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In this newsletter I would like to share with you the latest developments and my thoughts on sustainability criteria of solid and gaseous biomass, the emissions trading scheme and CCS.

As you might know the European Commission is starting to work on sustainability scheme on solid and gaseous biomass by gathering stakeholder views via public consultation until 29 March this year. AEBIOM focuses its work on this topic and prepares its' proposals on how to develop the sustainability scheme so that it is feasible for large bioenergy players to implement it.

I am glad about the emission trading scheme. I believe it will start to provide positive results very soon. Up until now the rights to emit have been given for free to companies resulting in huge quantities of windfall money for these companies. In the near future, however, this situation will improve as soon as there are more and more trading rights auctioned under ETS. In my opinion, the switch from free rights to auctioning all rights to emit could be even shortened.

Another important topic is CCS. There is a large amount of EU-money invested in developing CCS, however, there is no discussion on how it should be financed in the future. CCS is only one out of many methods of combating climate change and it would be regretful if the EU pin points this method only. When discussing CCS financing possibilities, we often hear that the finances should come from Carbon tax and ETS budgets. The current carbon tax and the ETS cost is, however, not in any way close to the cost of predicted CCS at its lowest. In my opinion, the finances to combat climate change will never reach the height of the predicted CCS cost. For example, CHP and district heating is profitable already now but difficult due to planning permissions and other barriers. The European Union would use its financial resources more efficiently if it applied general incentives such as Carbon tax and ETS to finance next steps to combat climate change rather than choosing in advance an uncertain and costly technology.

Gustav Melin, president of AEBIOM

AEBIOM NEWS

► European Bioenergy Conference and Exhibition 2011

AEBIOM is organising a high level European Bioenergy Conference and Exhibition (REECO group) on 29-30 June 2011. The event will focus on current EU legislation, recent developments of bioenergy market in Europe, the state of national RES action plans whilst providing a platform for market actors to exchange ideas and information as well as a discussion forum with policy makers. The main topics will cover biomass supply, certification, biogas, biofuels, heating, electricity, financing bioenergy projects. Further information on: www.renexpo-bioenergy.eu

This event will particularly focus on **sustainability of solid biomass**. The Commission has to publish a report on it by the end of 2011. The bioenergy community should be mobilized to ensure a pragmatic and cost efficient approach taking into account the difficulties and the experience gained from implementing the sustainability criteria for liquid biofuels. So far, positions of bioenergy stakeholders are different. Some large bioenergy players in the power sectors are strongly requesting for a harmonised binding scheme while forest owners that have a long experience in biomass sustainability schemes are afraid of administrative burdens and disproportionate costs. It appears that NGOs are also willing to go further with ambitious sustainability schemes for solid biomass putting the directive on the table again and questioning the carbon balance of forests products. The year 2011 will definitely be an exciting period to define the future framework for bioenergy sustainability.

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► New AEBIOM members

AEBIOM warmly welcomes a new associate member - Cho-Power. This company uses the plasma torch technology for the gasification of biomass. Cho-Power is currently building a 12MW power plant in Morcenx/France, using 50.000 tonnes of biomass and waste per year. www.cho-power.com

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▶ **The EPC starts ENplus pellet certification**

The national pellet associations of Germany (DEPI) and Austrian (proPellets) have successfully introduced the ENplus pellet certification in their countries. Spain (AVEBIOM) will introduce ENplus in March. Following several requests from companies situated in countries without national associations managing ENplus, the European Pellet Council (EPC) has come to an agreement with the Austrian certification body of CERT to cooperate in the direct certification of pellet producers and traders. Companies from the UK and Denmark have already started the process and will be able to offer ENplus certified pellets in the coming weeks. Visit the newly launched website www.pelletcouncil.eu for more information about the advantages of ENplus certified pellets and the procedure to become certified as a producer or trader.

