

Project brief

Key action:	Biofuels
Status:	Ongoing
Coordinator:	European Biomass Association
Partners:	<p>proPellets Austria, Netzwerk zur Förderung der Verbreitung von Pelletheizungen (proPellets Austria), Austria</p> <p>BELGISCH LABORATORIUM VAN DE ELEKTRICITEITSINDUSTRIE (Laborelec), Belgium</p> <p>Valorisation de la Biomasse asbl (ValBiom), Belgium</p> <p>Suomen Pellettienergiyhdistys ry (SPE), Finland</p> <p>PROPELLET FRANCE (PROPELLET F), France</p> <p>Deutscher Energieholz- und Pellet-Verband e.V. (DEPV), Germany</p> <p>Magyar Pellet Egyesület (HPA), Hungary</p> <p>Associazione Italiana Energie Agroforestali (AIEL), Italy</p> <p>Associação Nacional de Pellets Energéticas de Biomassa (ANPEB), Portugal</p> <p>Spanish Bioenergy Association (AVEBIOM), Spain</p> <p>Svenska Bioenergiföreningens Service Aktiebolag, Sweden</p>
Website:	http://www.pelletcouncil.eu

Benefits: The key objective is to create and implement an ambitious and uniform certification system for pellets in Europe ("ENplus"), which will be used both by the heat and the power markets, small and large scale, for intra EU trade but also for imports. Technical and sustainability criteria are considered.

Keywords: Certification system for pellets, pellet associations.

Duration: 01/05/2011 - 30/04/2014

Budget: 901623.0

Contract number: IEE/10/463

Short description

Wood pellet is a new form of upgraded biomass characterised by high energy density, low production cost and low process energy requirements. It is an excellent fuel both for residential and service heating and for producing CHP, DH and green electricity. The current EU pellet market of about 10 million tons is expected to grow up to 100 million tons by 2020. The key objective of the project is to create and implement an ambitious and uniform certification system for pellets in Europe ("ENplus") which will be used both by the heat, CHP and the power markets, for intra EU trade but also for imports. The finalisation of the EU pellet standard EN 14961-2 is a first very important step to create a harmonized set of pellet qualities in Europe. A solid EU quality certification scheme is crucial to simplify work of the pellets producers and increase confidence by pellets equipment manufacturers and consumers. So far only national schemes have been developed (DIN+, Önorm, Pellets Gold). A scheme that would be recognised by both the small scale heat market and the medium/large scale industrial users will greatly improve flexibility and fluidity of the market actors and relevant EC officials.

Expected and/or achieved results

- Improvement of pellet quality – currently the majority of pellet producers is not certified and significant quality fluctuations of pellets are the consequence. The young and wild pellets trade with variable pellets qualities is causing problems to appliances. Reinforced quality control will even be more crucial in the future as the raw material for pellet production will diversify to various by-products also coming from agriculture and whole trees/energy crops.
- Facilitate international trade – at the moment widely varying qualities and certification approaches form a significant barrier for the trade. International trade is a prerequisite however to provide sufficient supply.
- Contribute to market growth – consistent quality is a prerequisite for sustained market growth. The project's objective is to certify 1,8 million tons pellets by the end of the project.
- Ensure sustainable bioenergy - The development and introduction of sustainability requirements will make sure

that the massive growth of global pellet production and trade will not lead to unintended side effects putting into question the initial goal of enhancing the sustainability of the European energy supply system.

Lessons learnt:

- It is too soon to extract lessons learnt from this project.

The project described above, together with many other European energy efficiency and renewable energy projects, is supported by the EU's Intelligent Energy-Europe programme. More details on this programme, and descriptions of all other projects, are available on <http://ec.europa.eu/intelligentenergy>.