

Title (en)  
Heat pump

Title (de)  
Wärmepumpe

Title (fr)  
Pompe à chaleur

Publication  
**EP 1580496 A2 20050928 (EN)**

Application  
**EP 04103085 A 20040630**

Priority  
KR 20040019700 A 20040323

Abstract (en)  
A refrigerator and a control method thereof in which a smooth flow of a refrigerant can be provided through an effective control for a path change valve (310) when a flow path of the refrigerant is changed between two evaporators (205,207) equipped in the refrigerator by the path change valve (310). The refrigerator includes a refrigerating compartment evaporator (205), a freezing compartment evaporator (207), a first expansion device (304) adapted to expand a flow of a refrigerant to be introduced into the refrigerating compartment evaporator (205), a second expansion device (308) adapted to expand a flow of the refrigerant to be introduced into the freezing compartment evaporator (207), a path change device (310) adapted to change a flow path of the refrigerant between the first expansion device (304) and the second expansion device (308), and a control unit adapted to control the path change device so that, when the refrigerant flow path is changed from the second expansion device (308) to the first expansion device (304), a simultaneous opening stage causing the refrigerant to be introduced into both the first expansion device (304) and the second expansion device (308) is maintained for a predetermined time. <IMAGE>

IPC 1-7  
**F25B 5/04**; **F25B 41/06**; **F25B 41/04**

IPC 8 full level  
**F25B 5/04** (2006.01); **F25B 41/04** (2006.01); **F25B 41/06** (2006.01); **F25D 17/06** (2006.01)

CPC (source: EP KR US)  
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