[Read the webpage](#)

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▶ **AEBIOM publishes its' Members Catalogue**

AEBIOM is pleased to announce the publication of its' Members Catalogue. The catalogue providing precise information about AEBIOM full and associates members (about their products, technology and biomass sectors in which they are involved) was mainly realised by Ms Cristina Calderon from AEBIOM.

AEBIOM has 30 national bioenergy associations and about 80 companies from all over Europe as members; therefore, this catalogue offers a great possibility to identify future business partners and provides our members with the visibility on their activities at EU level. AEBIOM hopes that this catalogue will enable better and more efficient networking opportunities for both AEBIOM members and potential partners of our members.

AEBIOM would like to express its' gratitude to its' members for their kind contribution during the elaboration of this catalogue.

[Download AEBIOM Members' Catalogue](#)

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EU ENERGY POLICY FOR RENEWABLES

▶ **The biomass part within nREAPs – a still sleeping giant for RES heat**

Up to date, the European Commission has evaluated almost all nREAPs except those of Romania, Estonia, Poland and Hungary. The EC has sent the letters to almost all EU members asking for clarification within the national REAPs. The answers of the member states will be put on the transparency platform (the link below the article). In the meantime, AEBIOM had a closer look at the national renewable energy action plans.

The analysis of biomass part within the national Renewable Energy Action plans (nREAP) shows that the development of biomass might encounter biomass supply problems and the development of biomass for heat might be undermined in quite a few countries despite the fact that heat represents roughly half the final energy consumption in Europe.

According to the nREAPs, total expected contribution of bioenergy in 2020 will reach 138.5 Mtoe compared to 83,8 Mtoe in 2010. Most nREAPs focus on electricity using biomass whilst the targets on biomass heat remain unambitious despite high energy conversion efficiency.

Biomass for heat would still represent the lion's share of bioenergy reaching 85,8 Mtoe by 2020. However, AEBIOM estimates that EU could reach 124 Mtoe by 2020. This number (85 Mtoe) is far from being ambitious considering that in 2008 there was around 64 Mtoe of biomass for heat produced (final energy).

The biggest heat markets (biomass for households, district heating) are expected to be in Germany, Italy, UK and Sweden. In order to exploit the existing biomass for heat potential, the member states should further develop a favorable framework conditions to heating homes with modern wooden appliances such as pellets stoves, boilers etc and more cities should be equipped with district biomass heating. Only for pellets, there is currently 30 mln tons installed capacity in the world.

Further to that, the EU member states altogether did not plan enough biomass supply in Europe to reach their bioenergy target. Hopefully, after the EC Commission's evaluation of these plans, the member states will reconsider putting more efforts into biomass production and mobilization.

The large new bioelectricity markets will be focused in Germany, UK, Italy, Poland and the Netherlands. According to the nREAPs, the EU power production using biomass will go from 6,8 Mtoe in 2005 to 19,7 Mtoe in 2020.

The analysis also shows that the EU member states are going to reach more than 10,45 % of renewable energy in transport, therefore exceeding the 10% target. Biofuels consumption should reach 29,1 Mtoe by 2020 (ethanol, biodiesel), or 88% of all the renewables in transport sector. The large new biofuels markets are expected to be in the United Kingdom, Germany, Spain and Italy.

[Access the nREAPS](#)

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► **European Commission publishes progress reports on RES by 2020**

The European Commission presented on 31 January 2011 its Communication on the progress of renewable energy in the EU. It shows that the EU is likely to even exceed its 2020 renewable energy policy goals if Member States fully implement their national renewable energy action plans and if financing instruments are improved. Combined Member States expect to more than double their total renewable energy consumption from 103 Mtoe in 2005 to 217 Mtoe in 2020 (gross final energy consumption). The electricity sector is expected to account for 45% of the increase, heating 37% and transport 18%.

