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Fireplaces, stoves biomass boilers wood and pellets

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Who we are and why we do it

Aldona Mazurkiewicz
deputy editor-in-chief of "Świat Kominków"

"Świat Kominków" – a magazine for a common consumer

Our publishing adventure with fireplaces began in 2002 and in 2003 resulted in the first issue of "Świat Kominków" – a periodical that is our lead title to this day. We provide our readers an overview of the wide gamut of fireplaces available on the Polish market as well as the variety of technical solutions used in this type of heating units. We write not only about fireplaces designed for wood, but also for pellet, gas, electricity or bioethanol. We also present the variety of garden heating units such as grills, smokehouses, bonfires, bread ovens or summer kitchens. The whole is complemented by articles dedicated to the use and operation, fuel issues, flue gas evacuation as well as all kinds of equipment and accessories for fireplaces. We try to cover the topic of the fireplace as widely as possible. We pay attention to how to combine the fireplace with other heating systems such as heat pumps, photovoltaics, HVAC systems or gas boilers. Since 2021 there has been a separate section of our journal dedicated exclusively to wood or pellet boilers.

The magazine has a wide distribution system of both the traditional paper version (available in showrooms and fireplace companies, newsagents, DIY stores) and the electronic version available on the issuu platform and promoted, among others, on our portal fireplaces.org and Facebook thematic groups. We participate in many trade fairs, not only those related to fireplaces, but also regional ones, dealing with construction, interior design and gardening.

We are considered a trustworthy and influential magazine. We are a co-founder and a supporting member of the Polish Association "Kominki Polskie". Since 2006, we have established the Flame of the Year prize awarded, among others, to the best companies, products and events.

kominki.org – a portal bringing fire to the house and garden!

Since 2008, we have been creating a fireplace-related website www.kominki.org. Here, the end-customer cannot only view a rich photo gallery and read about various technical and aesthetic fireplace solutions, but also find an executive company and manufacturer using the database of companies, or learn about legal issues regarding the construction of fireplaces.

"Kominiki PRO" – a magazine for fireplace industry professionals

We are constantly advancing, as best proven by the magazine addressed exclusively to professionals from the broadly understood fireplace industry – "KominkiPRO", which expanded our portfolio in 2009. The periodical is distributed directly by mail (both by snail mail and in electronic form accessible via the issuu platform) to over 2,500 fireplace and fireplace-related companies in Poland. In "Kominki PRO", there are texts on legal, economic and marketing aspects of the functioning of companies, important current topics for the industry, materials dealing with technical problems important for contractors, as well as update information on industry events, trainings and fairs. It is a perfect place to look for trade representatives, establish business contacts or reach a wide group of fireplace contractors and stove fitters in Poland.

Our professional sales department is always willing to adjust the offer to the needs and expectations of each client. We are not a large media concern, but a small family publishing house that puts the emphasis on quality and genuineness. We are a reliable partner for companies and a valuable source of information for the Readers. ■

Read on ISSUU.com

THE MAGIC OF FIRE WHEREVER YOU WANT

BIOETHANOL FIREPLACES

AUTOMATIC BIOFIREPLACES

WATER VAPOR FIREPLACES

Fireplaces, boilers or pellets from Poland? Why not!

Witold Hawajski
editor-in-chief
of "Świat Kominków"

Poland has been one of the 27 countries of the European Union since 2004, and the unification of legal regulations within the EU framework makes most of the products manufactured in Poland meet common European standards. This is also the case with fireplace inserts, stoves and biomass boilers, which are also covered by the provisions of the EU Regulation 1185/2015 in Poland, the popular Ecodesign Directive. These regulations entered into force on January 1, 2022, but already much earlier, most devices manufactured in Poland had met them.

