



The Oekoenergie-Cluster (OEC) is the network of companies active in renewable energy and energy efficiency in Upper Austria, one of the nine Austrian regions. The network includes 150 companies which employ more than 6,200 people and achieve an annual turnover of 1.7 billion Euro. The cluster is managed by the O.O. Energiesparverband, the energy agency of Upper Austria, with the support by the regional government of Upper Austria. Thanks to a comprehensive energy action plan, renewable energy covers 33 % of the primary energy demand in the region. By 2030, all electricity and all space heating will be produced from renewable energy sources.

Technology and product innovation



Hargassner: Opening of a new production hall and 25th company anniversary

- The biomass boiler manufacturer Hargassner celebrated its 25th anniversary and inaugurated a new production hall.
- The company has a large showroom where all its biomass boilers (from 9 to 200 kW) are displayed.
- The open days attracted several thousands of visitors who were interested to see the show dedicated to the motto "from farmer to energy entrepreneur".

OEC-Link: [Hargassner GmbH](#)



Fronius Energy Cell

- The fuel cell transforms hydrogen into electricity and is available in the capacity range of 2-4 kW.
- The energy cell is especially suitable for off-grid applications, such as meteorological stations, mountain shelters or for pioneers in the field of solar electronics.
- Presently, it is the only certified fuel cell system available on the market having the "TÜV-Süd" certificate.

OEC-Link: [Fronius International GmbH](#)



Rika: New log wood stove TEMA

- Wood stove producer RIKA presented a new log wood stove "TEMA" which is available in two designs, either having a steel envelope or a soap stone envelope.
- The company also launched an updated website which offers several new features, including a tool to compare different stove models or a virtual showroom.

OEC-Link: [RIKA Innovative Ofentechnik GmbH](#)



Ochsner: New heat pump series

- The heat pump series "Golf MIDI ECO system" was designed with a capacity of about 5 kW and a flow temperature of up to 65° C and can be installed in apartments and single-family homes.
- The dimensions of the new evaporators are 90/90/56 cm (height/width/depth) which allows them to be mounted horizontally on balconies or on the walls.

OEC-Link: [Ochsner Wärmepumpen GmbH](#)



Wurm Energiesysteme: Solar cooling for wool company

- The company WURM energiesysteme planned and installed a CO₂ neutral heating and cooling system at Lehner-Wolle in Waizenkirchen, a manufacturer of sheep wool.
- The innovative HVAC concept includes - among others - a 100 kW pellet heating system, 80 m² solar thermal panels, a cooling system with an absorption chiller and a rain water evaporation system. The pipes and buffer tanks are insulated with sheep wool.

OEC-Link: [WURM energiesysteme GmbH](#)



International activities of the OEC



Review: OEC stands at the trade shows "Intersolar Europe" and "Intersolar North America"

The Oekoenergie-Cluster presented its activities and partner companies at two important solar trade shows: the Intersolar Europe in Munich and the Intersolar North America in San Francisco. In San Francisco, three partner companies of the cluster from the solar thermal sector (Gasokol, SOLution and Sun Master) joined the group stand. At both shows, the OEC activities and the products and services of OEC companies were met with high interest by the visitors.

OEC-Link: [Oekoenergie-Cluster](http://www.oekoenergie-cluster.at)



Review: International training seminar on biomass heating in Upper Austria

The international training seminar on "Biomass heating – market development and technologies" was held very successfully in September, organised by the team of the OEC. With participants from 4 different continents, it attracted a truly global audience (e.g. from Japan, South Africa, Canada, USA and several EU countries). The 3-day seminar provided know-how on local market development and technologies for automatic biomass heating systems, based on the experience in Austria.

The participants very much appreciated the lively mix of presentations and educational site-visits which provided them with hands-on knowledge on all important aspects of the biomass heating supply chain.

The next training seminar is scheduled for May 2011.

OEC-Link: [Oekoenergie-Cluster](http://www.oekoenergie-cluster.at)



OEC in the USA

One important activity of the OEC is to support its partner companies in export activities, for example by organising market study tours, group stands at relevant trade shows, information material or presentations at conferences.

In the past two years, a special programme was dedicated to the market entry of OEC partners in the United States, especially for manufacturers of biomass boilers and solar thermal collectors. The following news items give an update on the related activities of three OEC partners.



OEC in the USA – OkoFEN

- OkoFEN is now able to offer fully certified and ASME accredited pellet boilers in North America.
- Since the market entry in autumn 2009, more than 120 installers were trained by the US partner Maine Energy Systems on how to install and maintain an OkoFEN boiler correctly.
- Some dozens of projects were already realised in New England und Pennsylvania.
- OkoFEN News: <http://www.okeofen-usa.com/en-us/news/news.html>



Foto: Secondwind Triton Sonic Wind Profiler

OEC in the USA – Energiewerkstatt

- Energiewerkstatt is a consulting and planning company specialised in wind energy projects. They have founded the "EWS Consulting Corp." in Chicago as a 100 % affiliate. Currently they are exploring the opportunities to expand their business activities to Canada.
- EWS Consulting offers advanced wind measurement solutions which reduce the uncertainties in the energy yield prediction of wind turbines with hub heights in excess of 100 meters, including "LIDAR" ("light detection and ranging") and "SONAR" ("sonic detection and ranging").

