



# The Mulvaney Pipeline

## Happy Holidays from the entire Mulvaney Staff

### ARE YOU PRO PROPANE?



We have thought about various refrigerant choices, and now we turn to the hydrocarbon family, the most common of which, as a refrigerant, is propane. It has often been said that choosing a refrigerant is an exercise in compromise because there are so many competing factors to consider, and low global warming potential—even lower than the HFOs (hydrofluoro-olefin). Hydrocarbons are very widely used in the domestic refrigerator market, particularly in Europe where more than 85% of all refrigerators use one or other of the family. This was not always the case, but in the early 1990s when the Berlin Wall had recently fallen and the two halves of Germany were figuring out how to live together again after a 45-year separation, a small, struggling East German refrigerator manufacturer hooked up with Greenpeace to develop a "climate-friendly" refrigerator. Their timing was excellent; the concept of CFC-free refrigeration was quickly adopted by the German government and translated soon after into a European regulation, and all of the major European manufacturers quickly followed suit.

Early systems used a mixture of propane and isobutane to match the performance of R-12, but as the technology matured equipment was developed to use pure isobutane. The benefits of these materials are sometimes contradictory. Hence, there is no perfect refrigerant.

Propane scores very highly in all criteria bar none. R290 is the common name for high purity propane (C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub>) which is suitable for use in the refrigeration and air conditioning industry. It is also known as CARE® 40. It has a suitable pressure-temperature relationship (very similar to R-22); it has a relatively high latent heat but a low index of compression; it is cheap and readily available, and it is compatible with mineral oils—not a surprise as it is a kind of mineral oil itself! Environmentally, it also performs well, having no effect on the ozone layer and a low global warming potential—even lower than the HFOs.

### STRANGE... BUT IT IS TRUE

- Most highway deaths are so preventable that traffic experts don't refer to them as "accidents" any more. They now use the term "collisions".
- The chances of a pedestrian dying after being hit by a car going 20 mph is 5 percent. It rises to 80 percent if the car is traveling twice as fast.
- According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, food service workers are the most likely to use drugs or alcohol on the job (16.9%) Second was construction workers (13.7%).
- The rate of dog-bite-related injuries is highest for children ages five to nine years old.
- If you drop off to sleep as soon as you go to bed, its a sign that you're sleep deprived.
- One in five individuals living with the HIV virus are unaware they are infected.
- According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness ten percent of children and adolescents in the US suffer from serious emotional and mental disorders.
- A light bulb manufactured in 1901 still burns in a Livermore, California, firehouse.
- Since 1954, the venomous box jellyfish has caused more than 5,500 deaths.
- Aftershocks from Hawaii's largest earthquake in 1868, continue to the present day.
- Obdormition: the scientific term for a limb that's "asleep."
- In 1439, the English government banned kissing to stop germs from spreading.
- Breathing into a paper bag does not really help hyperventilation. You should breathe through pursed lips, as if you are whistling, or pinch one nostril and breathe through your nose. It is harder to hyperventilate when you breath through your nose or pursed lips, because you cannot move as much air.
- Only 2 diseases have been eradicated completely. Smallpox in 1980 and bovine measles in 2011.
- Worldwide, one in four people is infected with hookworms.

### United States is running out of fresh water!

A "silent disaster"—the United States running out of fresh water—is looming, and few Americans seem concerned about or are even aware of it, Waterless Co., manufacturer of no-flush urinals, says. Citing comments by Sen. Tom Udall of New Mexico,

Waterless says:

- Global water consumption has tripled over the last 50 years.
- By 2030, the demand for fresh water in the United States will exceed supply by as much as 40 percent.
- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) says 36 states are facing local or regional water shortages.
- The Rio Grande is listed as one of the top 10 endangered rivers in the world.

Klaus Reichardt, founder and chief executive officer of Waterless Co., says building owners, managers, and cleaning professionals can do much to use water more efficiently, including:

- Look for the EPA's WaterSense label on water-using products.
- Organize a "Fix a Leak Week," letting building engineers know about and fix leaking pipes.
- Cultivate a water-efficiency "culture," encouraging building users to think about how they use water and how they can use it more efficiently.

"This is far more than a water-conservation issue," Reichardt said. "We can use far less water than we do today and still maintain our lifestyle. We need to conserve water and keep looking for more and more ways to use water more efficiently."

