



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 155 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.Oe. Energiesparverband, the energy agency of Upper Austria, with support by the regional government of Upper Austria. Thanks to a comprehensive energy action plan, renewable energy covers 34 % 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

Innovation award for SOLARFOCUS octo^{plus}



The new pellet boiler octo^{plus} by Solarfocus has recently received the innovation award "Energie Genie 2011". It combines solar and biomass technology into a fully automatic system. It includes a pellet burner and 500 l buffer storage with solar accumulator. The advantages of the system are its high efficiency (94 %), compactness (1 m² set-up area), simple hydraulic integration, an innovative control system, easy operability and a generously dimensioned, removable ash box.

OEC-Link: [SOLARFOCUS](#)

Innovation award for Wilo-GeniAx



Wilo received the innovation award "Energie Genie 2011" for its decentralised pump system Wilo-GeniAx. Miniature pumps mounted on the radiators replace traditional thermostatic valves. The mini-pumps supply each radiator with heat on demand only. The decentralisation of the pumps ensures that rooms are heated quickly and at the exact moment needed. On the average, it can save about 20 % of heating costs compared to conventional systems. Other advantages are the automatic hydraulic adjustment and the high efficiency.

OEC-Link: [Wilo Pumpen Österreich](#)



Windhager: Pellet micro burner

Windhager presented a new pellet central heating system with a capacity range of 1.6 to 6 kW. The VarioWIN system with the new pellet micro burner is optimised for the energy requirements of lowest energy and passive homes. Its advantages include high efficiency and combustion quality, fully automatic cleaning, its compactness and flexible set-up possibilities (less than 0.5 m² set-up area).

OEC-Link: [Windhager Zentralheizung](#)



RIKA: New pellet stove REVO

RIKA introduced the new pellet stove REVO. It uses the well-proven technique of operating independently from the indoor air. It recovers the energy from the exhaust air. The continuously operated auger ensures a low noise level.

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



ÖkoFEN: New carbon heat exchanger

ÖkoFEN has further improved the heat exchanger of its condensing boiler. By using carbon (graphite), heat conduction characteristics were improved. The graphite has a dirt-resistant surface and has a higher resistance to condensates which include sulfur and chlorine.

OEC-Link: [ÖkoFEN Pelletsheizung](#)



Fronius: Major strides in internationalisation

With the opening of seven new international subsidiaries in 2010, the internationalisation of the inverter manufacturer Fronius is progressing rapidly. Fronius has opened new offices in Australia, Great Britain, Turkey, Canada, Mexico, Switzerland and Slovakia, and a further strengthening of the global presence is planned for 2011. With its 13 subsidiaries, numerous sales partners and representatives, Fronius is represented in more than 60 countries worldwide now.

OEC-Link: [Fronius International](#)



Kreuzroither: Building renovation at Swarovski

Kreuzroither Metallbau renovates a company building of Swarovski. The retrofitting strategy encompasses a 1,600 m² facade with triple high-insulation glass (passive house standard) and 200 m² "Heliopan High Energy" solar panels integrated into the facade. It also includes a heat pump system and a cooling system with renewable energy.

OEC-Link: [Kreuzroither Metallbau GmbH](#)



Valetta: Automatic solar protection

Valetta presented its "io-homecontrol" technology which allows remote control of shutters, curtains and sunblinds. The new technology contributes both to convenience and safety of the building. It allows for programming of various settings for different seasons, temperatures and wind conditions.

OEC-Link: [Valetta Sonnenschutztechnik](#)



Solarfocus pellet barbecue "grilli^{nator}"

Solarfocus opens the summer season by presenting a pellet barbecue. It is called grilli^{nator} and works like a pellet stove. It provides constant heat to avoid burnt spots. The grilli^{nator} is the result of a transatlantic cooperation between Solarfocus and its US distributor Woodmaster.

OEC-Link: [SOLARFOCUS](#)



International activities of the OEC



International Training Seminar "Biomass Heating", 17 - 19 May 2011

The 3-day international training seminar in Linz/Austria will provide information and know-how on local market development and technologies for automatic biomass heating, based on the experience in Austria. It will focus on small- and mid-scale projects, fuelled by wood pellets and wood chips. The seminar will offer interactive learning in an international group, educational site-visits and presentations by experts in biomass technologies, market development and environment.

OEC-Link: [Int. Training Seminar Biomass Heating](#)



International Training Seminar "Solar Process Heat", 9 June 2011

An international training seminar on solar process heat is organised by O.Oe. Energiesparverband and the Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems in the framework of the Intersolar Europe, Munich/Germany on 9 June 2011. It is held in the framework of the Intelligent Energy Europe project "Solar Process Heat". The international training seminar will provide information and know-how on solar thermal system design for solar process heat installations.