Polish manufacturers of fireplace inserts, stoves or biomass boilers are a very experienced group, and many of them have been present on the market for 25 years or even longer. It is thanks to them that from the position of the country-importer of practically everything related to fireplaces, fireplace inserts, connections, ventilation grilles, etc., we have reached the state where Polish producers cover most of the domestic needs. They are not small, because the country with a population of 37.7 million buys and installs around 100 thousand devices every year, and in addition to the basic requirements, Polish manufacturers also meet the higher technical and aesthetic expectations of their buyers. What is important, these are mostly own constructions, which are the result of many years of experience and the work of our own designers. These include fireplaces with multi-sided and large glazing, with a water jacket, gas fireplaces or bioethanol furnaces. In recent years, we can observe not only the adaptation of products to the requirements of Ecodesign but also changes in the production structure – there are more and more free-standing stoves and fireplace inserts for more demanding buyers, classified as "premium" by producers. The number of garden equipment offered is also growing dynamically.

You can rely on Polish manufacturers, constructors and highly qualified employees. That is why the recognized European manufacturers, SPARTHERM, NORDPEJS and JØTUL, SCHIEDEL or JEREMIAS located their production plants in Poland some years back.

The manufacturers of central heating boilers fired with wood and pellets are also able to meet the expectations of markets where there is a high demand for this type of device. Modern machinery, professional staff and long-standing experience mean that Poland is the seat of good boilers production and the renown European producers, like HARGASSNER, have found reliable partners in here. Polish manufacturers also provide a wide range of mechanical and electronic equipment, everything necessary to install and control modern biomass devices.

Poland does not only produce equipment. As a country with large, sustainably managed forest resources, we have also been a producer of excellent quality pellets for many years, which also goes beyond the borders of Poland.

If you do not know fireplaces or biomass boilers from Poland yet, it is worth reading our report, which – we hope – will help you navigate through the wide range of devices made in Poland. ■

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36 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

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The Unico Dragon and Unico Nemo fireplace insert lines feature advanced combustion technology, high efficiency, and long-lasting durability. The clean glass system ensures an excellent view of the fire, while precise air control optimizes the combustion process.

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convection inserts

NEMO

inserts with a water heat exchanger

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FREESTANDING STOVES

The Simply Unique and Simply Aqua freestanding stoves offer high energy efficiency, combining the performance of a fireplace with the functionality of a freestanding stove. Built on reliable UNICO fireplace inserts, they do not require additional housing, ensuring easy installation and mobility.

SIMPLY UNIQUE

convection freestanding stoves

SIMPLY AQUA

freestanding stoves with a water heat exchanger

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unico@unico-kominki.pl

Akos fireplaces

Have been designed as a minimalistic product line.

Have patented as a high-efficiency gas fireplace.

The energy rating of the Akos Fireplaces is Type A, meaning that they can be used as a heating element with a nice and decorative flame effect, or as a decorative fireplaces by using one of two burner steps. Akos fireplaces can be supplied as sheet metal surrounding inside the burner chamber or with a black and reflective glass, in order to create a reflective background for the fire. Each Akos fireplace has a remote control unit with option to supply with wi-fi application.

AKOS

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akos@akosfires.com
www.akosfires.com

Incyrcle Slim Biofireplace by Infire

Minimalist form, precision craftsmanship, and unique style – **Incyrcle Slim** by **Infire** embodies the essence of modern design. Available in two versions – **Wall** (mounted on or within the wall) and **hanging**, suspended from a ceiling-mounted pipe – it seamlessly integrates into contemporary interiors, adding a distinctive character.

The casing, customizable in Any **RAL** color, allows for full personalization, while the contrasting interior – **black with a black burner** Or **white with a wave-shaped burner** – enhances its futuristic appeal. More than just a fireplace, it is a statement piece that perfectly blends aesthetics with functionality. **Incyrcle Slim**, part of the **SLIMfire** collection, represents the next step in expanding the range with innovative and exciting new designs.

infire BIOKOMINKI

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Innovative designed thermo--fireplace

An appliance showcasing the modern styling of the LAVA water jacket inserts. Our devices are fully customizable, here you can see a version with an additional handle and frame for easier installation. Noteworthy is the exceptionally high output of the water exchanger of 12-19 kW with a nominal output of 13-22 kW. Thermofireplace in the innovative design guarantees maximum heat exchange surface from the flue gases to the heating circuit, which has a direct effect on reduced fuel consumption with the same heating result. Each of our fireplace inserts has a certified combustion system and a five-year warranty. We strongly encourage You to check out our products at

LAVA

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Artiss Z1

The Artiss.design Z1 features advanced post-combustion technology, where air supply openings channel air over combustion gases, ensuring cleaner burning and significantly reducing smoke emissions. This results in a more environmentally friendly fire. Compact, portable, and ready for any adventure, it's ideal for camping or gardens with its sleek design. Available in graphite, corten, and red. Enjoy the warmth and charm of a fire without the smoke, thanks to innovative, eco-friendly technology.

