These were the World Sustainable Energy Days 2017! Conference Review

The World Sustainable Energy Days (WSED), one of Europe's largest annual conferences in this field, offered a unique combination of events on sustainable energy. The 2017 conference, which was held from 1 - 3 March in Wels/Austria, attracted around 700 participants from 59 countries.







The conference programme

The WSED 2017 focussed on energy efficiency, biomass and sustainable buildings through **8 specialised conferences**:

- European Pellet Conference
- European Energy Efficiency Conference
- Young Researchers Conference: Biomass + Energy Efficiency
- Energy Efficiency Services and Business Conference
- E-Mobility & Smart Buildings Conference
- European Research Conference: Buildings
- European Nearly Zero Energy Buildings Conference
- Energy Efficiency Watch Conference

Networking & exchanging experience with interactive events:

- "Energiesparmesse", major tradeshow on renewable energy and energy efficiency
- Technical site visits
- Poster presentation











European Pellet Conference



Pellets are a clean, CO₂ neutral and convenient fuel with growing market shares worldwide. The European Pellet Conference 2017 in Wels/Austria was once again the meeting place for the global pellet community! It presented the latest technology trends, updates on policies, legislation and standardisation, news from research and innovation as well as an outlook on the development of European and global markets. It offered inspirational examples and case studies and permitted experts to share experience and develop new business contacts. With more than 500 participants every year, the European Pellet Conference in Wels is the largest annual pellet event worldwide.

The European Pellet Conference 2017 offered a range of interesting sessions and events. It started on Wednesday morning with a plenary session on "Pellet policies and markets", followed by the session "Biomass CHP – innovation from Upper Austria". The session "World Pellet Business & Technology Forum" in the afternoon presented latest R&D news and innovative pellets technologies.

The European Pellet Conference then continued on Thursday with 2 parallel events:

- In the session "Pellet Market News Worldwide", representatives from Austria, Germany, UK, the Baltic countries, Norway, Canada, Japan, Chile and Australia presented current developments in their countries.
- The session "New micro- and small-scale biomass CHP technologies" gave a research and technology update on biomass CHP and was organised " in cooperation with BIOS as part of the ERA-NET project "Small-scale BM based CHP.











World Sustainable Energy Days

1 - 3 March 2017



Site Visits "Pellets & Wood Chips"

The full-day field-trip "Pellets & Wood Chips" on Tuesday, 28 February 2017, offered the opportunity to visit a biomass boiler manufacturer, a commercial pellet heating system, a solar wood chip drying plant and a pellet micro-CHP installation in a family home.



The participants welcomed the opportunity to gain first-hand information and to discuss specific questions on-site with the project operators.



Young Researchers Conference: Energy Efficiency & Biomass



Through a call for papers, nearly 80 papers were submitted by young researchers from 35 countries in the fields of energy efficiency and biomass. A scientific committee selected papers for oral and poster presentations. The papers were presented in two sessions - one on biomass and one on energy efficiency.







A highlight of the Young Researchers Conference were the Best Young Researcher Awards. The prizes were awarded to very deserving young researchers:

- Best Young Researcher Biomass: Rebecca Trojanowski for the paper "Repeatability in particulate and gaseous emissions from pellet stoves" and
- Best Young Researcher Energy Efficiency: Modar Yasin and Felix Klinker for the paper "Cooling performance of phase change material systems"





European Energy Efficiency Conference



The European Energy Efficiency Conference was dedicated to technologies, policies and markets, informed about innovative business and financing models and presented pilot projects and best practice solutions. The conference offered a comprehensive programme with presentations by experts and technical site visits, complemented by Europe's leading tradeshow on energy efficiency and renewable energy.



The conference started with a Keynote Session on Thursday morning dealing with energy efficiency policies and markets. Paul Hodson from the European Commission gave a presentation on "The new EU energy policy: clean energy for all Europeans" and Tyler Bryant from the International Energy Agency presented the IEA Energy Efficiency Market Report 2016. Afterwards a session on innovations, jobs and profit in the field of energy efficiency was held.



The following events were also part the European Energy Efficiency Conference:



- Energy Efficiency Services and Business Conference
- Young Researchers Conference: Energy Efficiency
- European Research Conference: Buildings
- E-Mobility & Smart Buildings Conference
- European Nearly Zero Energy Buildings Conference
- Energy Efficiency Watch Conference
- Site Visit "Nearly Zero Energy Buildings"

The European Energy Efficiency Conference was organised as part of the IEE-project "Energy Efficiency Watch 3" (EEW3) which aims to support EU energy efficiency policies. The project is supported by the Intelligent Energy Europe Programme.









