

# AEBIOM

EUROPEAN BIOMASS ASSOCIATION

[www.aebiom.org](http://www.aebiom.org)



[www.pelletcouncil.eu](http://www.pelletcouncil.eu)



pellets quality certification

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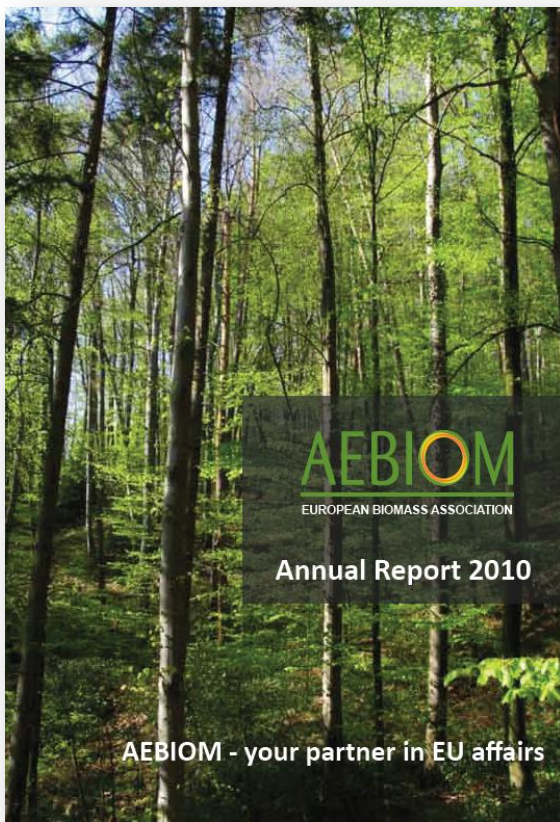


# About AEBIOM

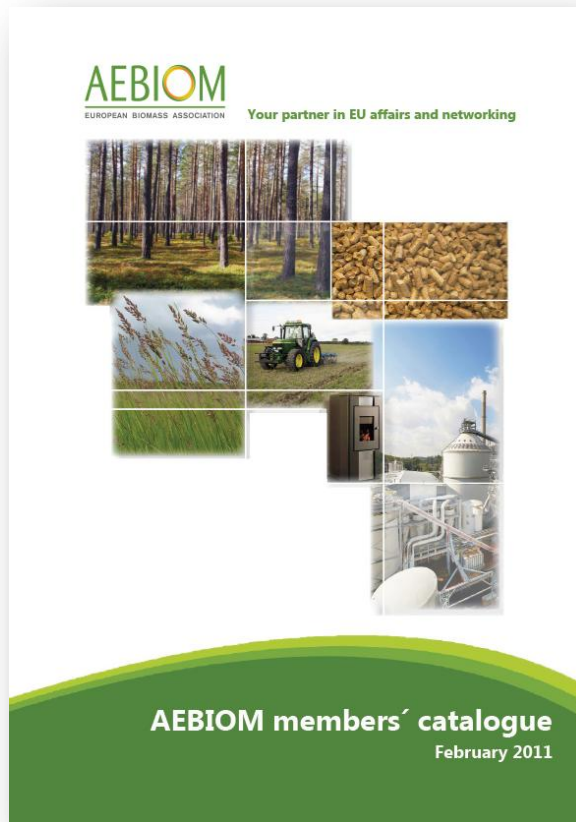
## European Biomass Association

- Represents and promotes interests of bioenergy stakeholders
- 30 national associations  
80 associated companies
- Activities: lobbying, workshops, newsletters, European projects, working groups, conferences and networking, etc.
- Leading the European Pellet Council
- Based in Brussels in the Renewable Energy House.
- Member of EREC (European Renewable Energy Council) and WBA (World Bioenergy Association).





Annual report 2010



Members' catalogue



[www.pelletcouncil.eu](http://www.pelletcouncil.eu)

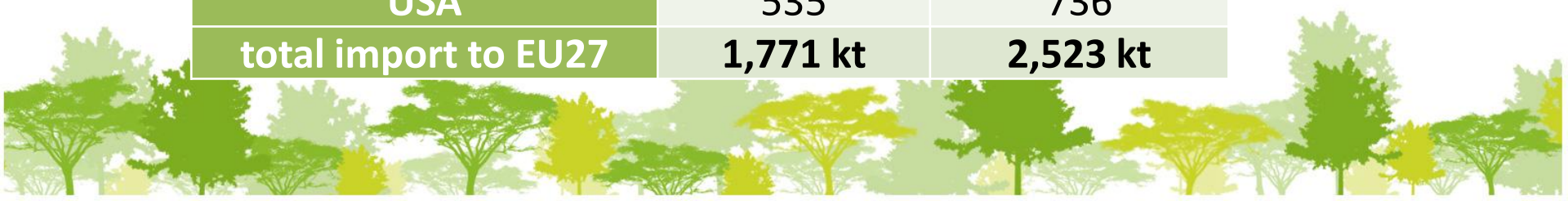


- Why do we need certification?
- Certification vs standardisation
- How is ENplus organized?
- How can you certify?
- Next steps
- Market penetration