As for the heating and cooling sector, biomass will remain the dominant technology, with 50% of the growth up to 2020 occurring in energy produced from this source. In the past, there was only modest market development in the heating sector due to the lack of an adequate support framework in most Member States. However, according to the report, this will clearly change in the next years following the inclusion of the heating and cooling sector in the new EU renewable energy framework. Member States are already planning reforms to their grants, feed in tariff regimes or other instruments in the heating sector. Thus development and investments in Europe's biomass pellet industry, in biomass boiler technology, co-firing power plant technology and biofuels refining can be expected.

Based on Member States' plans, renewable energy should constitute 37% of Europe's electricity mix by 2020 with the biggest production coming from biomass and wind.

First generation biofuels will be the predominant energy source for transport over the period to 2020. Second Generation biofuels and electric vehicles are expected to make only a small contribution by 2020.

The Communication also stresses the need for further cooperation between Member States and a better integration of renewable energy into the single European market. Commission analysis suggests that such measures could lead to 10 billion Euros savings each year.

As well as implementing national action plans agreed last year, says the Communication, Member States will also need to "ensure a doubling of annual capital investments in renewable energy from €35bn per year to €70bn".

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► **Sustainability of solid and gaseous biomass – what to expect?**

The Commission is currently analysing the need of sustainability schemes for solid and gaseous biomass at EU level (see EC consultation on sustainability of solid and gaseous biomass) and, if appropriate, will come up with such proposal by the end of 2011.

So far, the Renewable Energy Directive 2009/28/EC has set the sustainability criteria for all biofuels and bioliquids consumed in Europe. This sustainability scheme is currently at the implementation stage at a national level. Three options are possible on how to implement the biofuels and bioliquids sustainability criteria: national schemes, voluntary schemes and international agreements.

So far, only Germany has succeeded to implement the sustainability criteria for biofuels at a national level whereas other 26 EU member states are still struggling. The obligation for sustainable biofuels is applicable since 5 December 2010. So far, no voluntary schemes have been accredited and the meeting of the Committee of the Member States to evaluate these schemes has been postponed from March to May. As these schemes (14 are under evaluation now) are not ready yet, market disturbances are happening at the moment.

On top of that, the national schemes are not automatically recognized by other EU member states, which means that biofuels that are considered sustainable under a German scheme are not necessarily recognised as sustainable in other member states.

This shows that it is not only a set of criteria that is important within a sustainability scheme but especially the implementation of it. From the biofuels implementation process, we can conclude that if the European Commission set the sustainability criteria for solid biomass, it should be simple and more harmonized at EU level.

CEN standardization committee had a meeting on 17 February (8th CEN/TC 383 meeting) in Brussels where it was communicated that the European Commission has no objection if CEN starts working on solid biomass

standards.

Some work of CEN383 could be valuable for solid biomass. Belgium expressed that it would like CEN to evaluate what can be transposed from biofuels to solid biomass and establish priorities for future work, for example a new working group. Some CEN members, however, would prefer the standardization process to be held at international ISO level. On average CEN and ISO procedures last 3 to 5 years to finalise a standard.

The debate together with the European Commission about the future schemes of solid and gaseous biomass and possible options on how to move forward with the sustainability scheme will take place during AEBIOM annual European Bioenergy Conference and Exhibition that will take place on 29-30 June 2011. Visit our website for more information: www.aebiom.org

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► **European Pellet standards – multipart standard EN 14961**

The European standardisation organisation, CEN, is preparing three standards for biomass pellets as multipart standard EN 14961 under technical committee TC 335:

- EN 14961-1 for general use (includes pellets from different biomass raw materials), published
- EN14961-2 for wood pellets for non-industrial use (to be published in March 2011)
- EN14961-6 for non-woody pellets for non-industrial use (under approval).

The EN 14961-1 – General requirements includes all solid biofuels e.g. briquettes, pellets, wood chips, bales, hog fuel, olive residues etc.. EN14961-1 includes also a property table for biomass pellets produced from different raw materials. This part also includes the classification of raw material and it is based on their origin and source. The solid biofuels are divided to the following sub-categories for classification in EN 14961-1: 1) Woody biomass, 2) Herbaceous biomass, 3) Fruit biomass and 4) Blends and mixtures. The classification in EN14961-1 is flexible, and hence the producer or the consumer may select from each property class the classification that corresponds to the produced or desired fuel quality. Part 1 does not bind different property classes with each other and will mainly be used for industrial pellets.

