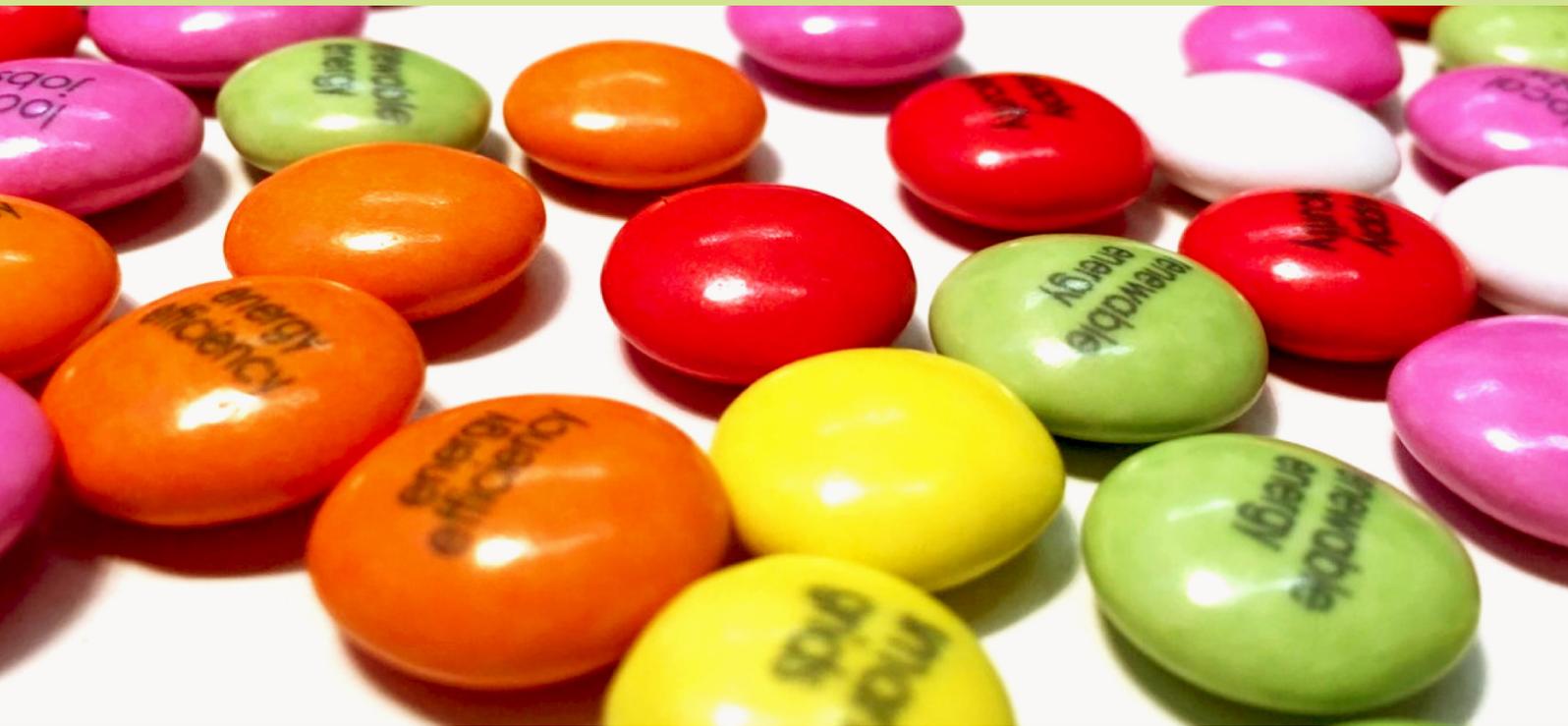


EHPA position on the Energy Union package



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“Heat pumps at the heart of the Energy Union!”



Europe suffers from air pollution, wasting energy and high cost of imported fossil fuels. The European Commission has made the right move by adopting the Energy Union package aimed at creating a secure, sustainable and competitive energy system.

