

21 March 2022

EU can be more ambitious in rolling out heat pumps to reduce dependency on Russian gas

Heat Pump rollout could number 50 million by 2030 instead of 30 million if all heat pump technologies are included in the push

In light of the political urgency to phase out the EU's dependency on Russian fossil fuel imports as soon as possible, the European Commission has put forward the goal to accelerate the roll out of heat pumps: 10 million newly installed by 2027 and 30 million by 2030.¹

This goal rightly puts the political focus on the most efficient and effective way to achieve the phasing out of fossil fuels in European heating & cooling. But EU policymakers must duly consider two important aspects in their further actions:

Use the potential of ALL heat pump technologies: the European Commission's goal of 30 million heat pumps only refers to hydronic (i.e. air-to-water) heat pumps while the potential of heat pump technologies is much wider. Other heat pump technologies such as air-to-air or brine-to-air will massively contribute as well and must therefore receive sufficient recognition in the transition. EPEE projects more than 20 million new further heat pumps in addition to the 30 million hydronic heat pumps by 2030, which together could save 71bcm of natural gas.²

The upcoming revision of the EU F-Gas regulation must provide for adequate availability of refrigerants: F-gases, such as lower GWP HFCs, are needed as refrigerants in heat pumps. The complexity of technologies and applications requires the full range of refrigerants to speed up the deployment of all heat pump technologies in a safe and efficient manner.

Folker Franz, EPEE Director General: *"Our sector provides the most effective and efficient heating and cooling solutions for the European Green Deal and for energy independence. The EU must get the political and legislative framework right to roll out the vast array of heat pump technologies."*

EPEE represents the Refrigeration, Air-Conditioning and Heat Pump industry in Europe. Founded in the year 2000, EPEE's membership is composed of over 50 member companies as well as national and international associations from three continents (Europe, North America, Asia). With manufacturing sites and research and development facilities across the EU, which innovate for the global market, 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. Please see our website (<https://www.epeeglobal.org/>) for further information.

¹ Commission Communication [REPowerEU](#) from 8 March 2022

² Figure from EPEE's HFC Outlook EU which calculates the total abatement potential of all heat pump technologies.