EN14961-2 (Wood pellets) and EN14961-6 (Non-woody pellets) is so-called product standard for non-industrial use, which means that pellets are used in smaller appliances, such as, households and small commercial and public buildings. In the product standards all property classes are bind together to form a class (A1, A2 and B). To protect small-scale consumer some heavy metals are normative (mandatory) for non-industrial use.

Wood pellets for non-industrial use are specified according to EN 14961-2. Property class A1 for wood pellets represents virgin woods and chemically untreated wood residues low in ash and nitrogen content. Fuels with slightly higher ash content and nitrogen content fall within grade A2. In property class B is also allowed chemically treated industrial wood by-products (e.g. glued wood) and residues and used wood, but there have same strict threshold values for heavy metals. Torrefied pellets are not included. Ash melting behaviour is informative, voluntary for wood pellets.

The EN 14961-6 determines the fuel quality classes and specifications of non-woody pellets for non-industrial use. This standard will cover only non-woody pellets produced from the following raw material: herbaceous biomass, fruit biomass and biomass blends and mixtures. Standard will include specification of straw, miscanthus and reed canary grass pellets and separate table for blends and mixtures.

For more information, please contact Eija Alakangas from VTT and Secretariat of working group 2 of CEN/TC 335 at eija.alakangas@vtt.fi or Jouni Valtanen from Finnish Forest Industries Federation at jouni.valtanen@forestindustries.fi

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AEBIOM POSITION ON EU ENERGY POLICY

► **EC consultation on sustainability of solid and gaseous biomass**

The European Commission has announced, on 1 February 2011, a public consultation on Sustainability of solid and gaseous biomass for heat and electricity applications, the deadline of which is 29 March 2011. The Commission is currently analysing the need of sustainability schemes for solid and gaseous biomass at EU level and, if appropriate, will come with such proposal by the end of 2011. Up until now, the EC has published a report on sustainability requirements for solid and gaseous biomass sources in February 2010 where it shows that binding criteria would impose substantial costs on European economic actors bearing in mind that most of biomass used in Europe comes from European forest residues and by-products of forest industries and

the imports contribute to around 5% of solid and gaseous biomass used in Europe. The report concluded that at this stage the mandatory criteria is not necessary but recommended the Member States to develop national sustainability schemes similar to the biofuels sustainability criteria required by the Renewable Energy Directive.

[Consultation website](#)

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► **EC consultation on EU roadmap**

The European Commission will publish an Energy Roadmap 2050 in the second part 2011. It will follow the Roadmap for a Low-Carbon Economy by 2050 which will focus on reductions in greenhouse gas emissions across the EU economy, in the context of the European Council's target of an 80-95% reduction in EU greenhouse gas emissions below 1990 levels by 2050.

The Energy Roadmap 2050 will aim at presenting different pathways to reach the objectives in the sector. It will address the established objectives of EU energy policy – sustainability, energy security and competitiveness, and focus on how energy security and competitiveness can be improved throughout the transition to a low-carbon energy system.

[Consultation website](#)

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► **EREC views on EC communication « Progressing to 2020»**

EREC has published a press release on EC communication “Progressing to 2020”. EREC together with its member associations (including AEBIOM) highlights the importance of innovative financing measures for renewable energy to reach the 20% RES target by 2020. The Communication suggests that annual capital renewable energy investments of today €35 billion would need to double to €70 billion to achieve the EU`s 2020 target. Therefore, EREC points out that due to the continuous slow growth of renewable heat at EU and national level, more support is needed in the heat sector, for example for district heating or cogeneration.”

