

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AGREEMENT OPENS DOORS TO SAVINGS AND JOB GROWTH

Brussels, 15 June 2012: The European Partnership for Energy and the Environment (EPEE) welcomes the agreement reached on the Energy Efficiency Directive and the many opportunities it creates.

Andrea Voigt, Director General of EPEE: *“We are pleased that, after months of tough negotiations, an agreement has at last been reached. As an industry, we look forward to the opportunities the Directive creates and to contributing to closing the gap in reaching the EU's 20% energy saving target. Although we would have liked to see greater ambition in some aspects, this agreement still creates momentum to promote energy efficiency, not just as an environmental issue, but one that is of vital importance economically and socially”.*

The agreement marks significant progress, particularly through the creation of energy efficiency obligation schemes in each Member State. Although the flexibility added to these provisions has reduced the level of ambition by 20%, it will still make a significant impact. Additionally, while it is disappointing that only central government buildings will be subject to the renovation obligation, EPEE still believes this creates opportunities for governments and industry to cooperate and set an example. We also look forward to seeing the results of Member States' plans for energy efficiency roadmaps to the 2050 horizon for their entire building sector. The provisions on improved consumer information and the roll-out of smart meters will help citizens make more responsible energy choices.

EPEE's members are committed to demonstrating how the heating, ventilation and air-conditioning sector is an important partner in contributing to increased energy efficiency. Our members will create the products and foster the innovation that will help Member States achieve the goals set by the Directive.

The Energy Efficiency Directive represents an important step forward to mainstreaming energy efficiency as not only contributing to climate change goals, but also to achieving positive outcomes for the society as a whole. It will boost job creation, foster innovation and improve the living and working environment of citizens across Europe. “We should not forget that energy efficient buildings make for healthier, happier, more productive people”, said Andrea Voigt. There will be an opportunity for further discussion on “Energy Efficient Buildings – Healthy people”, at a [conference](#) held jointly between EPEE, Eurovent and REHVA as part of the EU Sustainable energy week.

Ends.

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European Partnership for Energy
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Notes to the Editor:

The European Partnership for Energy and the Environment (EPEE) represents the refrigeration, air-conditioning and heat pump industry in Europe. Founded in the year 2000, EPEE's membership is composed of 40 member companies and national associations across Europe realising a turnover of over 30 billion Euros and employing more than 200,000 people in Europe. As an expert association, EPEE is supporting safe, environmentally and economically viable technologies with the objective of promoting a better understanding of the sector in the EU and contributing to the development of effective European policies. For more information please visit: www.epeeglobal.org.

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