



Towards the Centre

Foreword



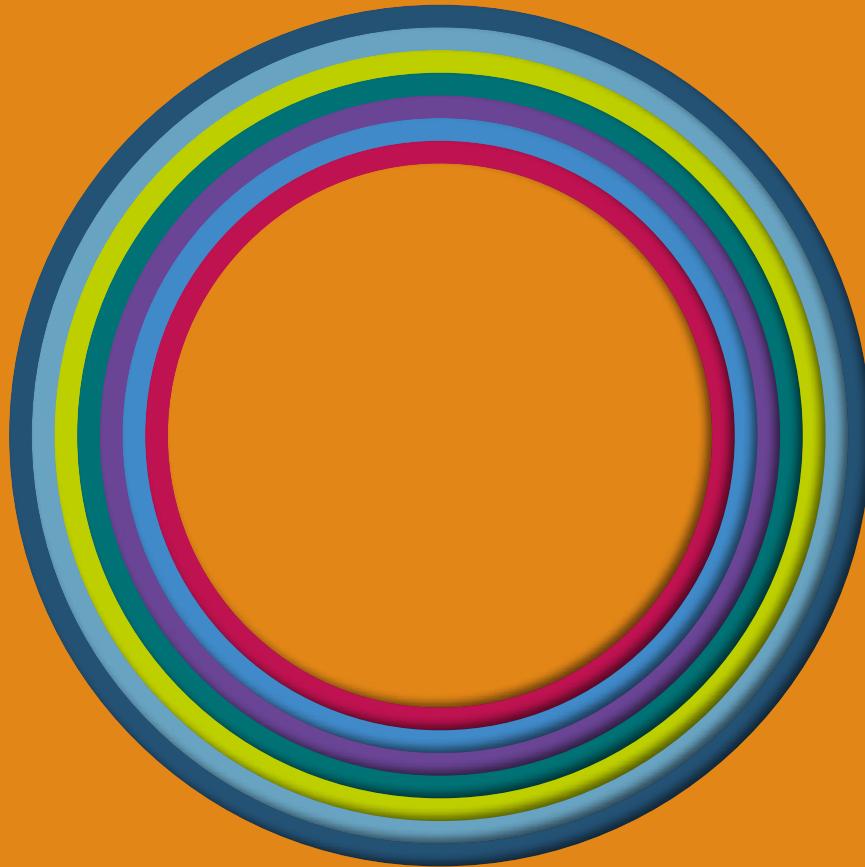
Bertrand Guillemot
Chairman of the DHC+
Technology Platform

Dear friends and colleagues,

For DHC+, 2015 will be remembered as a year of transformation: new faces, new services, new members...

This year, I was entrusted with serving as Chairman of the Platform, while Stefan Holler and Ralf-Roman Schmidt were

re-elected as Vice-Chairmen. A few weeks later, Alessandro Provaggi started at Euroheat & Power as Head of the DHC+ Technology Platform. New members joined the Platform and old members reconfirmed their commitment to foster research and innovation in DHC.



Furthermore, throughout 2015, DHC+ consolidated and expanded its activities and created new services for the members. This report provides an overview of the DHC+ achievements which we should all be proud of.

Now that heat is finally recognised as a priority at EU level, DHC+ is more essential than ever to show that the DHC community is

highly engaged in a continuous effort to deliver the most advanced solutions for the energy transformation and ready to be at the centre of the future energy system.

I hope you will enjoy the reading of the Highlights 2015!



STRATEGO

Leading the Way Towards the EU Heat Strategy

It was a year of achievements for STRATEGO too.

