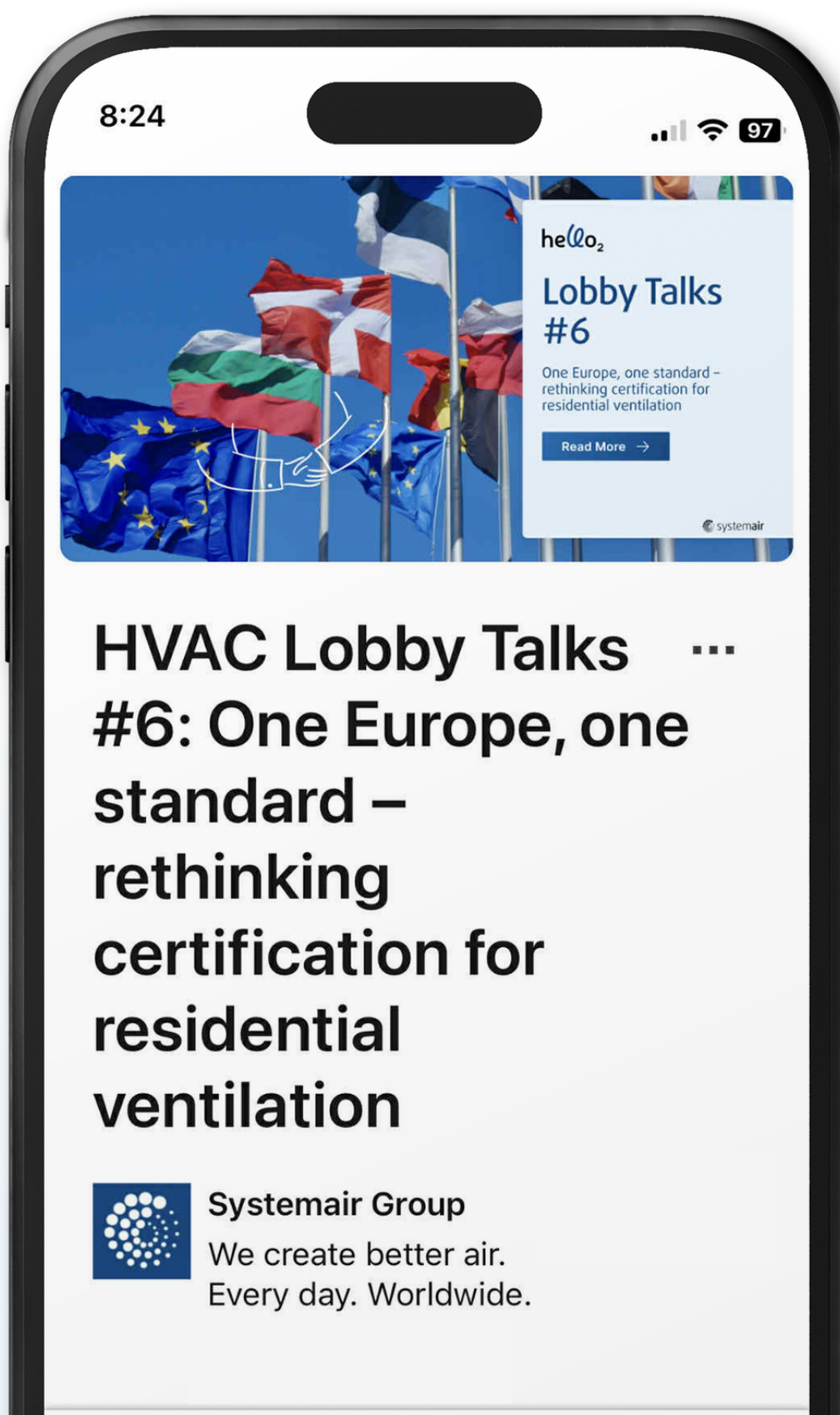
Contact our Group's Public Affairs Team!



Systemair AB
www.systemair.com

+46 222 440 00
mail@systemair.com

Industrivägen 3, 739 30
Skinskatteberg, SWEDEN



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