

Press Release

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Eurima calls on EU leaders to: Unleash the Power of Insulation

Brussels, 16 June 2015 - As hundreds of experts gather in Brussels this week, at the 11th EU Sustainable Energy Week, the European Insulation Manufacturers Association ([Eurima](http://www.eurima.org)) calls on EU leaders to recognise the need for deep renovation of buildings, and central role of insulation in powering a truly energy efficient and competitive Europe.

All major mineral wool insulation manufacturers across Europe have come together to launch a new campaign that aims to raise the awareness towards the EU about the potential of well insulated buildings, and [unleash the power of insulation](#).

“Solving Europe’s energy challenges begins with putting energy efficiency first. Deep renovation to reduce the energy demand of our building stock is one of the easiest, most cost-effective and sustainable solutions to address Europe’s energy, economic and climate challenges”, said Pascal Eveillard, President of Eurima.

With the G7 commitment to stick to a 2 degree scenario, last week’s Energy Ministers recalling the importance of energy efficiency for energy security and reducing the energy bill of European citizens, and the Commission’s latest remarks about treating energy efficiency as an energy source in its own right – it’s time recognise the untapped potential of insulation in powering Europe.

“Insulation is a no regret option to our energy trilemma - economic growth, sustainability and energy security. Any change takes time to adjust to, so it’s important that EU leaders are aware that insulation is a solution available today and can provide immediate and multiple benefits for Europe. Whether its jobs in the construction sector, contribution to GDP, reduced energy imports, lower energy bills or indeed higher home comfort” commented Jan te Bos, Director General at Eurima.

Buildings represent 40% of the EU’s final energy use and some 36% of its CO₂ emissions. Through ambitious deep renovation programmes 2 million European local and stable jobs could be created. The buildings sector contributes up to 10% of Europe’s GDP and we can stay on this growth curve if we become energy efficient. Cutting the energy demand in buildings is also a crucial step towards lowering dependence on energy imports and fossil fuels; for every 1% energy saved we can reduce energy imports by 2,6%. Hence, the direction of travel can only be energy efficiency first.

ENDS

Background Information

Eurima

Eurima is the European Insulation Manufacturers Association, representing the interests of all major mineral wool insulation producers throughout Europe. Eurima members employ over 21,000 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 CO₂ 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.

Buildings in the EU

Buildings are responsible for the largest share of European final energy consumption (40%) and they represent the greatest potential to save energy - as 75% of buildings standing in the EU were built during periods with no, or minimal, energy-related building codes and the energy intensity of heating per floor area is two times higher than any other region of the world (except Russia).

Buildings are long-term assets expected to remain useful for 50 or more years and 75-90% of those standing today are expected to remain in use in 2050.

For further information on energy efficiency in buildings, please visit www.eurima.org or contact:

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