[Read EREC press release](#)

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PUBLICATIONS

► **EC publication: Renewables make the difference**

This brochure, published in February, outlines the existing regulatory framework and explains the different RES technologies – the existing ones and those that are being developed to reach the 20 % target which is the first step towards a low-carbon energy future. This publication provides information on SET plan and the future outlook for renewable energy by 2030.

[Read the publication](#)

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EU PROJECTS

► **Greenpellets – deliverables on agropellets combustion**

The main objective of Green Pellets project (supported by Life+) is to demonstrate that new dedicated energy herbaceous crops for solid biomass provide an effective, sustainable and eco-friendly bioenergy source for heating and significantly reduce the greenhouse gases emissions. Crops dedicated to solid biomass have environmental advantages such as purification capacities or soil erosion prevention. Energy crops development must be carefully managed in order to reach an acceptable balance between food and non-food supply while avoiding any risks for the environment.

The pellets combustion (in this case pellets made from new dedicated energy crops) testing results showed that the formation of ash slagging is a pertinent problem; therefore, the boiler should be equipped with mobile grates and/or a scraper in order to avoid disrupting the combustion process and damage the material.

Even when applying the recommendations of Obernberger – reducing the threshold by half compared to what is required by the French standard NF 444 - certain fuel types result in high amount of HCl (inorganic chlorides acid that causes the chimney and boiler corrosion). In order to avoid this corrosion, it is necessary to use ceramic exhaust pipes and to ensure that the exhaust gas temperature is kept high and condensation is avoided.

Combustion of pellets made from wheat straw, rapeseed straw or reed straw result in higher HCl and SO₂,

emissions. The possibility to use these sources in the boiler might be questionable if the future tests confirm the first test results.

The second set of tests is taking place at the moment and will allow to become certain about the results received during the first testing. Furthermore, the mix of reed wood, miscanthus and mowed wood are being tested to identify the best fuel types for combustion purposes.

[Project website](#)

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► EUBIONET publications on sustainability of solid and gaseous biomass

Within the EUBIONET III project, supported by IEE programme, the partners have published a couple of publications on sustainability of solid and gaseous biomass explaining the situation of sustainability in partner countries and analysing existing forestry (PEFC and FSC) and agricultural sustainability schemes. It is particularly interesting to read the comparison of the criteria addressed in FSC and PEFC with the directive's criteria. In fact, these certification schemes are NOT sufficient, especially because they do not take into account carbon stock criteria.

[Project website](#)

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EVENTS

► AEBIOM European Bioenergy Conference & Exhibition on 29-30 June in Brussels

AEBIOM is organising a high level European Bioenergy Conference and Exhibition (REECO group) on 29-30 June 2011. The event will focus on current EU legislation, recent developments of bioenergy market in Europe, the state of national RES action plans whilst providing a platform for market actors to exchange ideas and information as well as a discussion forum with policy makers.

The previous European Bioenergy Conference organized by AEBIOM in July 2010 with an exhibition organised by REECO group was a first success that brought together more than 300 experts to eight sessions of the conference and free pre-conference workshops to discuss biomass related topics. The conference was organised together with RENEXPO Bioenergy Europe Exhibition where several companies including biomass industry leaders presented an entire spectrum of bioenergy technologies from pellets to biogas, and biodiesel.

The Bioenergy Conference 2011 will be a second European Bioenergy Conference with a focus on the following topics:

- EU legislation under preparation by the Commission and the Parliament
- Implementation of the national Renewable Energy Action Plans and national support schemes
- Sustainability criteria for solid/gaseous biomass and certification
- Future trends of the pellets sector
- Biogas for grid injection and transport
- Financing demonstration projects
- Biomass as a world energy commodity
- Specific technologies with high environmental value added

The conference announcement together with the sponsorship opportunities is available on the event website and via the link below. The conference is so far being sponsored by - **Andritz** (www.andritz.com).

[Read the announcement](#)

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► Pellets for Bioenergy – the markets take off on 5 May 2011 in Cologne

The pellets conference will be held at Koeln Messe on 5 May in parallel with VICTAM INTERNATIONAL 2011, the international fair for bioenergy, animal & aquatic feed technology. More information can be found on www.victam.com.

