



HVAC / PLUMBING

The Environmental Protection Agency's phase out of R-22 refrigerant will be official as of January 1, 2020. Equipment manufacturers, refrigerant suppliers and distributors have been preparing for years. Once in full effect, this ban means no new or imported R-22 refrigerant will be allowed in the United States. If you haven't yet reviewed your options or made changes, now is the time to prepare your facility for necessary equipment replacement.

Recently one Toledo, Ohio-based food processing facility took initiative to eliminate its plant of all equipment that operates on R-22 refrigerant. The facility called on GEM's service division to self-perform mechanical and electrical work and replace all old equipment with new R410-A equipment.

Timing was critical for this large project as the customer chose to phase out all of the R-22 equipment at one time. This fast-paced job was completed in 10 weeks with no shutdowns and utilized two separate crews onsite.

Along with meeting the new EPA standards, this change out led to increased efficiency for the facility's HVAC equipment. Previously routine HVAC maintenance was not being conducted onsite, so the facility's HVAC units were not operating at peak performance.

As a result of the change-out work that GEM Energy completed at the facility, a preventive maintenance contract has been put in place to manage the upkeep of the new R410-A equipment. This type of facility cannot afford lost productivity, so in order to protect its facility investments a preventive maintenance contract was an easy choice.

