

## EPEE PUBLISHES PRIORITIES FOR HEATING & COOLING STRATEGY

The European Partnership for Energy and the Environment (EPEE) today published its Position Paper on the European Commission's forthcoming Heating & Cooling Strategy during its Annual General Meeting.

EPEE, the voice of the European heating and cooling industry bringing together around 40 member companies, and national and international associations, welcomes the Commission's initiative to produce a strategy and puts forward a number of recommendations.

Specifically, we list four aspects that should be taken into consideration when preparing the Strategy and which can contribute to a sustainable and secure energy system in Europe:

1. A holistic approach ensuring the effective use of energy
2. Consumer awareness and investments in energy efficient solutions
3. Enforcing existing EU legislation
4. An equal focus on heating and cooling

"The future EU Heating & Cooling Strategy is of crucial importance, since it focusses on the largest energy consuming sector in Europe, namely the heating and cooling of buildings," said EPEE Director General Andrea Voigt. "As a key actor in this field, EPEE is eager to play its part in making Europe's sustainable and secure energy system a reality."

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) itself included an address by Eva Hoos of the European Commission's Energy Directorate who spoke about the Commission's work in preparing the Heating & Cooling Strategy. The evening preceding the AGM featured a networking dinner with guest speaker Nigel Jeremy who spoke about the importance of collaborating across different national and regional cultures and the accompanying challenges.

The AGM has become a major highlight for both EPEE members and other industry stakeholders in the energy and environmental fields, as it enables us to reflect on the successes of the last 12 months but also look ahead to the many challenges confronting our industry not just in Europe, but across the world.

EPEE's key priorities for 2015 include the following:

- Continuing to be a trusted EU stakeholder in Ecodesign;
- Supporting the implementation of the F-gas Regulation and liaising with our colleagues across the world to ensure it is fully understood;
- Continuing our support of strict energy efficiency targets and engaging on discussions around the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive; and
- Disseminating industry's call for action on market surveillance.

Ms Voigt concluded: "The next 12 months will see EPEE continuing its work, not only to support the implementation of recent legislation, but also to advocate for global action to tackle and reduce HFC consumption collectively with other regions, in a way that is economically viable, compatible with high safety standards, and continues to observe energy efficiency as a fundamental objective at EU level. To this end we look forward to working closely with the European institutions and our industry colleagues around the world to further our common goals when it comes to energy and the environment."

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### **About EPEE**

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, national and international associations.

EPEE member companies realize a turnover of over 30 billion Euros, employ more than 200,000 people in Europe and also create indirect employment through a vast network of small and medium-sized enterprises such as contractors who install, service and maintain equipment.

EPEE member companies have manufacturing sites and research and development facilities across the EU, which innovate for the global market.

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. Please see our website ([www.epeeglobal.org](http://www.epeeglobal.org)) for further information.

EPEE is also a member of the Coalition for Energy Savings, which bring together European business, professional, local authorities, trade unions and civil society organisations to promote and mainstream energy efficiency at the European level, and ensure it is a political priority.

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