The pellets conference, organized by AEBIOM, aims at providing industry stakeholders with a state of play of the pellets markets, worldwide pellets supply and discuss the ENplus quality certification and its' introduction in the pellets market. The VICTAM exhibition is expected to bring together more than 250 exhibitors.

The conference has acquired 7 main sponsors so far: **Amandus Kahl, Andritz, CPM Europe, Latgran, Pöyry, Vandenbroek International, Vapo** and 1 coffee break sponsor **Buhler**. The event is still open for sponsorship. Registrations are possible at conference@aebiom.org.

In particular, the conference will cover the following topics:

- Overview of current pellets production and markets in Europe: the pellets production capacity is

impressively increasing in Europe with large plants being built in USA, Canada and Russia. Several experts are expecting a tenfold increase of the market in 10 years' time, from roughly 12 million tons at present moment in Europe to over 80-100 million tons in 2020.

- Biomass supply: the availability of biomass by-products is becoming problematic in some regions with substantial price increase of saw dust. Alternative raw materials should be sourced with sometimes specific problems of pellets quality.
- National actions plans for renewables and impacts on future pellets markets: the evaluation of national renewable energy action plans highlights the priorities of the MS and gives a good indication on market potentials for pellets in each MS as well as sectoral preferences (residential heating, electricity, advanced biofuels, etc.).
- Sustainability aspects: sustainability criteria are mandatory for biofuels and the European Commission is currently analyzing whether it should be applicable to solid biomass. The increased amount of pellets imported to Europe is advocating for an advanced regulation. It is especially the power sector that is striving for clear rules.
- Standard and certification (new ENplus scheme): the CEN standard for wood pellets EN14961 will probably be published by the end of 2010. A new certification scheme called ENplus that aims at verifying and certifying the compliance with the standard has been launched in Germany and currently is under development in several other MS. The certification is managed by the European Pellets Council.
- New industrial developments: new technological developments will be presented such as agro-pellets or pellets from torrefied wood.

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► Biomass & Waste in District Heating in Brussels on 14 April

The Biomass and Waste in District Heating event is organized by Euroheat & Power, ESWET on 14 April in Brussels within the RHC Platform (Renewable Heating and Cooling Platform). Biomass and waste are key sources to achieve the EU's renewable energy goals. However, realizing the potential of District Heating as identified in the National Renewable Action Plans requires addressing a number of specific challenges. This workshop takes as its theme the transfer of best practice and focuses on strategies that have been successful. The workshop agenda will be available shortly. To register for this event, you must use the EU Sustainable Energy Website.

[Register to the event](#)

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► Biomass trade – focus on solid biofuels on 14 April in Finland

The workshop "Biomass trade" organised within the EUBIONET III project (supported by the IEE) in cooperation with IEA Bioenergy Task 40 will present the achieved results of the ongoing EUBIONET III project on biomass trade and utilisation. This event will take place in Espoo, Finland on 15 April next year and will gather the authorities and the stakeholders of biomass sector from all over Europe. The workshop topics will range from biomass trade to logistics, from sustainability to biomass production, standards and price indexes. A special focus will be dedicated to wood chips and trading of solid biofuels in the Baltic Sea Region. The language of the workshop is English. The workshop is free of charge. Maximum number of participants is 100. Videoconference will be organised to Jyväskylä and other VTT's facilities in Finland.

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► Bioenergy and the Forest Industry in Espoo, Finland on 15 April

The workshop "Bioenergy and the forest industry" will be organised in co-operation with the Finnish Forest Industries Federation in Espoo, Finland on 15 April next year. Forest industry is the biggest provider and user of solid biofuels. About 55% of the fuels used in pulp & paper mills in Europe are renewable. Forest industry is actively taking part in developing new biofuels for transport sector based on woody biomass resources. Wood pellets represent one option for solid biofuels from forest industry. EUBIONET III event will focus on those opportunities which biomass can bring to the forest industry. The workshop will include the following topics: new biomass products from forest industry, production of wood pellets and torrefied biomass.