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for wood logs

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Thermal insulation products

We offer a wide range of sealing materials for central heaters, fireplace inserts and fireplace doors:
- thermal insulation glass cords;
- self-adhesive glass tapes;
- repair kits (ready-made).

Production capabilities:
- glass tapes up to 35 mm, thickness up to 4 mm;
- thermal cords from 5 to 30 mm;
- thermal cords up to 20 mm without glass filling;
- thermal cords over 20 mm with glass filling;
- rectangular thermal cords sewn with non-flammable thread;
- square ceramic sealants from 6 to 30 mm (up to 1200°C);
- ready-made.

The thermal insulation products we offer are produced on our own, therefore we are able to customize technical parameters of the products to specific requirements our customers, within the technical capabilities of our machines.

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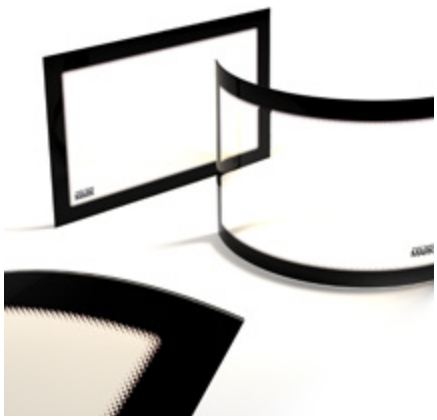

Your partner for fireplace glass

Our History and Ambitions
For over 30 years, we've excelled as a leading special glass processor in the heart of Europe, rooted in a family glassmaking tradition. Combining innovation, sustainability, and advanced service, we offer top-quality fireplace glass. Our skilled team fosters long-term partnerships built on mutual value.

Our Offer and Distinctions
We provide the widest range of fireplace glass panels, from flat (up to 2400 mm) to curved and spherical shapes. Using heat-reflective and anti-reflective coatings, we handle black decoration and logos in-house. Flexible schedules, excellent price-quality ratio, and secure packaging ensure customer satisfaction.

Quality and Trust
Certified by ISO 9001 from TÜV Nord, we support European stove and fireplace manufacturers with the highest standards of quality and safety. We invest in advanced machinery and offer technical assistance at every stage. Our long-standing relationships are built on shared benefits and a customer-centric approach.

Contact us – test our quality!

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ONE Plus heating boilers

ONE Plus boilers are among the most modern, automated, and highly equipped pellet boilers. They are characterised by an aesthetic design and small size. Weather automatics controls the work of the boiler with an HT-Logic III system of autocontrol and combustion optimisation using an HT-tronic Lambda module.

CALLA VERDE heat pumps

Modern heat pumps with a power output ranging from 5 to 20 kW. The products use the new R452B refrigerant. They have a COP of up to 7.32 and an SCOP of up to 4.55, and can heat water up to 65°C. The pumps are very quiet at just 27dB(A) (at a distance of 5 metres, type M9).

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DrewKo Hybrid

A dual fuel wood gasification boiler with the possibility of pellet combustion, in accordance with the **EN 303–5+A1:2023–05 and Eco Design** standards. The choice of burning method is simply a matter of selecting the function on the boiler controller. This product highly appreciated by customers thanks to its fuel flexibility and available nominal outputs of **12 kW**, **18 kW** and **24 kW**.

SlimKo Plus

One of the smallest pellet boilers on the market, with side fuel hopper. Produced in the **8–35 kW** power range. Its advantages are: fully automatic control, modern design, compact dimensions and maintenance-free operation. The boiler meets the requirements of the **EN 303–5+A1:2023–05 and Eco Design** standards.

