

# Opt

for better

New Ice Facility  
in Sterling, Virginia  
Successfully Installs  
Opteon™ XP10



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The Loudoun Ice Centre in Sterling, Virginia recently installed a new chiller system, designed by Accent Refrigeration Systems Ltd., utilizing Opteon™ XP10 (R-513A), a low global warming potential (GWP) refrigerant that delivers the optimal balance of performance, sustainability, safety, and cost.

Darren Hersh, owner/operator of the Goalie Academy, an internationally recognized training center for hockey players at all levels, has been around ice hockey his entire life. As a player, fan, and coach, Darren works with everyone from beginners through those in the professional ranks, helping the next generation of hockey players develop the skills necessary for success.



***"I am a skater and coach; so, I am on the ice everyday, and quality/hardness of the ice is noticeable," Hersh explains.***

As his business continued to grow, Hersh considered his need to expand and update his training facilities, resulting in the construction of an all-new small ice facility, the Loudoun Ice Centre. The new chiller system needed a regulatory-compliant, energy-efficient, safe, and reliable solution because their customer events include youth hockey team practices, "learn to play" clinics, and even birthday parties.

Hersh reached out to Art Sutherland, President at Accent Refrigeration in Victoria, BC, for advice on the best ice-making systems and technology for his newly constructed facility. Sutherland has served as both a long-time consultant to the Olympic Games and designer/builder of numerous state-of-the-art chiller systems for hockey, skating, and curling venues around the world.

According to Sutherland, "We suggested Loudoun go with a low GWP refrigerant, such as Opteon™ XP10. At Accent Refrigeration, we recommend all of our projects are built to provide our customers with systems that make great ice, are reliable, have redundancy, consume minimal electricity, reuse waste heat, and use low GWP refrigerants."

When the recommended system's performance, as well as its benefits to the environment, were explained to Hersh and his partner/wife, the decision was obvious. "We preferred to make a choice that we felt was better for the environment than to take a chance of having to change in the near future."

Opteon™ XP10 refrigerant from The Chemours Company is one of a new generation of hydrofluoroolefin (HFO) products developed to both enhance performance and provide a more environmentally sustainable refrigerant solution to the market for generations to come.

Opteon™ XP refrigerants, like the Freon™ products they're replacing, are classified by ASHRAE Std. 34 as A1 (low toxicity, nonflammable), but have the added benefits of being non-ozone depleting and having low GWP, making them a great choice for facilities looking for a lasting solution that provides an optimum balance of performance, sustainability, safety, and cost.

Chemours recently joined forces with the NHL® to bring sustainable refrigerant solutions to North American ice rinks in support of a lasting future for the game. Through this partnership, Opteon™ refrigerants are the preferred refrigerants of the NHL®. Both Chemours and the NHL® are committed to seeing ice rinks across North America thrive.

For Hersh, the ice chiller system continues to reliably "hum along in the background" since starting up over a year ago; it keeps a quality ice pad optimum and ready for use at all times, allowing the Loudoun staff to focus on their core mission of training and teaching future hockey players.

***"When we heard about the Opteon™ based system, we were on-board immediately," commented Hersh. "For us, it's all about the future—both for the players we are helping to develop and for the environment."***

"Hersh's rink does a lot for the youth in its region and is a great asset to the hockey community," concluded Sutherland.



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OFFICIAL REFRIGERANT SOLUTION OF THE NHL®

**For more information on the Opteon™ family of low GWP products, visit [optforbetter.com/NHL](http://optforbetter.com/NHL)**