



HIGHLIGHTS
2012



FOREWORD

HIGH MARKET SHARES, COMPETITIVE TECHNOLOGY



This is the future we envision for District Heating and Cooling. To make it happen, our sector does not only need to continuously create new knowledge, new technology and new strategies, but also to educate and encourage a new generation of researchers, planners, operators and users.

Much of our activity during the year 2012 was dedicated to developing new projects and new education and training activities. The number of new members who have joined the platform confirms that with these and other initiatives, the platform continues to gain international recognition.

In a market subject to rapid transformation, only persistent research and development efforts will allow any technology to outperform its competitors. A huge challenge for a sector that heavily relies on local solutions - but a challenge which the DHC+ community endeavours to overcome!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Yves Delaby'.

Yves Delaby

Chairman of the DHC+ Technology Platform





DHC RESEARCH

HARNESSING THE POWER OF COOPERATION

2012 marked the start of a new three-year period. With seven new members, DHC+ now brings together even more stakeholders in research and development activities to help District Heating and Cooling successfully navigate the challenges of the energy transition.

Providing increased visibility of research needs and results, the platform's initiatives have been critical to firmly placing District Heating and Cooling at the EU's energy research agenda and to open doors to international funding sources.

Cross-border cooperation results in more qualitative and efficient research projects, increased cost-sharing opportunities, a wider range of expert input and the outreach that every good idea deserves.





HIGHLY SKILLED, EDUCATED AND CREATIVE THE NEXT GENERATION

A highly skilled workforce increases the ability to innovate, to anticipate and to respond to complex challenges. This is why DHC+ aims at making the most of the talents.

We believe that the next generation has a lot to tell us – and we invite them to do so. Granted upon an outstanding achievement in, or scientific contribution to, the science and technology of District Heating and Cooling related research, the first DHC+ Student Awards will be handed to the winners at the 2013 Euroheat & Power Congress.

Just three months later, the first DHC+ Summer School will take place in Berlin from 25-30 August. Hosted by our member Vattenfall, it promises to provide students and young professionals with an international perspective on District Heating and Cooling, added value for their career and great networking opportunities.





SMART CITIES

A PLEA FOR INNOVATION

The idea behind the Smart Cities Innovation Partnership created by the European Commission is to enable innovative, integrated and efficient technologies to roll out and enter the market more easily, while placing cities at the centre of innovation.

The funding is awarded through yearly calls for proposals: €365 million for 2013.

In 2012, DHC+ actively contributed to the stakeholder platform set up with a view to select solutions and key innovations to inspire future calls in the EU's Horizon 2020 programme.

Because any city is only as smart as its energy network!





LET THE SUN SHINE IN PROJECTS FOR GREEN GROWTH

The sun is the source of life on our planet Earth. Just a tiny fraction of the sun's energy that hits the Earth is enough to meet all our energy needs - and yet we have only started learning how to convert solar irradiation directly into useable energy.

With its involvement in the projects SDH-Take Off which ended in 2012, its successor project SDH-Plus, as well as Sunstore 4, the DHC+ Technology Platform aims at accelerating the learning curve.

It's only natural: the less the well-being of citizens relies on fossil fuels, the more growth can go green.





NEW EU PROJECTS

THE COLOURS OF DHC

The energy transition has many facets. With 'Renewable Smart Cooling for Urban Europe' and 'BiogasHeat', the platform enlarges its portfolio with two new projects to address them.

The Ecoheat4cities labeling project period ended in December 2012, but implementation of the results is only just beginning with the Euroheat & Power Labeling Board taking over responsibility.

Time for companies, urban planners, citizens and municipalities to make it happen!





FUTURE SUBSTATIONS

ECO-EFFICIENT AND COST-EFFECTIVE

Technical specifications, environmental aspects and testing procedures for certification of substations will be at the heart of a CEN Workshop on eco-efficient substations for District Heating. Initiated by a large group of utilities and manufacturers from various countries under the roof of DHC+, the Workshop provides a forum to create common understanding on how to standardize certain features in substations.

The common goal: eco-efficient substations which will be smarter and less costly. After preparatory work in 2012, the Workshop is ready to kick off – and kick in our shared efforts to make District Heating ever more competitive!





DIFFERENT TECHNOLOGIES, SAME GOAL

HORIZON 2020 AND BEYOND

Combating climate change and ensuring the security of energy supply represent profound challenges for Europe. Heating and cooling networks hold the key realising the full potential of renewable energy sources to satisfy the heating and cooling demand.

The cooperation between DHC+ and the Renewable Heating and Cooling Platform yields long-term dividends. In 2012, together with the biomass, geothermal and solar thermal sectors we have finalized a joint Strategic Research Agenda to inspire future European research programmes and calls.

To make sure, research in sustainable heating and cooling solutions gets the attention and the funding it merits.





NICE TO MEET YOU!