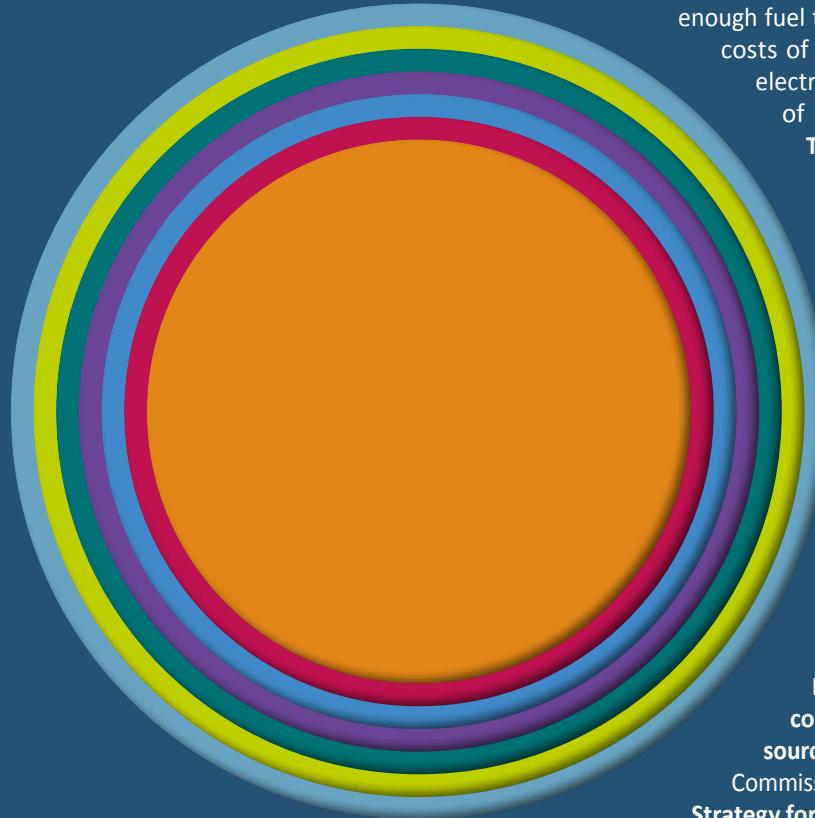
STRATEGO partners developed a Pan-European thermal atlas and performed a deep assessment of energy efficiency potential for 5 targeted countries (Croatia, Czech Republic, Italy, Romania and the United Kingdom). The results indicate that a total investment of approximately €1.1 trillion in energy efficiency measures across all five of these countries, between 2010 and 2050, will save enough fuel to reduce the total annual costs of the heating, cooling and electricity sectors by an average of ~15% in each country.

