Europe

European Heat Pump Market Grew by Ten Percent in 2015

In 2015, the European heat pump market grew by 10%, (resulting in a record year with 880,179 units sold) contributing to 24 Mt of CO₂ emission savings and the creation of 47,103 full time jobs. These latest figures were released by the European Heat Pump Association (EHPA) end of June. This growth is mainly driven by the strong segment of air-sourced heat pumps, a renewable technology that finds increasing attention in European and national statistics, according to EHAP.

Geographically, most of the growth can be attributed to increased sales in the Mediterranean countries Spain (+15%), Italy (+20%) and France (+8%). These figures could increase further in these countries if an appropriate framework would be set at EU level to account for renewable cooling, commented Pascal Westring, EHPA expert in statistics. This issue is addressed by the Commission this year with the Heating & Cooling Strategy and revision of the Renewable Energy Directive.

Looking at the sales potential identified by EHPA, if European markets would reach the same maturity level as the Swedish one, the European heat pump stock could realistically grow to 60 million units, enough to replace today’s imported Russian gas for heating purposes.

Thomas Nowak, Secretary general of EHPA, says: «A catchy word in Brussels energy discussion nowadays is ‘integrated approach’. Heat pumps are the perfect system integration technology for a resilient Energy Union. They are a bridge between the electricity and the thermal sector, between heating and cooling. They can be combined with residual heat, district heating, cogeneration and other RES solutions.»

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