### "Hanukkah is Not the Jewish Christmas"

To many non-Jews, Hanukkah seems like an eight-day Jewish version of Christmas. Presents, lights, candles, miracles—it all sounds so familiar, but they are vastly dissimilar. Although there are many differences simply stated:

- **Hanukkah** is a celebration of a different kind of miracle. Upon Judah Maccabee's defeat of the Syrians, the Second Temple in Judea was rebuilt. During the dedication, a menorah was to be lit, its candles burning every night. Though there was only oil enough to keep the candles lit for a single night, they burned for eight. Those eight nights are celebrated each year during Hanukkah.
- **Christmas** celebrates the birth of Jesus, the son of God. For them, it's a miracle of the most profound sort, and is the most important Christian holiday other than Easter.



**WHAT THE HECK IS IT?**  
If you can name the item pictured, you may


**WIN A MULVANEY MECHANICAL LEATHER JACKET**

If you e-mail your entry, you must write "NEWSLETTER CONTEST" in the subject line to avoid our SPAM filter. Please mail to [janette@mulvaneyinc.com](mailto:janette@mulvaneyinc.com)

**\*JUST LIKE THIS ONE!**



If multiple correct answers are received, a winner will be selected at random.



This is a 1940's 1 to 8 ounce postal weight scale made by Thompson Tool and Manufacturing Co. of Franklin Park, IL. It was fabricated from solid turned aluminum with a Bakelite base. It was usually imprinted and given as advertising gifts. No doubt the forerunner of todays imprinted pens, coffee cups and tee shirts.

We did not receive any correct answers this time around.

**We invite all readers to enter and share a guess. Next time you may win!**

### Amusing Christmas Stories

#### Buy Your Own Gift.

Last Christmas, grandpa was feeling his age, and found that shopping for Christmas gifts had become too difficult. So he decided to send checks to everyone instead. In each card he wrote, "Buy your own present!" and mailed them early.

He enjoyed the usual flurry of family festivities, and it was only after the holiday that he noticed that he had received very few cards in return. Puzzled over this, he went into his study, intending to write a couple of his relatives and ask what had happened. It was then, as he cleared off his cluttered desk that he got his answer. Under a stack of papers, he was horrified to find the gift checks which he had forgotten to enclose with the cards.



#### Reindeer's Story at Christmas.

According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, while both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year, male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid-December.

Female reindeer retain their antlers till after they give birth in the spring. Therefore, according to EVERY historical rendition depicting Santa's reindeer, EVERY single one of them, from Rudolph to Blitzen, had to be a girl.

We should have known... ONLY women would be able to drag a fat man in a red velvet suit all around the world in one night and not get lost.

#### An Honest Politician.

Just before Christmas, an honest politician, a generous lawyer and Santa Claus all got into an elevator at the Hilton Hotel in New York. As the elevator travelled from the 5th floor down to the lobby level, one-by-one they noticed a \$100 dollar bill laying on the elevator floor.

Which one picked up the hundred dollar bill, and handed it in at the lobby desk? Santa Claus of course, the other two don't actually exist!

#### A Stupid Christmas Burglar.

It was Christmas Eve; the department store manager was in his office counting the day's cash receipts. All of a sudden a burglar broke in and ordered the manager to hand-over the considerable amount of cash.

The manager was wondering what to do, so the burglar attempted to fire his pistol in order to help make up the manager's mind, and hand over the money. Although the robber pulled the trigger, nothing happened, so unbelievably, he peered down the barrel and then fired again. This time it worked.

### WHAT'S GOIN' ON?

Jan 1-5 <sup>th</sup>	New York Boat Show	New York, NY
Jan 10-12 <sup>th</sup>	International Motorcycle Show	Washington D.C.
Jan 18-22 <sup>nd</sup>	ASHRAE Winter Conference	New York, NY
Jan 21-24 <sup>th</sup>	World of Concrete USA Show	Las Vegas, NV
Feb 4-6 <sup>th</sup>	International Builders Show	Las Vegas, NV
Mar 19-20 <sup>th</sup>	Buildings NY	New York, NY
Apr 13-17 <sup>th</sup>	Building & Construction- No-Dig 2014	Orlando, FL



*We wish our friends of all faiths a Happy Holiday Season and a Peaceful, Prosperous New Year*



*Ordinary riches can be stolen; real riches cannot. In your soul are infinitely precious things that cannot be taken from you.*  
Oscar Wilde



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