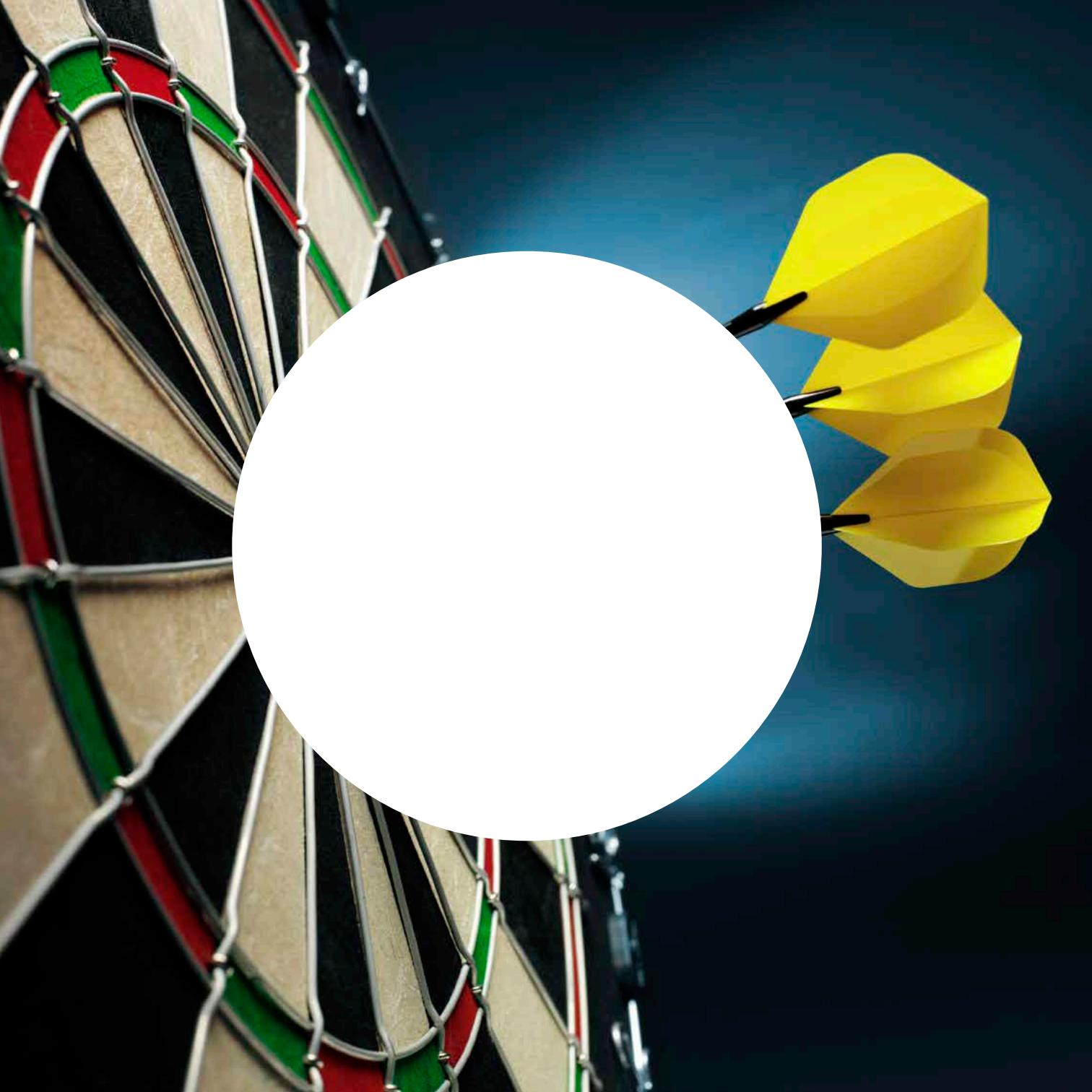
The study recommends increasing the District Heating share in urban areas from 0-25% of the heat demand today to approximately 40-70% in the future.

On top of that, STRATEGO supports around 25 cities and regions in mapping their energy potential and in getting coached on efficient solutions for heating and cooling.

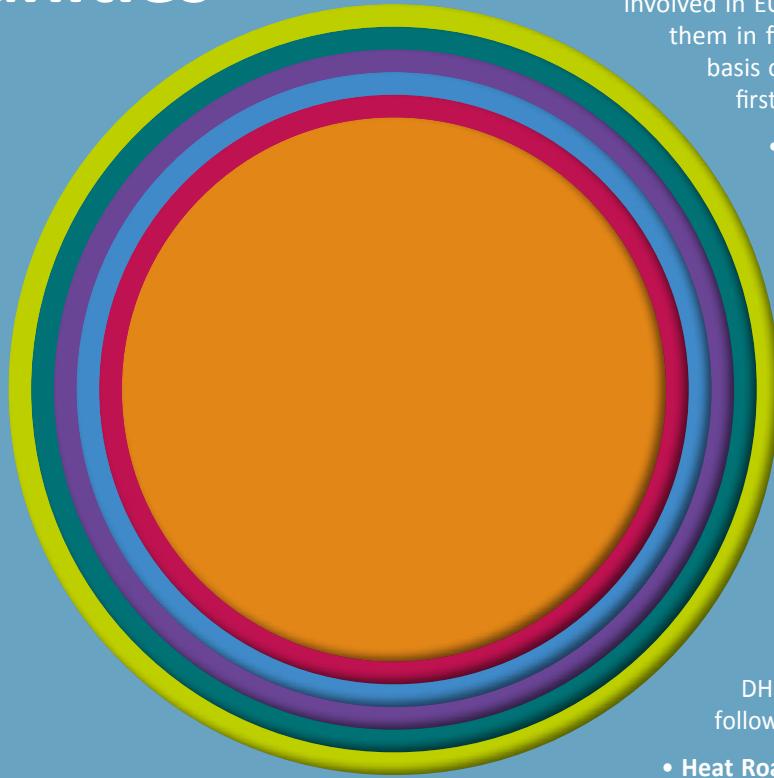
Furthermore, STRATEGO **constituted one of the main sources of data** for the European Commission in the context of the **EU Strategy for Heating and Cooling**.

