

PRESS RELEASE

Brussels, 23 January 2015

Binding and ambitious energy efficiency targets needed for growth and energy security. Industry reopens debate with different scope.

“Go for ambitious 2030 targets and stick to them – energy efficiency is a driver for competitiveness and innovation!” said Hans-Joachim Banhardt, Vice President Health, Safety, Environment and Fire protection of the Bosch Group along a lunch debate on energy efficiency, organised by the European Heat Pump Association (EHPA) and the German Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers’ Association (ZVEI) last Wednesday.

“Ambitious and binding targets are also the best way to get rid of unwanted imported fuels!” added Rudolf Sonnemann, CEO of Stiebel Eltron group, explaining, for example, how 54 million additional heat pumps in Europe could reduce the total amount of imported gas from Russia to zero by 2030.

MEP Groote (S&D), who cohosted the event with MEP Liese (EPP), shared the view that binding targets are the only way forward. He also agreed that the decisions taken by the European Council on the EU's energy targets last December, did not prevent the Commission from proposing further-reaching policy measures on energy efficiency in the months to come. This would be in line with what the Juncker team had always defended before it took office. Moreover, the argument of a future Energy Union, reaching beyond climate issues to growth and energy security, could be invoked by the Commission to take a more ambitious stand on energy efficiency.

Contact details

Mr. Oliver Jung, Policy Officer, +32 (2) 400 10 35, oliver.jung@ehpa.org

Note to the editor

The Brussels based European Heat Pump Association (EHPA) represents the majority of the European heat pump industry. It has currently 110 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. It compiles the annual sales statistics and market outlook. For more information, please visit: www.ehpa.org.

≈≈≈