

EPEE advocates the usage of heat pumps to reach the 2020 targets

Brussels, 6 April 2010: As shown from recently published data, some Member States are shy of reaching their 2020 renewables target; heat pumps can help those Member States nail their ambitions, states the European Partnership for Energy and the Environment (EPEE).

Recent data from the European Commission illustrates that the EU as a whole can surpass its established 2020 target by a close 0.3%. Yet, some Member States are having difficulty in achieving their individual targets set out in December 2008.¹ EPEE believes Member States should include heat pumps both in their National Renewable Energy Action Plans, as well as in their National Energy Efficiency Action Plans.

In December 2008 the EU's 27 Member States decided that renewable sources of energy should account for 20% of the EU's energy mix by 2020. To meet their individual [national targets](#) within this overall goal, [Member States set out a National Renewable Energy Action Plan in 2009](#) which defines how much renewable energy must be part of the overall energy consumption in transport, electricity and heating and cooling by 2020.

Besides the benefit of considerably reducing CO₂-emissions, heat pumps are both an energy-saving tool as well as a renewable energy technology. They use aerothermal, geothermal and hydrothermal energy, which are all renewable energy sources and recognized as such under the 2009 EU Directive on the Promotion of Renewable Energy Sources.

Heat pump technology is already widely used in many Member States. Statistics from the European Heat Pump Association (EHPA) show that France's heat pump sales increased 127% between 2007 and 2008, almost tripling those of Germany, whose sales increased by 47%, followed by Sweden (37%), Finland (30%) and Switzerland and Austria (27%).

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/energy/renewables/transparency_platform/doc/0_forecast_summary.pdf

First available 2009 figures show that the economical crisis also hit the pump sector as activities in the building sector slowed down significantly and renovation projects have been postponed. This is directly reflected by the heat pump market where in France and in Germany, for example, sales decreased by 20% and 12% respectively. However the prognosis for 2010 is positive, with numerous countries implementing new incentive schemes and/or carrying on existing ones.

For further information, please contact:

Andrea Voigt

Tel: +32 2 738 17 89

European Partnership for Energy and the Environment

E-mail: secretariat@epeeglobal.org / Website: www.epeeglobal.org

Notes to the Editor:

The European Partnership for Energy and the Environment (EPEE) is the de facto voice of the heating, cooling and refrigeration industry in Europe. It represents a broad-based group of responsible companies, national associations and European associations active in the European heat-pump, air-conditioning and refrigeration industry. It was formed in September 2000 to contribute to the development of effective European policies to increase energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gases from the use of refrigerants. Further information can be found on-line at www.epeeglobal.org.

In December 2008 the EU's 27 Member States decided that renewable sources of energy should account for 20% of the EU's energy mix by 2020 by [setting different national targets](#) to meet this overall goal. To meet these targets, [Member States set out national targets in 2009](#) (the so-called National Renewable Energy Action Plan) setting the targets for the share of energy in renewable sources to be consumed in transport, electricity and heating and cooling in 2020. On March 11 the European Commission [published a document with a forecast](#) which predicts whether each Member State will reach its 2020 target.

EPEE

14A, rue du Luxembourg, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

Tel : +32-2 732 70 40 / Fax : +32-2 732 71 76

E-Mail : Secretariat@epeeglobal.org / www.epeeglobal.org