More information is available on www.stratego-project.eu and on Twitter @STRATEGOproject





Facilitating Access to EU Funding Opportunities



In 2015, DHC+ expanded its offer of services to support its members' successful involvement in EU funded project consortia by:

- Providing insights and early intelligence on EU funding opportunities. For example, this year, DHC+ established a monthly internal newsletter (DHC+ Updates), conducted a mapping of relevant funding opportunities and DHC-related projects.

- Encouraging members in getting actively involved in EU funded projects, helping them in finding partners on a daily basis or thanks to the successful first Brokerage Event in October.

- Providing Letters of Support for project proposals (in 2015, DHC+ issued three times more letters than in 2014).

- Participating in members' project consortia for communication, dissemination and networking purposes. Out of the four proposals in which DHC+ participated as partner, two proposals received EU funding (50% success rate!).

DHC+ is a proud partner of the following new projects:

- **Heat Roadmap Europe 4** which will develop heat strategies and thermal atlases for the 14 largest EU countries building on the success of STRATEGO which focused on 5 countries.

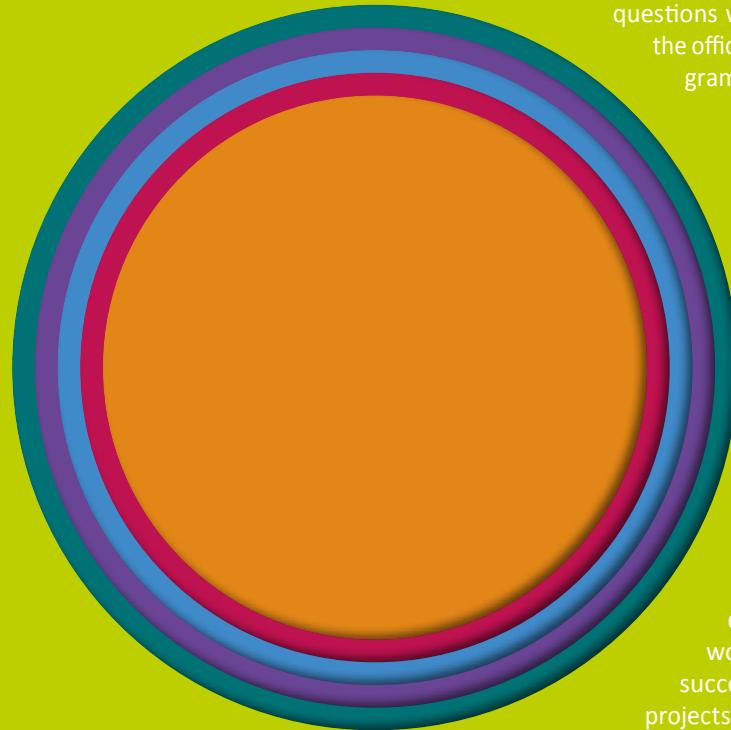
- **SDHp2m... from policy to market** - Advanced policies and market support measures for mobilising Solar District Heating investments in European target regions and countries.



Making the Right Connections

With more than 90 participants and 23 project ideas presented, the **DHC+ Brokerage Event** “Make the right connection” successfully took place in October 2015. The event targeted organisations interested in heating and cooling, energy efficiency and integrated energy systems.

In the first part of the event, representatives of the European Commission and its Executive Agency for SMEs presented the **new Horizon 2020 energy work programme** and calls for 2016-2017. The topics were unveiled and the questions were answered in advance of the official publication of the work programme.



The networking part of the event focused on the following topics: heating and cooling technology; heating and cooling policy and planning; renewable energy sources and heat pumps; industry, heat recovery and buildings; integrated energy systems and smart metering. Participants had the chance to find the best partners for their proposals, discuss project ideas, initiate work and cooperation towards successful Horizon 2020 funded projects.