**as trade expands certification gets ever more important!**  
**Pellet imports to the EU: +50% within a year!**

	2009	2010
Argentina	10	9
Australia	9	63
Belarus	75	90
Bosnia	54	44
Canada	520	926
Croatia	73	95
New Zealand		21
Norway	10	4
Russia	379	396
Serbia	18	26
South Africa	42	25
Switzerland	6	15
Ukraine	30	57
USA	535	736
<b>total import to EU27</b>	<b>1,771 kt</b>	<b>2,523 kt</b>



## Pellet export within EU: +60%

	2009	2010	main target country
Austria	159	285	IT
Belgium	119	47	FR
Czech Republic	72	100	AT, DE, IT
Denmark	20	112	DE, SE
Estonia	300	391	DK, SE
Finland	146	195	DK, SE
France	59	66	BE, DE, IT
Germany	350	554	AT, DK, IT, SE
Hungary	33	13	IT
Latvia	194	448	DK, SE, EE, DE
Lithuania	74	157	DK, IT
Netherlands	67	113	BE
Poland	81	143	DK, IT
Portugal	123	240	DK, SE, UK
Romania	62	139	AT, IT
Slovakia	46	63	HU, IT
Slovenia	75	81	IT
Spain	59	138	FR, PT
Sweden	98	67	DK
United Kingdom	6	67	DK, SE
<b>trade within EU27</b>	<b>2,164</b>	<b>3,445</b>	

# Why certification? Pellet quality is an issue in the residential heating market

- Bulk delivery: in Austria and Germany approx. 90% of market
- Durability of pellets and delivery critical
- Ash content critical



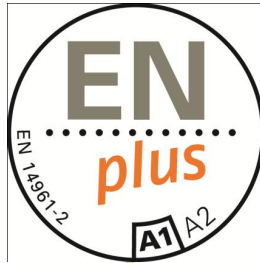
## How can you make sure you do not get sawdust in your store instead of pellets?

- Pellets must have a consistent durability
- Adequate plant technology and a proper internal quality control are critical
- Distributors must be qualified: trained driver, adequate vehicle, appropriate storage etc.
- **How can you guarantee these preconditions?**



## By certification!

- An auditor checks pellet plant and internal quality management system
- There is a long checklist (including pellet analysis)
- The plant is certified if it is properly managed and equipped it
- Distributers are also certified (simplified procedure)



## What is the difference between certification and standardisation?

- New pellet standard EN 14961-2 gives technical specifications for pellets:
- 3 quality specifications: A1, A2, B
- ENplus certifications makes sure, these standards are consistently met
- From a certified producer a customer can expect pellets that comply to the standard



# How important is certification in central Europe?

- In Austria and Germany certification is indispensable for doing business
- In Italy it is very valuable
- Certification is easier, more consistent and more reliable than occasional external pellet tests
- However: in the past different certification systems: ÖNORM, DINplus, Pellet Gold ... – confusing market situation



## International developments:

- **USA:** legal requirement for certification of pellets as of 2011
- **France:** certification system NF recently introduced
- **EU:** certification of sustainability big issue in liquid biofuels and requested by power sector for solid fuels
- Mandatory sustainability criteria on EU level by the end of the year?



# ENplus certification – what is that?

- Certification managed by the European Pellet Council
- Based on EN 14961-2
- A handbook describes the requirements for certification
- Includes both production and and (bulk) trade



## How does it work ?

- Producer selects an inspection body listed on [www.pelletcouncil.eu](http://www.pelletcouncil.eu)
- Auditor inspects the pellet plant and the quality management system, takes pellet samples for analyses
- Auditing report is submitted to a certification body that checks it and issues the certificate
- A license contract is signed with the national pellet association (or EPC directly) to use the ENplus quality seal



## Bulk pellet distributors are also certified

- This ensures that pellet quality is maintained in the supply chain
- Certification based on self declaration
- Random inspection of certificate holders



## What are the costs for producers?

- Costs for auditing and pellet analysis: approx. 2000 €
- Costs for certification: approx. 400 €
- License costs for using the ENplus trademark:  
6-15 cent / t



## What are the benefits ?

- Pellets become a clearly defined commodity
- Huge simplification of trade
- ENplus certified A1 product can bring higher revenue than uncertified product
- Extended guarantees for customers by stove/boiler manufacturers



- Power sector has defined 3 industrial pellet qualities I1, I2, I3 to facilitate trade
- EUproject „PellCERT“ : development of an ENplus compatible certification scheme for industrial quality
- Involved: AEBIOM, 10 national pellet associations and power sector



## The vision:

- Pellet deliveries could have mixed certifications: e.g. A1+ I1, A2+I2, B+I2 depending on specifications
- Price differentials between different quality specs characterise market situation
- Free flow of trade between heat and industrial markets leads to economic benefits for all actors and enhanced supply security



## Market uptake

- Germany: 60% of production capacity is in the process of being certified
- Austria: 90% of production capacity expected to certify this year
- ENplus producers in AT, CZ, DE, HR, RO, UK
- Over 3 Million tons of ENplus pellets by end 2011
- Other countries committed to introduce ENplus: IE, ES, PT, IT, CH, BE



**Thank you for your attention**

**[rechberger@pelletcouncil.eu](mailto:rechberger@pelletcouncil.eu)**

ENplus handbook  
Certified producers/traders  
Support organisations  
etc.

ENplus improvement  
Industrial pellets  
Training, etc.

EU legislation  
Statistics  
Sustainability  
Etc.

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