- The Energy Union should give primary consideration to heating and cooling and look at the best available options.
- Heat pumps offer solutions across all the dimensions of the Energy Union. They should play a key role.

Heat pumps boost the five dimensions of the Energy Union

1 Energy security

Heat pumps can eliminate the need for fossil fuel imports coming from politically unstable regions to be used for heating.

2 Integrated energy market

Heat pump systems bridge electric grids and thermal networks. Serving as thermal batteries, they provide demand response capacity. Heat pumps are enabler of a higher share of RES in complex energy systems.

3 Energy efficiency

Heat pumps increase energy efficiency in the residential, commercial and industrial sector. They are essential components of future nearly zero energy buildings. Heat pumps are amongst the most efficient devices for heating, cooling and hot water use.

4 Renewable energy

Heat pumps decarbonise our economies by using sustainable energy from air, water and ground. They can help make Europe #1 in renewables.

5 Research, innovation and competitiveness

Heat pump applications offer a variety of solutions to keep the European industry competitive. In future smart cities/regions, they will be at the heart of energy-optimised buildings and infrastructure integrating different energy technologies.

Heat pump solutions are reliable, mature and ready to deliver.

An ambitious Energy Union should recognise, promote and even prioritise them!

Facts and way forward



Using heat pumps strengthens Europe's **energy supply security** by replacing fossil fuels imports with domestic energy sources. EHPA data shows that an additional 54 million heat pumps can overcome the need for gas imports from Russia by 2030. Realising the demand reduction potential until 2030 requires a 17% annual market growth.

→ The EU and the Member States should consider heat pump solutions as part of the energy infrastructure. Policy and financial frameworks should recognise their potential and boost public and private investments.



Integrated energy markets with a larger share of intermittent electricity from variable renewable energy sources need storage. According to the 2015 IRENA report "*Battery Storage for Renewables*", heat pump based thermal storage is one of the most cost-efficient options.

→ The thermal storage provided by heat pump systems needs to be supported. Load based, cost-flexible electricity tariffs are essential to create new business models enabling end-users to become active consumers or even producers of energy.

→ Customer choice for heat pumps must be encouraged in a modern internal energy market with ambitious climate and energy targets and with a level playing field for all technologies.



Heat pumps are best in class in terms of **energy efficiency** (A+++). 6.7 million installed heat pumps saved 99 TWh of final energy or 47 TWh of primary energy in 2013.

→ The "Energy Efficiency First" principle should be implemented in Europe's heating & cooling strategy for buildings and industrial processes to fully unleash the technologies' potentials and reduce the need for fossil fuel based infrastructure investment.



The contribution of heat pumps to the use of **renewable energy** has exceeded 78 TWh. At the same time, 20 Mt of greenhouse gas emissions were avoided. Yet, heat pumps barely receive any financial compensation for the delivered services.

→ Member States should accurately report on renewable energy produced by heat pumps.

→ Successful public and private incentive mechanisms, such as the "European Fund for Strategic Investments", need to be developed in line with the objectives of the Energy Union. Only the best systems should be rewarded to quickly unleash their full potential.



The heat pump industry offers opportunities in **research, innovation and competitiveness**. Most products are developed and made in Europe. The industry employs more than 41.000 people in research, design, planning, installation and maintenance.

→ Support for upskilling the work force in the heat pump sector is needed to retain know-how in the EU and create more local jobs.

→ Research on system design, advanced control devices and cost-optimisation of heating and cooling systems is needed to be called for under Horizon 2020 and national schemes.

... with heat pumps, we can:

use renewable energy from air, water and ground for heating and cooling,

integrate a larger share of electricity from renewable sources into the grid,

reduce demand for fossil fuels,

reduce greenhouse gas emissions,

provide a stable, affordable energy supply,

create employment in Europe,

contribute to a sustainable energy future!



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