## Natural Refrigerants Captivate Industry Groups



Kartik Kumar at Cool Logistics



Natural refrigerant technology for the marine shipping industry has been a topic of considerable interest this year among both cold chain and environmental audiences, with Carrier representatives speaking at a number of industry events.

Notably out front at several conferences was Kartik Kumar, Carrier Director of Marketing and Strategic Planning, Global Container Refrigeration, who spoke about the development of NaturaLINE technology on panels at the Cold Chain Logistics Conference and CARBON EXPO, both in Barcelona, Spain, and also at Cool Logistics Global 2011 in Antwerp, Belgium.

Discussing natural refrigerant technology in the context of European environmental standards development, Mike Griffin, Carrier Transicold program manager, addressed the International Congress of Refrigeration in Prague, Czech Republic and the ATMOsphere Europe conference in Brussels, Belgium, an event itself dedicated to the promulgation of policies related to adoption and use of natural refrigerants.

"With the increased focus on environmental sustainability, the idea of natural refrigerants has resonated well with the shipping industry," said Kumar. "Audiences recognize this as a step in the right direction and have told us that natural refrigerants represent the final step in the transition to the most environmentally sound refrigerant.

"While we are encouraged by the response, we consider it a privilege and are proud to be in a position to help define the industry direction," Kumar said. "We are truly excited about the promise this technology holds for the container refrigeration industry."

Griffin's address at the ATMOsphere Conference clearly stated Carrier's position on natural refrigerants, calling for the inclusion of transport refrigeration in the European F-Gas Regulation.

"Carrier has the right refrigerant solution for every application, but not every application will use the same refrigerant," Griffin said. "We have an ongoing commitment to apply refrigeration alternatives that minimize environmental impact while serving customer needs.

"Although transport refrigeration is not currently covered by the current EU F-Gas Regulation, Carrier supports its inclusion in a revised F-Gas Regulation that would advocate the use of natural refrigerants by 2025," said Griffin. "Technological progress has been made with natural refrigerant solutions that can be expected to meet ambitious F-Gas goals by 2025 for transport refrigeration. In this context we believe that any potential intermediate, non-natural refrigerant solution will be damaging to the environment, costly to develop and unnecessary."

