

Honeywell
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UPDATE: LIMITED SALE AND USE OF OXYFUME 2002 PERMITTED UNTIL JANUARY 1, 2015.


December 15, 2009, the EPA published its Final Rule governing the prohibition of HCFC-22 sale and use after January 1, 2010. (HCFC-22 is a key component in Oxyfume 2002 ethylene oxide sterilant gas blend.) Under the Final Rule: **The use and sale of Oxyfume 2002 gas blend to sterilize medical equipment is permitted until January 1, 2015, provided that the Oxyfume 2002 sterilant gas blend contains only HCFC-22 manufactured before 12-31-2009.** [40 CFR 82 December 15, 2009. Section 82.15 (g)(2)(ii), p. 66445; and, the explanation of the Rule, p. 66442.] As the explanation of the rule makes clear, this exemption permits medical device manufacturers and hospitals that are converting away from Oxyfume 2002 more time to complete that conversion.

The Final Rule is different from the Proposed Rule of which we notified all our customers April 1, 2009. The Proposed Rule [12-23-2008] made it illegal to sell or use any Oxyfume 2002 after January 1, 2010. The healthcare industry made enormous, and successful, efforts to convert away from Oxyfume 2002 by 12-31-2009.

However, under the Final Rule, if you or your supplier possess Oxyfume 2002 supplied before December 31, 2009, you may use what you have in stock, and you may buy Oxyfume 2002 from distributors that have in stock any Oxyfume 2002 that contains HCFC-22 manufactured before December 31, 2009 – until January 1, 2015.

Honeywell still has some Oxyfume 2002 (manufactured with HCFC-22 made before December 31, 2009); also, we have in stock some pre-2010 HCFC-22 from which additional Oxyfume 2002 can be manufactured, sold and used; but the stock is limited; and when we run out of all the old HCFC-22, we can no longer make Oxyfume 2002 sterilant. Because Oxyfume 2002 will be made in small batches, its price is likely to rise and will be quoted at then-prevailing market prices. Orders will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis.

For more information about availability and current market prices for Oxyfume 2002 sterilant blends, please contact your Oxyfume 2002 sterilant distributor.



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