COMMUNICATION CREATES COMMUNITY

To ensure that neither members nor partners lose track of what is going on, we have thought of new communication formats in addition to our website. While members are kept informed on a monthly basis by the Euroheat & Power newsletter, the printed DHC+ Newsletter reaches out twice per year to a wider community of those who are not (yet) members.

2012 also marked the first, but certainly not last edition of the DHC+ Dissemination Conference. Allowing to establish connections beyond email and instant messaging, the two day conference brought together a large community of District Heating researchers, professionals and users for a lively exchange of information and views on the results of research projects.





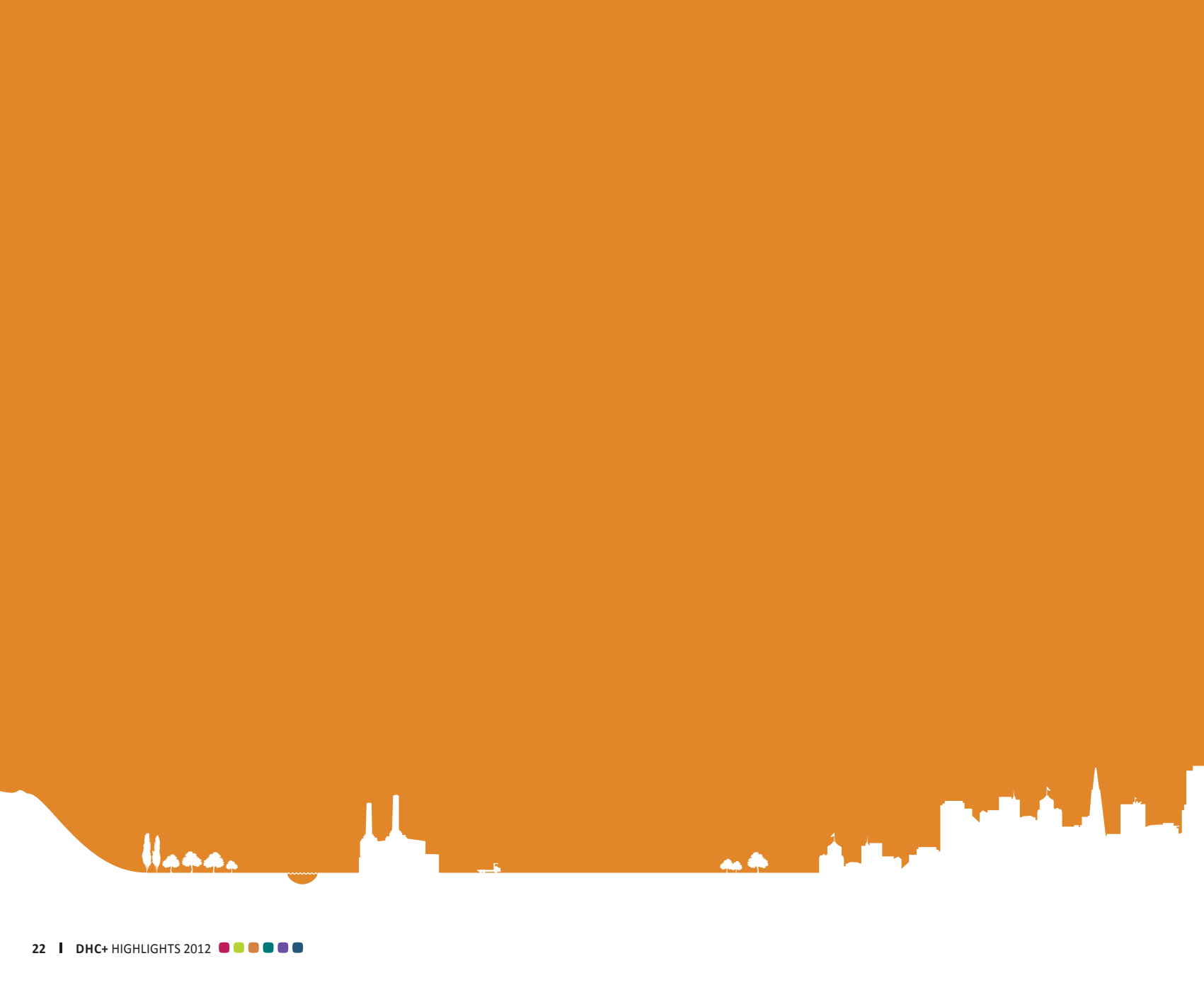
BE PART OF THE MOVEMENT

Supporting District Heating and Cooling professionals, researchers and students to expand knowledge and understanding, and transferring that knowledge across borders will accelerate invention and discovery, resulting in a stronger and globally competitive DHC sector, an energy-efficient economy and a cleaner environment.

This is what motivates the DHC+ Technology Platform. Does it also motivate you?

Contact us at dhcplus@euroheat.org!





The **DHC+ Technology Platform** is conceived as the research component in our overall strategy geared at expanding District Heating and Cooling.

Set up under the umbrella of Euroheat & Power, it serves to foster the European-wide cooperation in technology development, innovation and deployment strategies.





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