The language of the workshop is English. The workshop is free of charge. Maximum number of participants is 100. Videoconference will be organised to Jyväskylä and other VTT's facilities in Finland.

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▶ **Second Annual Conference of the RHC-Platform in Budapest on 5-6 May**

Building upon the success of its first edition, the RHC-Platform is organizing its second Annual Conference on 5 - 6 May 2011 in Budapest, Hungary. The event will provide the opportunity for industry executives and leading scientists to engage in an effective dialogue with the participation of high-level officers from the EU, national and local administrations.

The 2nd Annual Conference of the RHC-Platform is endorsed by the Hungarian Government as official event under the auspices of the Hungarian Presidency of the EU, and it is organized with the financial support of the European Commission. The Conference takes place in Budapest at the same venue and time of the 5th RENEXPO[®] Central Europe, Hungary's major international trade fair for renewable energy and energy efficiency.

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▶ **5th REFF Central and Eastern Europe in Warsaw, Poland, on 1-2 March**

Central and Eastern Europe is one of Europe's most fossil fuel dependent regions. It is heavily dominated by an inefficient and unsecure energy infrastructure emitting high levels of greenhouse gases. But in the midst of this under-developed energy sector lays the promise of a golden renewable energy industry.

In order to reap the rewards of a region rich in natural resources, the industry awaits the implementation of new legislation promoting the development of renewables and clean energy alternatives along with a breaching of administrative barriers to regional installations.

Reasons to attend the Euromoney Energy Event conference taking place in Warsaw on 1-2 March: meet major financial players sourcing new ventures to place their capital; learn strategic inside knowledge and ways to resolve common obstacles; determine factors affecting project development and how to get your business recognized; identify how the grid is adapting to assist in renewable energy deployment; locate new business opportunities by networking with senior level decision makers.

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▶ **World Sustainable Energy Days 2011 in Wels, Austria on 2-4 March**

The World Sustainable Energy Days organized by The O.Ö. Energiesparverband in Wels, Austria on 2-4 March is the largest annual conference in this field in Europe, offer a unique combination of events on sustainable energy production and use, covering energy efficiency and renewable energy sources for buildings, industry.

Four Conferences - which presented the latest technology trends, outstanding examples and European strategies - and the "Energiesparmesse", an important energy trade show, offer ideal opportunities to establish new partnerships. The conference makes an important contribution to awareness raising for green energy and energy efficiency.

Since 19 years, experts and decision makers from all over the world flock to Upper Austria to attend the events - in the last years, the conference attracted more than 10,000 participants from 98 countries!

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▶ **Bioenergy Italy – Biomass & RES in Cremona, Italy on 18-20 March**

BioEnergy Italy organized by CremonaFiere & DLG in Cremona on 18-20 March is a business tool for professionals who want to discover the best technologies and the most advanced know-how. BioEnergy Italy is meant to become the reference Italian exhibition of the sector: a new and effective working tool to develop companies' business, not only in northern Europe but in the entire Mediterranean Area.

The goals of the conference are to create a platform for technology producers to get in touch with farmers, municipalities and food industries, to create relationships with the professionals of the supply chain, to update on politics, laws and regulations about bio-energy, to create culture on renewable energy production and to be a useful guide for those who want to enter this business.

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▶ **World Biofuels Markets in Rotterdam, The Netherlands on 22-24 March**

World Biofuels Markets Conference will take place in Rotterdam, the Netherlands on 22-24 March. It is the leading annual industry networking event where leaders of the bioenergy world meet to drive innovation and do business. Over 5465 high profile executives from 80 countries have attended to date.

Europe's largest Biofuels and Bioenergy Congress is brought to you by Green Power Conferences. They aim to improve our offering and expand our reach each year. For 2011 we are pleased to introduce our three co-located events; Biogas, Biopower Generation and Bio-based Chemicals.

