



Invitation to Press Conference

Automobile Industry plans new generation of mobile air conditioning systems equipped with flammable and toxic refrigerants – a competition about millions is generated

Deutsche Umwelthilfe present own tests concerning the chemical refrigerant 1234yf at the Geneva International Motor Show, warn against risks for drivers and explain an unusual cooperation between automobile and chemical industry.

Berlin, 26th of February 2009

Dear Madam or Sir,

starting from 2011, R134a the currently used climate-damaging refrigerant in mobile air conditioning systems will be phased out Europe-wide. The automobile industry obviously intends to replace the climate risk with another risk. R134a shall be replaced by the highly flammable and in case of fire toxic chemical 1234yf. International operating chemical companies exert pressure to be allowed to use this substance for the new generation of air conditioning systems for passenger cars – despite the known risks.

Concerned about the environment and the health of drivers, Deutsche Umwelthilfe e.V. and Dr. Axel Friedrich, transport expert and former head of the division “Transport and Noise” in the German Federal Environmental Agency (UBA), have initiated own tests concerning the chemical reaction of the refrigerant 1234yf in case of a simulated accident. On the occasion of the 79th International Motor Show in Geneva, we would like to present the alarming results to you at our press conference and explain the possible consequences for car passengers.

We look forward to your participation!

Date: Wednesday, 04th of March 2009 at 3:00 p.m.
**Location: International Motor Show Geneva,
Villa Sarasin, Salon 11
CH - 1218 Grand-Saconnex / Genf**
**Participants: Jürgen Resch, CEO Deutsche Umwelthilfe e.V.
Dr. Axel Friedrich, Transport expert & Consultant**

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