

## **EPEE supports the Parliament strong push for more energy efficient buildings**

**Brussels, 31 March 2009:** Today the European Parliament's Industry Committee made a crucial step towards the improvement of energy efficiency in Europe by adopting the ambitious amendment of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) by Romanian Rapporteur Silvia-Adriana ȚICĂU MEP. EPEE supports this strong movement by the Parliament.

EPEE, the voice of the heating, cooling and refrigeration industry in Europe, welcomes today's vote which sends the right signal for a stronger law on buildings, considering that they represent 40% of EU's energy consumption. Indeed, EPEE also supports the Parliament and its promotion of great harmonisation of building certificates which importantly increases the consumer awareness of the actual energy performance of buildings.

EPEE members are manufacturing efficient air-conditioning equipment which contributes to reduced energy consumption of buildings. Amongst this equipment, heat pump technology has great potential to improve the energy performance of buildings.

An important part of the EPBD should be the increased use of renewable technology, including heat pumps; that can also help the EU to achieve its target of using renewables for 20% by 2020.

Friedrich Busch, Director General of EPEE, commented *"The building sector in Europe has a critical role to play in the EU environmental targets. Therefore, the EU must adopt ambitious policies to take advantage of the great potential of energy savings in buildings."*

With the new legislation, all buildings, whatever their size, new or existing, will be now covered.

EPEE is looking forward to the Plenary Vote of the EU-Parliament in April and hopes that it will back the Industry Committee report.

End.

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