World Biofuels Markets is a great opportunity to network with the who's who of the bioenergy industry,

featuring 3 intense and interactive days of thought leadership, interaction and business opportunities.

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► **COGEN Europe Annual Conference in Brussels on 24 March**

Of all Europe's tools for improving energy efficiency and reducing CO₂ emissions cogeneration (Combined Heat and Power or CHP) is one of the lowest risk and most far reaching in near term impact. Eleven percent of Europe's electricity today is produced using cogeneration and an estimated additional 120 GWe of European cogeneration potential remains to be exploited.

The Conference that will take place in Brussels on 24 March will highlight the major challenges facing this sector. European cogeneration has a key role to play in helping Europe reach its energy efficiency target of 20% in 2020. The review of the Cogeneration Directive with the Energy Efficiency Plan feature high on the EU energy policy agenda in 2011. The theme of the one-day Conference is "Cogeneration at the foundation of Europe's energy policy" and we will be focusing on policy developments, market potentials and best practice examples.

The Conference Dinner is held in the evening of 24 March at 19.00 o'clock and will take place in the prestigious Bibliothèque Solvay, located near the European Parliament in Brussels. As in previous years, COGEN Europe will recognise exceptional contributions to the sector through the COGEN Europe Annual Recognition Awards.

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► **International Congress on Biogas in Stuttgart, Germany on 30 March**

The IBBK international congress, taking place in Stuttgart, Germany on 30 March aims at showing the development, state of technology and economy of the biogas production worldwide. Practitioners, engineers, scientists and politicians will present and discuss the developments in the fields of process engineering, political/ social frameworks and utilisation of the fermentation products. Exemplary practical experiences confirm the positive developments in this fast developing field of technology and show the business possibilities.

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► **European Biomass to Power 2011 in Vienna, Austria on 13-14 April**

European Biomass to Power 2011, organized by ACI Europe on 13-14 April in Vienna, Austria, will provide the leading platform for companies within the biomass and power industry including EDF, Dong Energy, Wien Energie, RWE, Price BIOstock and Poyry to analyse and identify continuing growth potential in the European market. The event will look at raw material sustainability issues, investment opportunities, case studies from co-firing, pure biomass and biogas power plants as well as the latest conversion and pre-treatment techniques. For more information please contact Justyna Korfanty at: jkorfanty@acieu.net.

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► **EREC Policy conference on 23-24 May 2011 in Brussels**

The biannual European Renewable Energy Policy Conference organised by EREC (European Renewable Energy Council) will take place on 23-24 May 2011 in Brussels. This event will be the fourth edition of Europe's leading Renewable Energy Policy Conference which has grown ever since its first edition in 2004 and has become Europe's major platform for exchange and interaction between industry and policy.

Experts, industry leaders and policymakers will meet at the heart of European decision making to discuss market trends, legislative developments as well as future energy strategies.

EREC conference 2011 will:

- provide a reality check on the 2010 White Paper targets for renewable energy
- debate the implementation of the Renewable Energy Directive
- outline energy pathways towards 2050

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► **International Nordic Bioenergy 2011 in Jyvaskyla on 5-9 September**

The Conference is organised by FINBIO – The Bioenergy Association of Finland in co-operation with SVEBIO (Sweden), NOBIO (Norway) and DANBIO (Denmark) and with hundreds of AEBIOM member organizations. The Nordic bioenergy conference takes place every second year. This year it will take place on 5-9 September

in Jyvaskyla, Finland.

Nordic Bioenergy 2011 is the top conference to meet world 's leading Bioenergy professionals, to get updated on the newest innovations and best practices as well as to make real business.

The Nordic Bioenergy Conference which is organized together with large International Bioenergy and Wood Exhibition and Trade Fair is the best place to get modern and up-dated information about bioenergy solutions, technology and logistic systems in practice. Several Technical Tours into the bioenergy and biofuel production sites and facilities are extra bonuses for conference participants.

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