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Dear Reader,

the start of a new year always motivates us all to make important steps forward regarding the development of solar district heating in our regional and national markets. We expect the year 2017 to bring new plants, activities and hopefully success stories as result of the continuous efforts of all stakeholders. It is also the year in which the European Commission will revise most of its energy related directives, among them the Renewable Energy Directive, the Energy Efficiency Directive and the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive. Several of the hot topics presently discussed will definitely support the development of renewables for district heating systems and pave the way for new participation and business models in this sector. This process is an important opportunity to seize for creating an SDH favorable policy framework for the next years. Enjoy reading about the projects and activities below and don't hesitate to contact us for any further information!

Sunny Regards! Your SDH-Project Team February 2017



Silkeborg: Record-breaking solar district heating plant in operation

In Silkeborg, Denmark, the world's largest solar thermal plant has been delivered at the end of 2016 as planned. With 156 694 m² this new record-breaking plant is more than twice the size of the largest until now in Vojens, also delivered by Arcon-Sunmark in 2014.

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"Hot stuff!" - An aquifer heat storage for Hamburg

The SDHp2m partners Hamburg Institut and PlanEnergi have worked on a strategy to introduce renewable energies in Hamburg's district heating system. A key element of the strategy is a heat storage for industrial waste heat and solar heat in a salty aquifer.

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Overview of EU-funded heating and cooling projects now available

A number of activities and projects funded by EU programmes are supporting the EU heating and cooling strategy adopted in early 2016. For the first time a single document has been drafted by the European Commission providing an overview of the EU-funded projects in the area of heating and cooling for calls between 2011 and 2016. The document is available <u>here</u>.

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Solar district heating made in Denmark – since 1988 In Denmark more than 1.3 million square meters of solar collectors are connected to district heating. A map as well as the summary of this success story of solar district heating is now available on a <u>webpage</u>.

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Bulgaria: Could solar thermal energy heat all of Sofia?

IZEB represents Bulgaria in the Horizon 2020 project SDHp2m, which aims to promote the use of solar district heating across Europe. After the 2015 release of a study on the solar thermal potential of the entire country, the institute published another one in mid-December 2016 about Bulgaria's capital Sofia.

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Canada: Solar district heat meets community's entire space heating demand

The Canadian Drake Landing Solar Community has hit a new performance milestone, recording its first year of solaronly space heating during heating season 2015-2016. The community's SDH plant, which has been in operation since 2007, was initially designed to achieve a solar fraction of 92 to 93 % for space heat in an average year. System improvements have increased that share and have made last winter the first time that solar energy was able to meet 100% of the space heating requirements of the 52 energy-efficient residential buildings.

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Switzerland: borehole storage regeneration and solar district heating as solar thermal's ray of hope

As 2017 funding for solar heat incentives remains in doubt in several cantons and the priorities of the country's energy policy haven't been announced yet, the market outlook for solar thermal has not been very encouraging. But there seems to be a ray of hope in the form of low-temperature collectors for borehole regeneration and solar district heating.

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Interview with the region of Styria, SDHp2m project partner

SDHp2m is a H2020 European Project whose name stands for Solar District Heating and actions from Policy to Market. The region of Styria in Austria is one of three EU regions whose regulatory regional authority is a project partner of SDHp2m. Euroheat & Power had the opportunity to interview one of the representatives from the Provincial Government of Styria, Mr. Dieter Preiß, about the experience of this region so far as a project partner.

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New video on smart heating systems

The Danish 4DH Research Center published a new video on 4th generation district heating technologies. So called 'smart heating systems' are necessary to lower our CO₂ emissions and achieve 100% renewable energy.

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France: Is this the new solar district heating country?

After France had become involved in a couple of EU-supported projects as a newcomer, the country is now ready for take-off in the solar district heating market. Monitoring data from the first two French pilot plants show performance to be quite good and the systems to be highly reliable.

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Solar district heating: Good performances all over Europe

The 4th International Solar District Heating Conference, which had been organised under the auspices of Horizon 2020 project SDHp2m...from policy to market on 21 and 22 September 2016 in Denmark, showed the importance of analysing real-life monitoring data from European SDH plants, with one conference session dedicated exclusively to the topic.

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More information: www.solar-district-heating.eu

This is the Newsletter from the SDHp2m project. This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 691624.

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