KOTŁOSPAW

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DEFRO boilers

DEFRO boilers are designed for easy use, with simplicity in installation and operation being one of their main advantages. We prioritize economy in our design, which translates into savings for our customers. By adhering to strict production processes, all of our devices meet the highest standards for emissions and efficiency. We believe that everyone deserves not only a reliable and eco-friendly source of heat but also clean air to breathe.

DEFRO pure warmth

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www.defro.pl/en

DEFRO heat pumps

DEFRO heat pumps are manufactured in Poland using top-quality components. Key benefits include quick plug-in installation, the use of ecological refrigerants, a high coefficient of performance (COP), and advanced intuitive automation that allows for internet control. Our devices offer low operating costs, high user comfort, year-round functionality-including a cooling option-and long-lasting, trouble-free operation. They can also operate in hybrid mode, working alongside gas or pellet boilers.

Choosing a DEFRO heat pump means selecting peace of mind and comfort, ensuring you have a dependable heat source for years to come.

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Powering reliability in every turn

Drive technology is a part of ourdaily lives – from ventilation, air conditioning, and heating to access to water, electricity, and food. That's why having a partner who offers reliable solutions is essential. Since 2008, HF Inverter Polska has been a trusted partner in drive technology. HFEH drives are modern worm gearboxes, perfect for boilers using coal or biomass. With modular construction, a lightweight aluminum housing, and lifetime lubrication with synthetic oil, they deliver reliability and efficiency even in demanding industrial applications.

Precision drive for pellet boilers

The primary drive for pellet boilers is a helical gearmotor powered by 1~230V/50 Hz with a power range of 10–25 W. Precise fuel feeding is ensured by a rotational speed of 6 to 15 rpm, adjustable with an additional gear ratio (i=10). The motors are designed for continuous operation and feature thermal winding protection, safeguarding against auger jams. Compact dimensions maintain the modern design of pellet boilers, while the power cable can be customized in length and fitted with any plug type to meet boiler manufacturers' needs.

Keep the fire under control

Fireplace Controls

RT-08 OMG

Fireplace control for traditional and modern fireplaces, heating fireplaces and wood stoves.

The control stabilizes the burning process to maintain the desired temperature in the stove for as long as possible and extend the burning time.

The flue gas temperature sensor measures the temperature above the combustion chamber, and the air damper regulates the air supply for combustion.

RT-08 OMGX

Fireplace control for water -circulating fireplaces, including buffer storage and central heating.

The control stabilizes the burning process to maintain the desired temperature in the stove for as long as possible and extend the burning time.

In addition, the control can manage two pumps (buffer storage charging pump, circulation pump), as well as other devices (e.g. room ventilation, smoke exhaust fan).

RT-08 OSG

Fireplace control for tiled stoves, basic stoves, combination stoves, and other storage systems.

The control ensures optimal air supply to the combustion chamber for a quick heating process. Controlled air supply prevents premature cooling of the stove and stores the heat obtained for as long as possible.

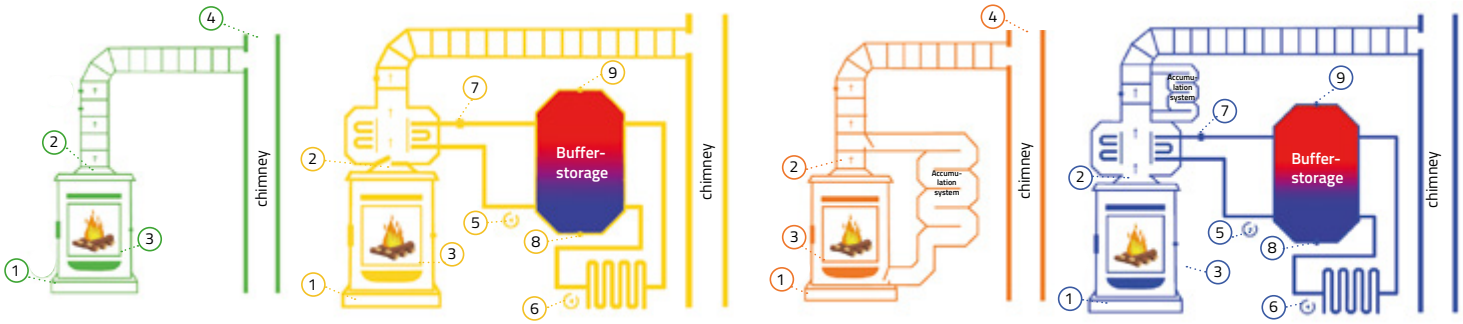
The optimal air supply ensures low-emission combustion and protects the stove from overheating.

