

## **Working for the industry: EPEE campaigns for a long-term sustainability agenda**

*The European Partnership for Energy and the Environment – EPEE – voice of the HVACR industry to decision makers in Europe, has ambitious objectives. Broadly involved in the regulatory work of the sector, the association wants to proactively contribute to the achievement of a long-term sustainability agenda.*

The regulatory context in which EPEE is actively involved is extremely complex, ranging from very specific measures such as the f-gas regulation to comprehensive frameworks such as the directive on the ecodesign of energy-using products.

### **Better Understanding**

The association is very well structured and has clearly defined priorities which make it very effective. Andrea Voigt, EPEE's Director General explains:

“EPEE has the big advantage of a very quick and efficient decision making process as our membership is composed of direct company members. We have two main priorities which guide us in our daily work: The promotion of energy efficiency in the HVACR sector and the choice of the most efficient and sustainable refrigerants. The specialists in our Working Groups and Task Forces then tackle the relevant regulatory issues related to these priorities. For example, our EuP Working Group is dedicated to the Ecodesign Directive, the F-Gas Working Group deals with the F-Gas Regulation and its upcoming review, and the Renewable Energy Task Force works on the Renewable Energies Directive. This organisational structure allows us to be very proactive and promote a better understanding of our industry in the EU, which is crucial for the development of effective European policies for the achievement of a long-term sustainability agenda.”

### **Main activities**

EPEE's main fields of activity in 2010 will be aligned with EU priorities.

With the creation of the new Directorate General for Climate Action, to be headed by the Danish Commissioner Connie Hedegaard, and the new Directorate General for Energy, to be headed by the German Commissioner Günter Öttinger, it is very clear that greenhouse gas emissions and energy efficiency are at the top of the agenda.

EPEE will therefore most certainly be concentrating on the Ecodesign Directive 2005/32/EC, the F-Gas Regulation 842/2006 and its planned review, the Renewable Energies Directive 2009/28/EC, and other related topics such as energy labelling, national energy efficiency action plans (NEEAP) and the 2020 Strategy for Growth and Innovation.

### **Experts at work**

In practical terms, EPEE will make sure that issues related to the HVACR industry that are likely to be impacted by these regulations will be understood and taken into account by EU decision makers. As an example, Andrea explains EPEE's involvement in the Ecodesign Directive: “EPEE's experts will continue to give technical input to the lots

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dedicated to ventilation fans, refrigeration, residential cooling and water heaters and boilers. This means that they will, for example, develop position papers related to technical questions likely to have an impact on our sector. As our membership is extremely diverse, ranging from component producers to OEMs, EPEE's position is well respected by the EU institutions and is considered to reflect the views of a major part of the industry."

### **Highlights in 2010**

Besides activities directed towards the EU institutions, EPEE is also planning several events directed primarily at the HVACR sector and aims to inform them about on-going technical and regulatory issues as well as trends and opportunities for the sector.

Highlights in 2010:

- Clima 2010 Workshop in Antalya, May 10:  
Legislation as an opportunity for sustainable HVACR business
- Chillventa 2010 in Nuremberg, October 13-15:  
EPEE/Ascercom Symposium and EPEE booth
- EPEE Member State Event in Hungary, Autumn 2010

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