

# Press Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



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## Commissioner Cañete states: “*insulation one of the most profitable investments for consumers and industry*”

At the Energy Union Conference in Riga this morning, Commissioner for Energy and Climate Miguel Arias Cañete recognised the importance of energy efficiency in buildings through insulation as a key contributor to cost effective moderation of energy demand and to increased energy security. More specifically, he stated that “*investments in insulation are amongst the most profitable for citizens and industry today*”.

In an ambitious and forward looking speech, Commissioner Arias Cañete favoured the “*energy efficiency first*” principle, according to which the EU should consider readily available cost-effective measures to reduce our energy consumption before importing more gas or generating more power.

Jan te Bos, Director-General of Eurima, the European Insulation Manufacturers Association, welcomed the Commissioner's statements as “*a recognition that logic should prevail in EU Energy Policy*”. “*Commissioner Cañete is recognizing that a coherent and consistent EU energy policy providing security, sustainability, competitiveness and thus jobs and growth need to have buildings at its core. We must tackle savings from where it makes common sense: avoiding unnecessary energy wastage in buildings through insulation*”.

Regarding the specific actions needed to make these savings possible; the Commissioner stated that although “*most of the work here has to be done at national, regional and local level*” the Commission can play a strong role creating the ideal framework for progress.

“*This is precisely what the Energy Union strategy should aim to do*” concluded te Bos “*in order to fully tap the Energy saving potential of the building sector, we need a strong EU framework which preserves the good elements of the existing legislation and reinforces them with a new, robust framework including financial back-up from the strategic investment package of Commission President Juncker which needs to ring-fence a sufficient amount of funds enabling ambitious building renovation policies*”

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## Background Information

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### Eurima

Eurima is the European Insulation Manufacturers Association, representing the interests of all major mineral wool insulation producers throughout Europe. Eurima members employ over 20,000 people across Europe with the installation of insulation products accounting for an estimated 300,000 man-years.

Eurima members manufacture mineral wool insulation products. These products are used in residential and commercial buildings as well as industrial facilities. Glass and stone wool insulation secure a high level of comfort, low energy costs and minimised CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Mineral wool insulation prevents heat loss through roofs, walls, floors, pipes and boilers, reduces noise pollution and protects homes and industrial facilities from the risk of fire.

For further information on energy efficiency in buildings, please visit [www.eurima.org](http://www.eurima.org) or contact:

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