RT-08 OSGX

Fireplace control for water-circulating fireplaces with heat storage system, including buffer storage and central heating.

The control ensures optimal air supply to the combustion chamber for a quick heating process. Controlled air supply prevents premature cooling of the stove and stores the heat obtained for as long as possible.

In addition, the control can manage two pumps (buffer storage charging pump, circu-



1 - Air damper
2 - Exhaust gas temperature sensor
3 - Door contact switch (optional)
4 - Second exhaust gas temperature sensor (optional)
5 - Buffer storage charging pump or Laddomat
6 - Circulation pump
7 - Water temperature sensor (T1)
8 - Water temperature sensor (T2)
9 - Water temperature sensor (T3)

Benefits of TATAREK fireplace controls

- Universally applicable
- Individually adaptable
- Diverse safety features
- (even during power outages)

User-friendly, customizable, comfortable, and equipped with various safety functions

Saves up to 30% on firewood

- Attractive prices
- Fast delivery times
- Customer service
- Consultation

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REPORT

Fireplaces in Poland in 2024

Witold Hawajski (70)
editor-in-chief of "Świat Kominków"

He was selling fireplace inserts and stoves between 1992 until 2018. At the same time, he was involved in social and journalistic activities, writing for "Gazeta Wyborcza", "Murator" and local media dealing with construction issues. He initiated the foundation of the Polish association of fireplace industry. As a result of cooperation with the IHZ Publishing House in 2002, a project of a generally accessible magazine about fireplaces was born, of which he became the editor-in-chief. In 2003, the first issue of "Świat Kominków" was published, followed a few years later by the magazine for specialists in the industry, "Kominki.Pro" and the portal, kominki.org.

Since 2006, "Świat Kominków" has been awarding the FLAME OF THE YEAR award for the best companies, products and most important events in the industry.

For some time, the traditional area of interest of "Świat Kominków" with domesticated fire has expanded to include ecological home heating solutions, mainly those based on wood and pellets.

Fireplaces in Polish homes. Today and tomorrow

Poland is the sixth-largest European Union country with the population of 37.7 million ranks it as the fifth among the 27 member states.

There are over 6 million residential buildings in Poland, of which over 5 million are single-family houses. Over the last years, approximately 1 million apartments and single-family houses have been built in Poland. A record year in this respect was 2022, when as many as 238,500 apartments were built.

I am providing the data on Polish construction industry for, after all, it is an apartment or a house that makes a potential place for a fireplace. Although multi-family housing is leading the way to developers, it is still individual housing with single-family houses which provides optimal places for fireplaces. The number of single-family houses is still growing and, according to the numbers provided by the Statistics Poland, about 70.000 single-family houses were built every year in Poland in the last decade, and in the record period starting in 2019 almost 90,000 houses were built every year. It should be taken into account that the number of houses built in 2019–2022 was negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and Russia's aggression against Ukraine. Both the events translated into drastic supply shortages, an increase in the cost of materials, and a significant growth in interest rates on loans. On the other hand, in 2023, the number of houses built and building permits granted decreased slightly, and this is, among others, the result of high inflation and ongoing problems with obtaining loans, (in quarters I-III of 2023, the decrease was as follows – 7.1% of buildings completed and – 15.7% of buildings started).

The majority of Polish single-family houses is built with the use of traditional technologies, which even under normal conditions implies a construction cycle of 1–2 years. Under a high inflation rate (officially exceeding 15%), rising prices and lack of materials, limited access to cheap credits will certainly extend the construction time, as well as lowering the size of the houses built which can already be observed (a decrease from 130.9 m² to 128.8 m²). If viewed from this side, it seems that in the next 2 or 3 years houses, construction of which was started in the period 2022–2024, will only be at the finishing stage. And from the point of view of the demand for finishing materials, including fireplaces, it is optimistic for the next few years, neither manufacturers of devices and installation materials nor construction contractors shall be afraid of stoppage in the sector.