European Research Conference: Buildings

The "European Research Conference: Buildings" was held on 1 March 2017 and presented new research results on energy-efficient and sustainable buildings as well as highlights of EU building and energy R&D projects. The conference topics included innovative materials, building energy systems, energy storage, smart buildings, deep renovation, renewable energy and ICT solutions.

Besides plenary sessions, **parallel sessions** on the following topics took place:

- Young Researchers Conference: Energy Efficiency
- Energy in Time
- Multifunctional ETFE modules
- TRIBE Gamification of energy efficiency

The parallel sessions were organised in the context of the FP7 projects "Energy in Time" and "ETFE–MFM" and in the context of the Horizon 2020 project TRIBE.







Energy Efficiency Services and Business Conference



Energy efficiency services are key for the transition of the building sector. New financing approaches and operation models support not only sustainable buildings and technology innovation but also create jobs throughout Europe.

The Energy Efficiency Services Conference was held on 2 - 3 March 2017. The focus of the first session was on the question "How to boost the energy efficiency services market" and on the presentation of successful examples for energy efficiency services and business models in the building sector.

The second part of the conference was the European Energy Efficiency Watch Conference on 3 March 2017 which presented successful policies and programmes that support the realisation of energy efficiency potentials in the EU countries.







Europäische Niedrigstenergie-Gebäude Konferenz



A "nearly zero energy building" (NZEB) is a building that has a very high energy performance and the very low amount of energy required is covered to a very significant extent by renewable energy sources. Member States must draw up national plans, covering both new construction and renovation, for increasing the number of NZEBs.

An overview of the events of the Nearly Zero Energy Building Conference:

- Energy Efficiency Services Conference
- European Energy Efficiency Watch Conference
- E-Mobility & Smart Buildings Conference
- Technical site visits "Nearly Zero Energy Building"







European Energy Efficiency Watch Conference



The European Energy Efficiency Watch Conference offered an update on EU energy efficiency policies and discussed how they can drive innovation and employment. The conference presented a panorama of successful policies and programmes that support the realisation of energy efficiency potentials in the EU countries such as obligations, energy audits and buildings support programmes.











E-Mobility & Smart Buildings Conference



The international conference "E-Mobility & Smart Buildings" put focus on the integration of e-mobility and smart homes.

Two sessions - "Towards renewable e-mobility" and "Building, living and charging" - presented solutions for building integration, energy management, storage and charging systems.

Furthermore an overview of current and future vehicle technologies was given and the economic efficiency and environmental sustainability of electric vehicles were discussed.





Site Visit "Nearly Zero Energy Buildings"



The conference came to an end on Friday afternoon with a half-day excursion to two NZEB buildings in the surrounding area. A new passive standard education centre which was built with a focus on sustainable building materials and a new passive standard commercial building were visited.

The participants welcomed the opportunity to gain first-hand information and to discuss specific questions and concerns.











Further programme elements of the WSED 2017

Poster presentation

During the WSED, the poster presentation offered companies and organisations the opportunity to display successful energy efficiency and renewable energy initiatives and projects to a professional audience. Over 70 companies and organisations participated. A part of the poster presentation was also dedicated to participants of the Young Researchers Conference.



E-car delegation from the Netherlands

A delegation from the Netherlands drove to the World Sustainable Energy Days 2017 with electric cars in order to promote sustainable technology. The delegation, which was organised by Hansa Green Tour, traveled from the Netherlands to Austria in a single day.



Voting

An interactive element, "the voting", was made an integrated part of the conference procedure. During the sessions, the audience was invited to answer questions regarding their opinions towards various conference topics. The results of the voting can be found on the conference website www.wsed.at.







Energiesparmesse - Tradeshow on energy efficiency and renewable energy



The "Energiesparmesse", a leading annual tradeshow on energy efficiency and renewable energy with nearly 100,000 visitors and 1,600 exhibitors, took place from Wednesday to Sunday.



The OÖ Energiesparverband presented its services at a large exhibition stand in Hall 20 where more than 100 energy advisers were available for information on energy efficiency and renewable energy sources.



In addition, in cooperation with the Messe Wels, two special exhibitions were presented:

LED-exhibition – innovative lighting solutions:

A special attraction at the exhibition stand of the OÖ Energiesparverband was the LED-exhibition. Latest LED technologies were displayed and visitors were informed about LED application possibilities.

Special exhibition: "E-Mobility & Smart Homes"

A special exhibition in Hall 20 was dedicated to the integration of e-mobility and smart buildings. Different types of charging stations, electricity storage systems, inverters, PV systems and electric vehicles were exposed.