OEC-Link: [Int. Training Seminar Solar Process Heat](#)



Review: World Sustainable Energy Days 2011

The international conference World Sustainable Energy Days, held from 2 to 4 March 2011 in Wels/Austria, was a great success with over 750 participants from 56 countries. The European Pellet Conference, the Energy Efficiency Watch "Building Renovation", the conference "Solar Process Heat" as well as site-visits and the "Energiesparmesse", an important energy trade show, offered ideal opportunities to establish new partnerships.

The World Sustainable Energy Days 2012 will be held from 29 February - 2 March 2012. Deadline Call for Papers & Speakers: 5 October 2011.

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



New videos about solar thermal and biomass heating in Upper Austria

Two new videos in English were published:

- Biomass heating in Upper Austria – Green energy, green jobs
- Solar thermal in Upper Austria – How Upper Austria became the World's Leading Solar Thermal Market

Both videos are available for download on the website of the OEC (see link) and also on YouTube.

OEC-Link: [Oekoenergie-Cluster](#), also available on [YouTube](#)

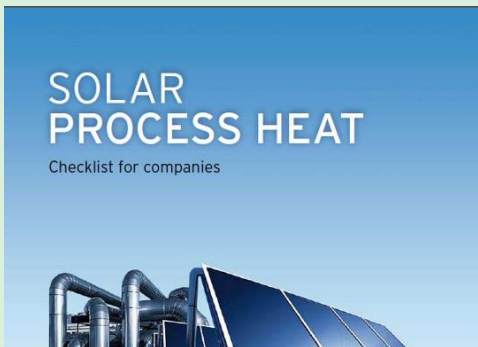
News from Upper Austria



New Upper Austrian "HighTech" fund

The new Upper Austrian HighTech fund has the goal to make the business location Upper Austria more attractive to high-tech companies and to offer them the opportunity of realising their ideas in Upper Austria. More than 11 million Euro are available for innovative start-up companies by the Upper Austrian government, the European Union and the Upper Austrian banks.

Link: [Land Oberösterreich](#) (in German)



Solar Process Heat: Checklist & Planning guideline

In the framework of the Intelligent Energy Europe project "Solar Process Heat", the following publications were produced in English, German, Spanish, Czech and Slovene:

- [Planning guideline for solar process heat](#)
- [Checklist for industrial decision makers on solar process heat](#)

These and a range of reports on solar process heat are available at www.solar-process-heat.eu



Sustainable energy strategies for the municipalities in Upper Austria (E-GEM)

The Upper Austrian E-GEM programme assists municipalities in the development and implementation of local energy targets for energy efficiency and renewable energy sources and action plans to achieve these targets. The programme is managed by the O.Oe. Energiesparverband.

- 140 of the 444 Upper Austrian municipalities are already participating in the programme.
- So far, local strategies for about 100,000 citizens were developed.

Link: [E-GEM](#) (in German)



Fuel poverty programmes in Upper Austria

In Austria, over 200,000 persons are facing fuel poverty. The O.Oe. Energiesparverband has several programmes to tackle fuel poverty in Upper Austria:

- In a pilot project, inefficient fossil fuel or electric heating systems were replaced by pellet stoves in 15 homes. This was accompanied by a scientific monitoring ensuring a learning process.
- In a programme for low income households the purchase of 2,400 A+ & A++ fridges and freezers was supported.
- In co-operation with the "Caritas", households in need are supported by energy advice and new appliances.

Link: [Press Information Upper Austrian Regional Government](#) (in German)



10 years Oekoenergie-Cluster

The Oekoenergie-Cluster (OEC), Upper Austria's network of green energy and energy efficiency businesses, is celebrating its 10th anniversary. The OEC is a huge success story with impressive numbers since 2000:

- more than 15,000 participants in OEC events
- more than 1.3 million visitors at the OEC website
- more than 245 OEC events and over 170 presentations at international conferences
- 169 cooperation projects
- 25 stands at trade shows & 7 export tours

OEC-Link: www.oec-en.at



20 years O.Oe. Energiesparverband

The O.Oe. Energiesparverband, the energy agency of Upper Austria, recently celebrated its 20th anniversary. Since 1991 among others the following activities were carried out:

- more than 100,000 face-to-face energy advice sessions for families were held, more than 5,000 companies participated in energy advice sessions
- staff of the O.Oe. Energiesparverband held more than 1,000 presentations
- more than 200 training seminars were held in the "Energy Academy"
- more than 10,000 participants from 98 countries participated in international conferences organised by the O.Oe. Energiesparverband
- the O.Oe. Energiesparverband participated in more than 100 European projects

OEC-Link: [O.Oe. Energiesparverband](#)