According to the Central Emission Register of Buildings (Polish acronym CEEB), at the end of 2023 in Poland there were: 1,541,838 fireplaces and stoves, 1,049,481 tiled stoves, as well as 836,295 kitchen stoves and ranges.

The war in Ukraine, the increase in energy prices and the threat of electricity and gas supply shortages, led to the situation where not only the declared enthusiasts of their own hearthside, but the majority of Polish society started to understand the importance of locally available fuel and the devices that enable its use. Consequently, wood-fueled fireplaces and even more freestanding stoves, which are particularly quick to install, have become a sought-after commodity.

Despite various fluctuations caused mainly by factors outside the industry and the lack of co-funding programmes for the replacement of old heating devices or purchase of new ones, which are popular in many other countries (obviously, all the devices sold currently meet Ecodesign standards), the present-day potential of the Polish fireplace market can be estimated at around 100 thousand devices per year.

However, regardless of these glaring errors in official documents and statistics, many householders in cities and villages use wood in their home fireplaces, which makes wood the most popular renewable fuel in Poland, as it is in many other countries.

"Świat Kominków" has been observing the Polish fireplace-and-stove market for 20 over 22 years and we hope that now the time has come for all the forms of 'green energy', and so for renewable wood too, and for ecological fireplaces to not only be socially but also legally acceptable. Both the present and future users as well as manufacturers and distributors of fireplaces and any other

Estimated sales volume solid fuel LSK 2022*					
	Nordic	Central	Latin	East	Total 2022
Open fireplaces	0	10,000	0	300	10,300
Inset/insert	23,667	67,062	158,000	89,360	338,089
Freestanding stoves	111,678	378,992	283,500	122,817	896,987
	135,345	456,054	441,500	212,477	1.245,376

So according to the partners of CEFACD in 2022 1,245 million units have been sold in the EU 27 and the UK including 100,000– 120,000 estimated sales (production + distribution) in Poland.

kinds of devices for wood and pellets are looking forward to it. After all, you cannot talk forever about ecology, prioritize coal and forget about locally-sourced wood.

Fireplace business in Poland

Since 1989, when Poland entered the path of democratic development and free market economy, we have been facing a dynamic growth of the economic activity of Poles. Poland's accession to the structures of the European Union on May 1, 2004 and to the Schengen area on December 21, 2007 increased the activity of Poles even more and encouraged the presence of foreign companies in Poland. Several European manufacturers of fireplaces, such as SPARTHERM, NORTHSTAR or JOTUL, took advantage of the possibility of doing business and locating their production plants in Poland. However, the Poles themselves also took matters into their own hands. Numerous small workshops that functioned in the shade of large state-owned behemoths, at most using materials the latter rejected, grew into enterprises employing several dozen or even several hundred people.

Among the companies that were created completely from scratch, there are mainly one-person or several-person service establishments. However, whenever the founding ideas were original and supported by the determination and perseverance in pursuing their goals, companies that were created are today appreciated not only on the domestic market but also on the demanding markets of other countries.

Polish fireplace industry, its diversity and current potential are a perfect example of this growth. While in the early 90's the Polish fireplace market was dominated mainly by products imported from France, Norway or Germany, currently these are Polish manufacturers that prevail on the domestic market in terms of the number of devices sold. Attractive products from other EU and non-EU manufacturers only complement the market. Polish fireplace companies have made excellent use of their assets and are more bold to enter foreign markets with their fireplace products.

Fireplace inserts and freestanding stoves

Products of DEFRO, HAJDUK, HITZE, KAWMET, KRATKI.PL and UNICO are today the most frequently installed fireplace inserts and stoves in Polish homes. The size and range of production places some of them among leading producers in Europe. Of course, wood-burning, air-fired and water-jacketed fireplaces are the most popular, but attractive gas and pellet models are also offered.