And this is only the beginning! DHC+ will continue to act as a consortium building enabler. In the future, more brokerage events will be organised by the Platform and new tools for idea sharing and partner search will be available to our members.



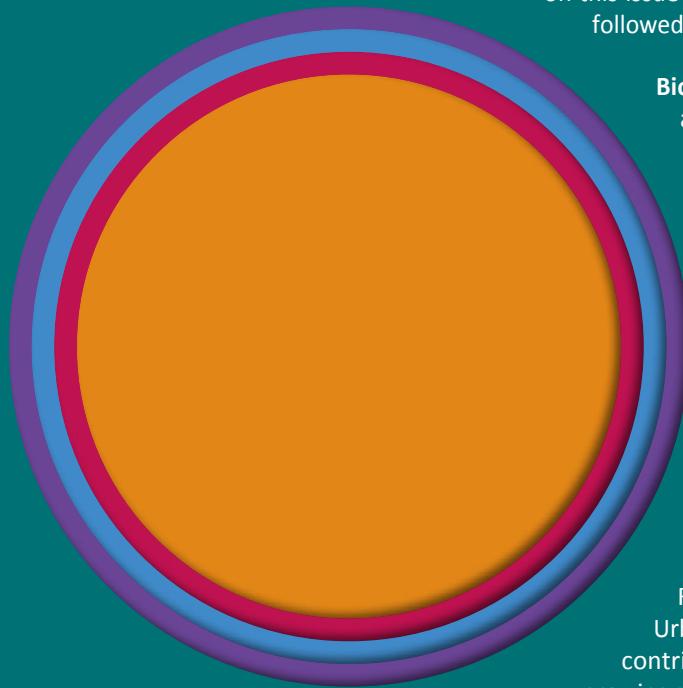
Driving Progress of Renewable Energy

DHC has a central role to play in the EU's future energy system, delivering efficient and renewable heat by utilising local resources. DHC+ has supported this development since its founding and has contributed to over a dozen research projects. Three of these projects have come to a successful end in 2015.

The **SDHPlus project** (www.solar-district-heating.eu) concentrated on solutions and conditions for Solar District Heating in Europe. It was the latest in a row of projects on this issue and DHC+ is glad that it will be followed by SDHp2m as of 2016.

BiogasHeat (www.biogasheat.org) approached the question of sustainable heat from the other side. Given the number of biogas plants without heat utilisation solutions in place, the potential for renewable supply is substantial. The project aimed at developing sustainable heat markets for biogas installations.

The **Rescue project** (www.rescue-project.eu) promoted the roll-out of REnewable Smart Cooling in Urban Europe. District Cooling can contribute to covering the quickly growing demand for cold in our cities on a large scale.

