PRESS RELEASE

EHPA warmed by ITRE vote on Energy Roadmap 2050: importance of heating and cooling properly recognized

Brussels, 25 January 2013 – Yesterday, the European Parliament’s ITRE committee voted on the Compromise Amendments of the Energy Roadmap 2050. EHPA is warmed on a cold winter day to see that the Compromise Amendments properly acknowledge the importance of not only the heating and cooling sector, but also heat pumps in particular.

The ITRE Committee agreed on a series of Compromised Amendments (CAs) to the Commission’s Communication on the Energy Roadmap 2050. This roadmap explores several pathways in which to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80-95% by 2050. The CAs now clearly underline the need for the inclusion of the heating and cooling sector in the pathway to a low-carbon economy and energy system by 2050.

Secretary General of the European Heat Pump Association (EHPA), Thomas Nowak, is very happy to see this: “After the publication of the initial Commission proposal, I thought we would end up with another document in which renewable heating and cooling, and heat pumps in particular, would not be represented. The broad acknowledgement of the importance of heating and cooling from natural sources and the needs of this sector is an important start for developing its full potential. Now the considerations made in the CA need to be executed in Brussels and the Member States to make Europe’s heating and cooling systems truly renewable.”

Heating and cooling account for about 45% of Europe’s final energy consumption. As such, the integration of the different available renewable heating and cooling solutions is crucial. EHPA is particularly pleased to see the specific mentioning of aero-, hydro- and geothermal energy as renewable energy sources to achieve a low-carbon economy. “These are all sources that heat pumps use in a very efficient way, underlining that heat pumps will play a key role in the decades to come in achieving the EU’s targets”, says Nowak. EHPA welcomes the fact that the Parliament sees the need for better data, an issue that has been pointed out for a long time by the association.

Next step is Council: EHPA, as a Member of the Heat Coalition, will do everything we can to ensure that Member States, too, will support this document.

Contact details
Mr. Pieter-Jan Cluyse, Policy Assistant, +32 (2) 400 10 35, pieterjan.cluyse@ehpa.org

Note to the editor
The Brussels based European Heat Pump Association EEIG (EHPA) represents the majority of the European heat pump industry. It has more than 100 members from all parts of the industry's value chain: heat pump and component manufacturers, research institutes, universities, testing labs and energy agencies. Its key goal is to promote awareness and proper deployment of heat pump technology in the European market place for residential, commercial and industrial application. EHPA coordinates the European Quality label for heat pumps and the EUCERT education and training scheme for heat pump installers. EHPA compiles the annual heat pump sales statistics and market outlook. For more information, please visit: www.ehpa.org.

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