In every large DIY store in Poland one can find fireplace inserts and stoves from KAWMET or NORDFLAM. To the contrary, manufacturers such as CEBUD or IWONA PELLETS do not produce tens of thousands of hearths, but offer innovative devices which are attractive just for a specific groups of buyers. These are, among others, accumulation stove inserts with a pellet gasification hearth or dual-fuel inserts for wood and pellets. And this is just a part of the list of Polish manu-

facturers of fireplace inserts and stoves. The total production potential of Polish companies exceeds 200,000 fireplace inserts and free-standing stoves. This can be estimated on the basis of data provided by major manufacturers: KRATKI, DEFRO HOME, HAJDUK, NORDFLAM, HITZE, KAWMET/ SAVEN, UNICO, CEBUD and IWONA PELLETS. Of course, this potential is not fully used every year because there are many market situations beyond the producers' control, but production capabilities allow not only to cover the domestic demand for modern hearths, but to deliver a noticeable number of high-quality devices to outer markets.

Bioethanol fireplaces

It is one of Polish specializations. The most famous manufacturer of bioethanol fireplaces in the world is, of course, PLANIKA, the creator of the innovative BEV combustion system. However, for several years now at almost every construction fair in Europe one can also meet the INFIRE company, which expands its offer year by year.

Garden fireplaces

Although various forms of outdoor fire installations have been present for centuries, in recent years they relive their youth. Currently available materials and technologies make it possible to expand the garden and terrace range with various forms of gas, bioethanol or pellet heaters and to create their attractive shapes not only from traditional ceramics but also of steel. This group of products attracted such a great interest that almost every manufacturer of the fireplace industry has garden heating devices in its offer which expands every year. Various interesting forms of fire devices for gardens and terraces are also produced by Polish manufacturers.

Fireplace accessories and control electronics

A fireplace is not a bare fireplace insert or stove. To build a fireplace or just install a ready-made one, which is a freestanding wood or pellet stove, one needs additional materials. Ropes and insulating tapes as well as ceramics for lining the hearth are necessary already at the stage of production. This is only the beginning, for then one needs materials to connect the fireplace to a chimney, make insulation, accumulation, ventilation grilles, and to create and finish the body of the fireplace. If the fireplace is to perform a heating function, additional elements are required to create a system distributing hot air or accumulating and distributing heated water. The wide gamut of fireplace accessories and electronic drivers can be found in the offer of Polish manufacturers, which is addressed not only to the domestic market, but also to the one overseas.

Fireplace ceramics

It is difficult to compete with experienced leaders in ceramic production from Austria, Germany or the Czech Republic. Nevertheless, several Polish small, mainly family-run ceramic manufactories managed not only to create an assortment that almost completely meets the demands of the Polish consumer, but also demonstrates attractive modern design solutions and allows to complete ambitious renovations of antique fireplaces. Several Polish ceramic manufacturers also offer ceramic elements for interior decoration, which not only complement the fireplace and stove range but are also an independent proposition addressed to interior designers and decorators.

"Świat Kominków" visits many construction fair events all over the Europe. It must be stressed that for quite a few years also the presence of Polish fireplace products can be noticed. If the trade fair presentations are not made by companies themselves, then the products are exhibited at least by local distributors.

We do remember the timid beginnings of the fireplace market in Poland, so we are all the more pleased with the current production volume and assortment. The thriving activity of the Polish fireplace sector makes us look with optimism to the future.

■

Fireplace and stove

Guild of Tiled Stove Builders and Related Professions of Lesser Poland

The Guild of Tiled Stove Builders and Related Professions of Lesser Poland (Polish: Małopolski Cech Zdunów i Zawodów Pokrewnych) is affiliated with the Lesser Poland Chamber of Crafts and Entrepreneurship in Krakow. The aim of the Guild is to introduce acceptable exhaust gas emission standards in the legal regulations, which will be at a level that do not cause the deterioration of air quality, and to ensure that the only stoves and fireplaces that are allowed to be used are the ones that technically meet specific emission requirements and will have the appropriate certificate. This means that these will only be installations for wood (biomass) – the largest, cheapest and most available Polish RES. The Guild of Tiled Stove Builders and Related Professions of Lesser Poland primarily aims to train professionals in order to be able to guarantee that its members will build installations that meet the required standards. The Guild organizes training and vocational examinations in two levels – journeyman and master tiled stove builder. The Guild was established in 2016 to revive the Krakow Gild of Tiled Stove Builders, Ceramics and Potters from 1403.

