INTRODUCTION

Refrigeration complexities abound



Retailers face increasingly difficult decisions when selecting a refrigeration architecture:

- Transition to refrigerants with lower global warming potential (GWP)
- Maintenance and servicing concerns
- Total cost of ownership (TCO)



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COMMERCIAL REFRIGERATION

DRIVERS OF SYSTEM EVOLUTION

HFC phasedown drives system changes



Traditional centralized direct expansion (DX) refrigeration system challenges:

- Large refrigerant charges
- High-GWP hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) refrigerants
- Prone to leaks

Distributed refrigeration alternatives are emerging:

- Smaller refrigerant charges
- Lower-GWP refrigerants
- Wider application flexibility

Sustainability is becoming a higher priority:

- Increasing regulatory mandates
- Corporate sustainability goals
- Reduce total equivalent warming impact (TEWI)



Evaluating new refrigerant alternatives



Refrigerant choices must be evaluated on both their GWP rating and potential operational impacts.

Natural refrigerants CO₂ (R-744) and propane (R-290):

- Deliver the lowest possible GWP ratings
- Introduce potential complexities and design limitations
- High operating pressure (R-744) and flammability (R-290)

Emerging alternatives:

- A1 (non-flammable) hydrofluoroolefin (HFO) blend R-513A delivers excellent performance characteristics, much lower GWP (573) and zero flammability.
- A2L (mildly flammable) refrigerants with approval on the horizon, these will offer GWP levels below 150.
 - Emerson is already qualifying equipment to use A2Ls.



SOLUTION: COPELAND™ SCROLL BOOSTER

Balancing sustainability, serviceability and flexibility



The Copeland scroll booster architecture emerged out of industrywide collaboration among Emerson, Hussmann and Chemours at The Helix Innovation Center. It is designed to elevate refrigeration performance while meeting retailers' operating objectives:



- Uses R-513A for both low- (LT) and medium-temperature (MT) refrigeration
- Provides an efficient and environmentally friendly alternative to large centralized systems
- Scales from small, low-charge condensing units to larger distributed racks charged with several hundred pounds of refrigerant

Architecture highlights:

- Straightforward and serviceable design offers the familiarity of using an A1 refrigerant
- Produces significantly lower discharge temperatures and compression ratios
- Additional system cooling measures not required
- Minimizes mechanical load on LT compressors
- Delivers significant overall net system efficiency gains





BENEFITS

Wide industry potential and appeal



The Copeland scroll booster's combination of a low-pressure, low-GWP refrigerant and a simple, distributed architecture fills an urgent need within the broader food retail market. Its benefits check many key boxes on the list of modern supermarket refrigeration priorities:



- Lower-GWP, A1 refrigerant (e.g., R-513A)
- Reduced refrigerant charge
- Lower leak rates due to lower-pressure system
- Lower utility costs
- System familiarity with technicians and end users
- Low TCO from lower annual energy consumption and lifecycle climate performance (LCCP)
- Secure remote facility monitoring capabilities

Future-forward refrigerant compatibility:

- Enables retrofit to A2L refrigerants when they are potentially approved for use (with mitigation measures)
- Supports the transition to even lower-GWP refrigerants, if needed
- Provides assurance of long-term system viability