OEC-Link: [EWS Consulting Corp.](http://www.ewscorp.com)



OEC in the USA – Froling

- Froling started business in the US in 2008 with log boilers with its partner Tarm Biomass.
- In 2009, Froling launched the P4 pellets boiler on the US market. It covers a heat need of up to 200,000 BTU with a single boiler and up to 800,000 BTU with a cascade of four units.
- Froling has now a nationwide dealer network that has been trained.

OEC-Link: [Froling US partner Tarm USA Inc.](#)

World Sustainable Energy Days 2011



World Sustainable Energy Days 2011

2 - 4 March 2011 in Wels/Austria:

- [European Pellet Conference](#), 2 - 3 March
- Conference "[Solar Process Heat](#)", 3 - 4 March
- [Energy Efficiency Watch: Building Renovation](#), 3 - 4 March
- Technical site-visits, 1 March
- Poster Presentation, 2 - 4 March
- Energiesparmesse, 2 - 6 March

OEC-Link: [World Sustainable Energy Days](#)

SO-PRO



SoPro - an EU project on Solar Process Heat

- The project aims at triggering the starting-up of markets for solar process heat in six European regions.
- The project is supported by the "Intelligent Energy Europe Programme" and coordinated by the O.O. Energiesparverband.
- [The first newsletter](#) (pdf)
- Register for the SO-PRO newsletters: <http://www.solar-process-heat.eu/news/>



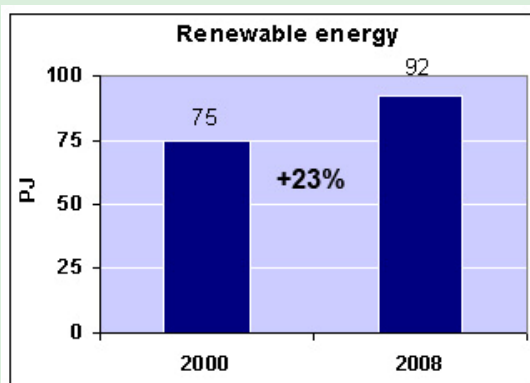
EcoCluP - an EU project on energy clusters

- The "Eco-Innovation Cluster Partnership for Internationalisation and Growth" is the pan-European partnership of cluster organisations from 10 EU countries (including the OEC) in the eco-innovation field.
- The project is supported by the Europe INNOVA programme.
- The project aims to adapt, test and implement sector-specific cluster support tools and services for fast-growing businesses thus creating better opportunities for the cluster companies to grow and internationalise.

News from Upper Austria

Targets "Energy 21" achieved

The recent final report on the implementation of the Upper Austrian energy strategy "Energy 21" (2000 - 2010) showed that the energy policy targets for the decade were met and in most cases even exceeded:



- Energy production from renewables increased by 16.6 PJ (target 10 PJ).
- Installed solar thermal collector surface area was more than doubled (from 489,000 m² to 1,080,000 m²).
- Biomass heating installations more than doubled: from 773 MW to 2,031 MW.
- The share of electricity from renewables (excl. hydro power) was increased from about 1 % to 6.4 %.
- Energy consumption and economic growth were decoupled!



Review: "OEC Women 2010"

The meeting of "OEC Women 2010" took place in the Botanic Garden in Linz in September. It aims to allow for an exchange of experiences and networking among female management staff of OEC partner companies.

3 female company owners/managers presented their businesses, followed by lively discussions on challenges and co-operation possibilities between the cluster companies present.

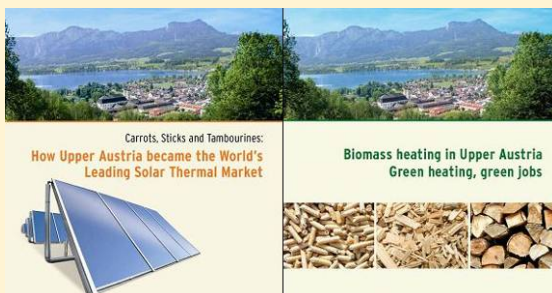
OEC-Link: [Okoenergie-Cluster](#) (in German)



Campaign "Electricity efficiency in offices"

- The O.O. Energiesparverband recently launched a new campaign to decrease electricity consumption in office buildings.
- The campaign includes a competition for the best "electricity efficiency projects in offices", new online tools, a range of publications and a media campaign.
- New brochure "Electricity efficiency in the offices - step-by-step" (32 pages in German)

OEC-Link: www.stromsparenjetzt.at



New publications

- **How Upper Austria became the World's Leading Solar Thermal Market**
24 pages, contents including solar market development, solar thermal applications and innovation, examples from Upper Austria
- **Biomass heating in Upper Austria Green energy, green jobs**
40 pages, contents including biomass market development, biomass heating technologies, fuels and supply chains, project examples

OEC-Link: www.oec.at/en/publications/



Photo competition "The most beautiful solar thermal installation"

- More than 215 entries for the Upper Austrian photo competition
- Winner's photo: Solar City apartment building with 418 m² solar collector surface area
- More information (in German) and winning photos can be found on the website: www.esv.or.at