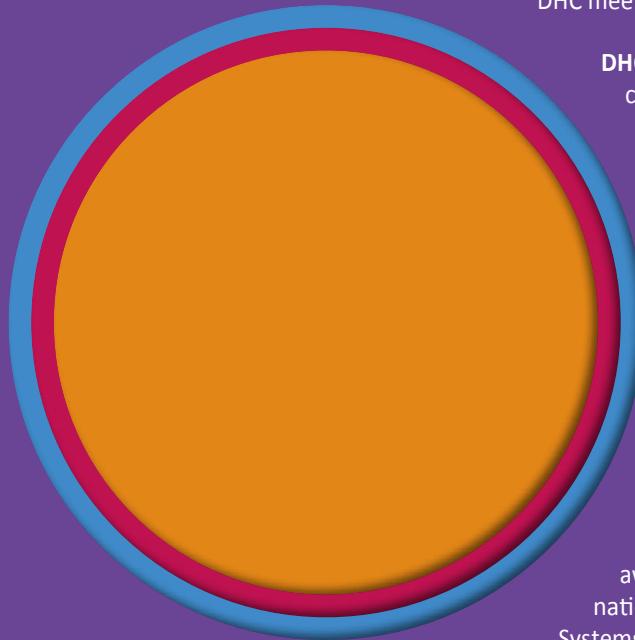




An Integrated Approach to Education & Training

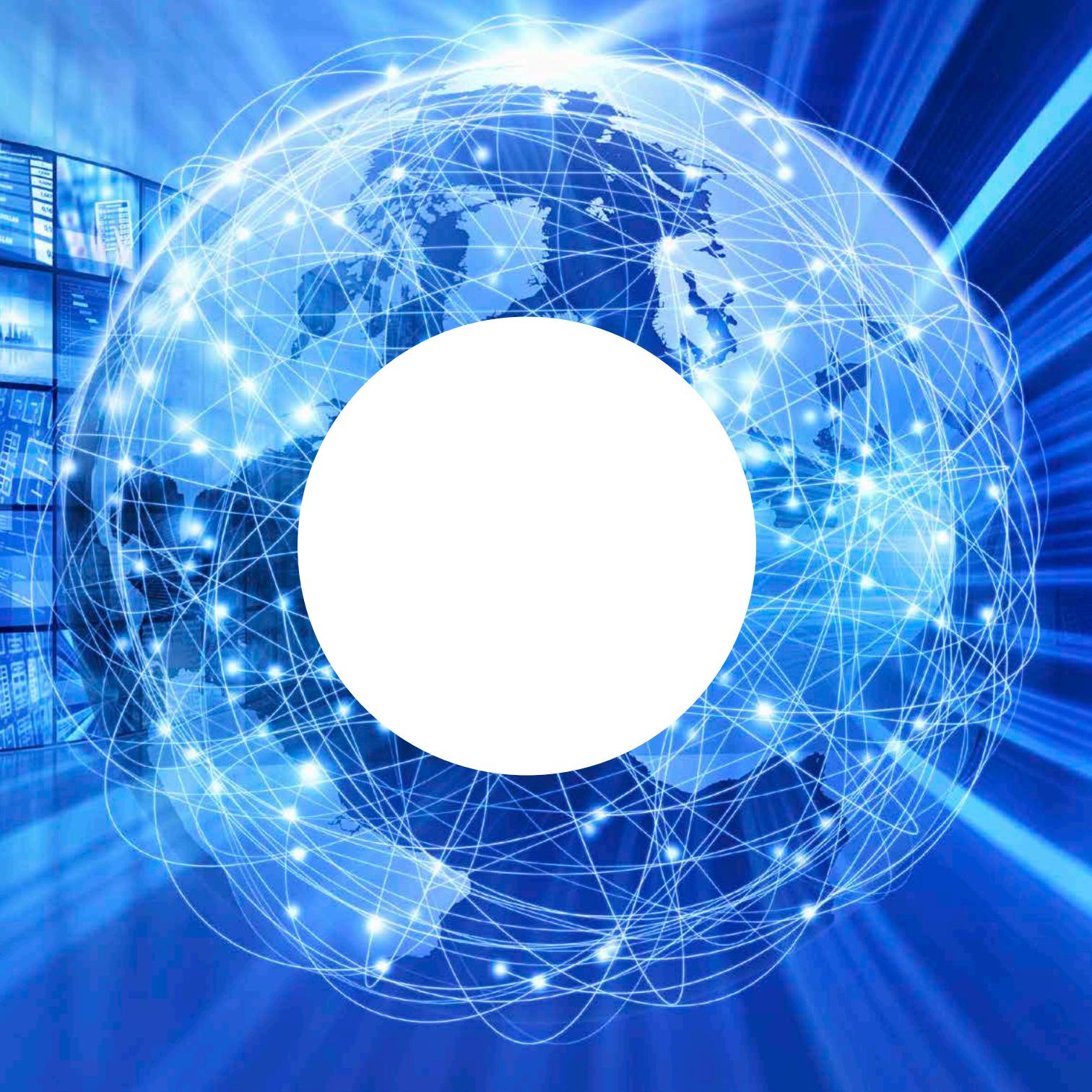
In 2015, educational activities of the Platform reflected a shift towards an integrated approach to the energy system in general and DHC in particular.

For the first time, the programme of the **DHC+ Summer School** featured the interaction between DHC and ICT technologies, Horizon 2020 funding rules, as well as design and modelling of DH networks. Participants have very much appreciated the involvement of the hosting entities : Politecnico di Torino and Istituto Superiore Mario Boella in partnership with two energy companies – IREN and EGEA – ensured that “DHC meets ICT” in Torino.



DHC+ Student Awards also saw an increasing spectrum of topics related to DHC and an improving quality of research done by students. The winning papers focused on the optimal heat pump use in European cities (by Susana Paardekooper, Aalborg University), energy network optimisation (by Wiet Mazairac, Eindhoven University of Technology) and an online machine learning algorithm for heat load forecasting (by Spyridon Provas, Blekinge Institute of Technology). The awards were presented at the International Conference on Smart Energy Systems and 4th Generation District Heating in Copenhagen.

For more information on what is coming in 2016 check
<http://summerschool.dhcplus.eu/>
<http://studentawards.dhcplus.eu/>



Communicating DHC Research

2015 was marked by the launch of a monthly information tool called DHC+ Updates. This internal newsletter is designed to inform our members about the ongoing work of the Platform, events, meetings and initiatives worth their attention, as well as about members looking for partners in EU-funded projects and third parties offering their expertise.

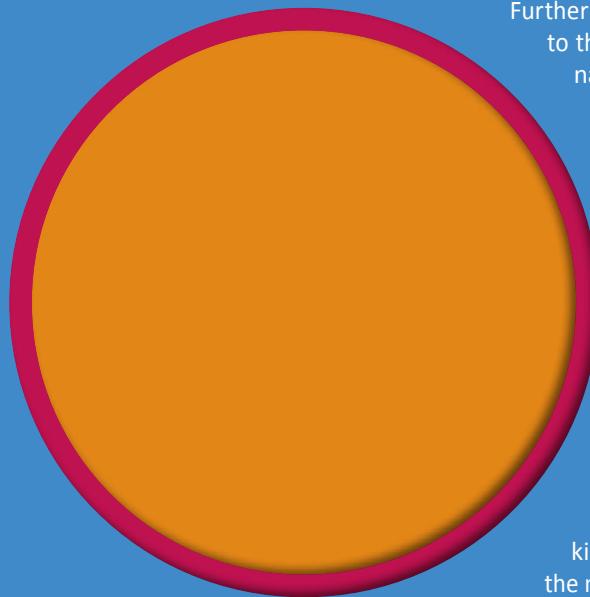
In parallel, DHC+ published a bi-annual Newsletter, available for a broader heating and cooling community, which was distributed at our events, and triggered an even bigger interest in the Platform's activities.

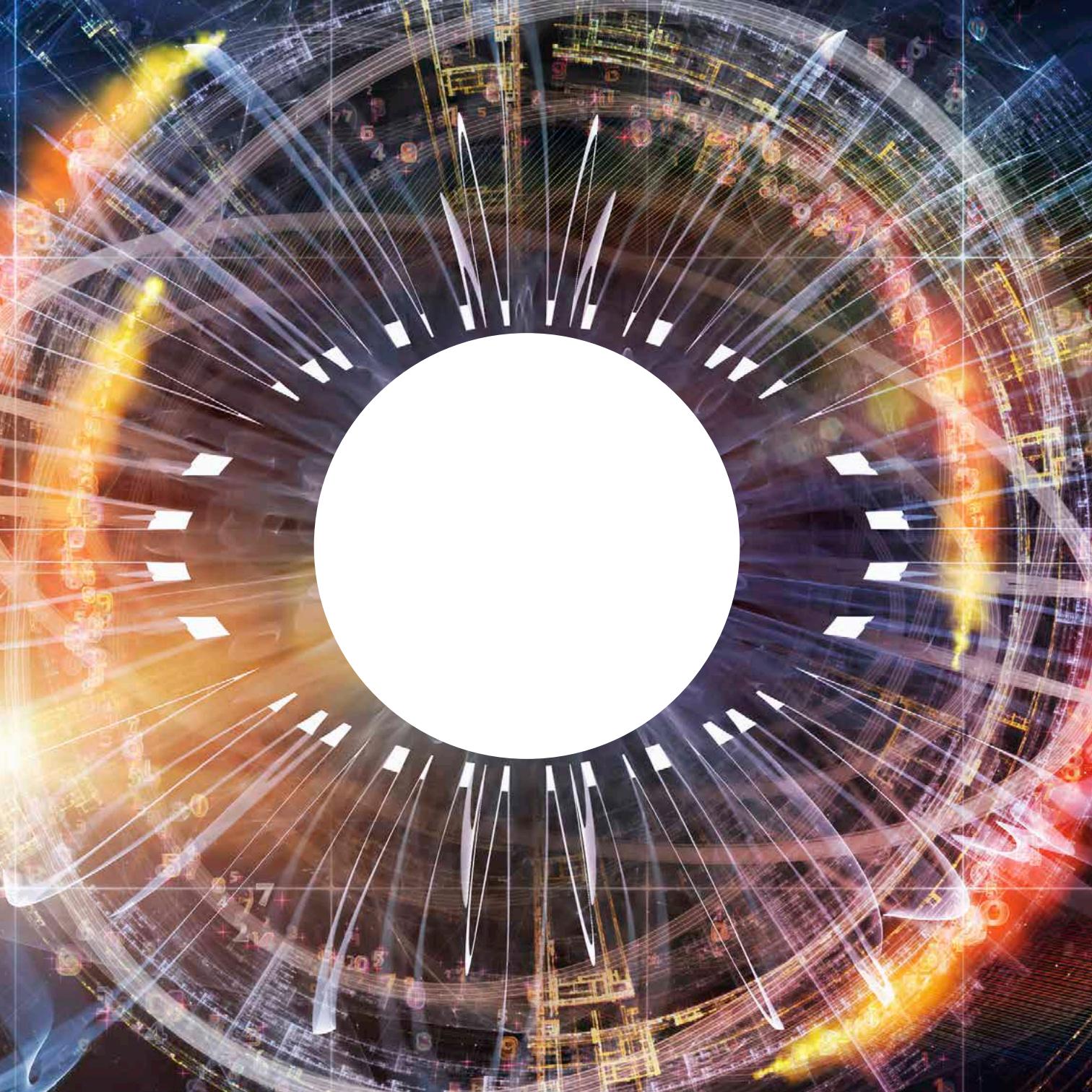
Furthermore, DHC+ continued to contribute to the monthly EHP newsletter, the International EuroHeat&Power Magazine and other ad hoc publications.

DHC+ kept increasing its social media presence by regular use of Twitter account @DHCPlus and Facebook page www.facebook.com/DHCPlus where our followers can get daily updates on DHC-related news, research programmes and events.

The work on a new, integrated with Euroheat & Power, website has kick-started. We can't wait to launch the new DHC+ website in April 2016!

Contact the Secretariat at dhcplus@euroheat.org to share your bright ideas, suggestions for improvement and news.





At the Centre of a Strong Network

Over the last years, DHC+ has extended its network and deepened the cooperation with relevant partners in the field of Research & Innovation and energy.

The European Technology Platform on Renewable Heating and Cooling, endorsed by the European Commission, helps identify and promote research priorities for the renewable heating and cooling sector. Alessandro Provaggi contributes to the work of the RHC Technology Platform as Board member and DHC focus group leader.

Knowledge4Innovation brings together numerous Members of the European Parliament and representatives of industry, research and local authorities with the aim to foster a more innovative policy environment. Ingo Wagner is member of the K4I Management Board and DHC+ contributed to the 7th European Innovation Summit.

Furthermore, DHC+ cooperated with CEN regarding the development of a standard for eco-efficient substations and contributed to the Summer Academy of Forum Zukunftsenergien.





The DHC+ Technology Platform, set up under the umbrella of Euroheat & Power, represents the voice of Research & Innovation for District Heating and Cooling in Europe and beyond.

It is today a strong group of stakeholders from academia, research, business and industry. DHC+ is the European hub for networking, knowledge transfer and innovation.

Together, we can and will achieve great things!



DHC+ Technology Platform

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