- **Year of foundation**: 2016.
- **Who it associates**: craftsmen, micro-entrepreneurs, small and medium-sized entrepreneurs conducting business in the field of stove fitting.
- **Mission**: Popularizing basic home heating with modern stoves, taking actions to introduce innovative technological solutions that guarantee low emissions at a level safe for human health and the environment, and ensuring stable and independent heating of residential buildings from renewable energy sources.

www.zduni.eu

National Association “Fireplaces and Stoves”

The National Association of Fireplaces and Stoves (Polish: Ogólnopolskie Stowarzyszenie “Kominki i Piece” – OSKP) brings together manufacturers, importers, agents and contractors of fireplaces and stoves throughout Poland. The association promotes the idea of clean wood. Members recognize the role of wood as the Polish national treasure and indicate that heating by means of wood does not only protect the interest of the poorest groups of society, but also ensures security and is a supplement to the energy balance. The association cooperates with Polish tiled stove building guilds, chimney sweep guilds and chimney organizations. It also belongs to the European Associations of the tiled stove builders trade VEUKO and works closely with the Polish Pellet Council and the Polish Climate Forum.

- **Year of establishment:** 2003.
- **Who it associates:** manufacturers, importers, sellers and contractors of fireplaces and stoves.
- **Mission:** the aim of the association is to represent the common interests of the environment related to the fireplace and tiled stove building industry, as well as to act for the protection of health and the natural environment.

www.kominkipolskie.com.pl

fitting industry organizations

Guild of Polish Tiled Stove Builders

The Guild of Polish Tiled Stove Builders (Polish: Cech Zdunów Polskich) takes care of continuing the tradition connected with tiled stove building and learning the profession of a tiled stove builder. The Guild conducts social, social and organizational, cultural, educational and integration activities for the benefit of the community. The aim of the Guild is to strengthen the bond among the tiled stove builders and to reinforce the environment's image in line with the principles of professional ethics and dignity of the Polish craftsmen. The Guild also aims at executing tasks in the field of supervision over the craftmanship courses of young workers, people employed in enterprises run by the Guild members and provides assistance in the field of further training and additional active qualification of the Guild. The Guild cooperates with the Chamber of Crafts in Kalisz.

- **Year of establishment**: 2017.
- **Who it associates**: craftsmen, micro-entrepreneurs, small entrepreneurs working in the field of tiled stove building and people studying to become a tiled stove builders
- **Mission**: the aim of the Guild is to care for the correct development of the craftsman and to cultivate its tradition, to protect the rights and represent the interests of members associated.

www.cechzdunowpolskich.zduny.pl

Guild of Tiled Stove Builders and Fireplace Fitters

The Guild of Tiled Stove Builders and Fireplace Fitters (Polish: Cech Zdunów i Kominkarzy) was founded in May 2024 and has members from all over Poland. It aims to support and integrate professionals involved in building stoves, fireplaces, and heating systems. The Guild organizes training, apprentice and master examinations, cares for the professional development of its members and promotes the craft among younger generations. We also work to provide accurate education and fight misinformation about wood, stoves, and fireplaces in Poland.

The guild's website includes a map of tiled stove builders and fireplace fitters in Poland. The Guild also has a fanpage on Facebook.

- **Year of foundation:** 2024
- **Who it associates:** The Guild was established to bring together both tiled stove builders and fireplace fitters within a single organization for the first time in Poland.
- **Mission:** We aim to exchange knowledge, educate future craftsmen, examine apprentices in the profession of a tiled stove builder, and support people in need. We strive to promote the tiled stove builder and fireplace fitter profession, and anyone who wants to learn and develop can join us as a supporter.

www.czik.org

Polish manufacturers of the fireplace industry

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INFIRE Karol Lipka
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LAVA Nikodem Szymkowiak, Julia Tomczak sp.j.
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www.lavakominki.pl

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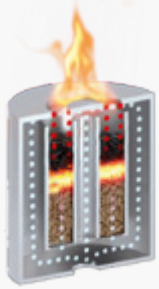
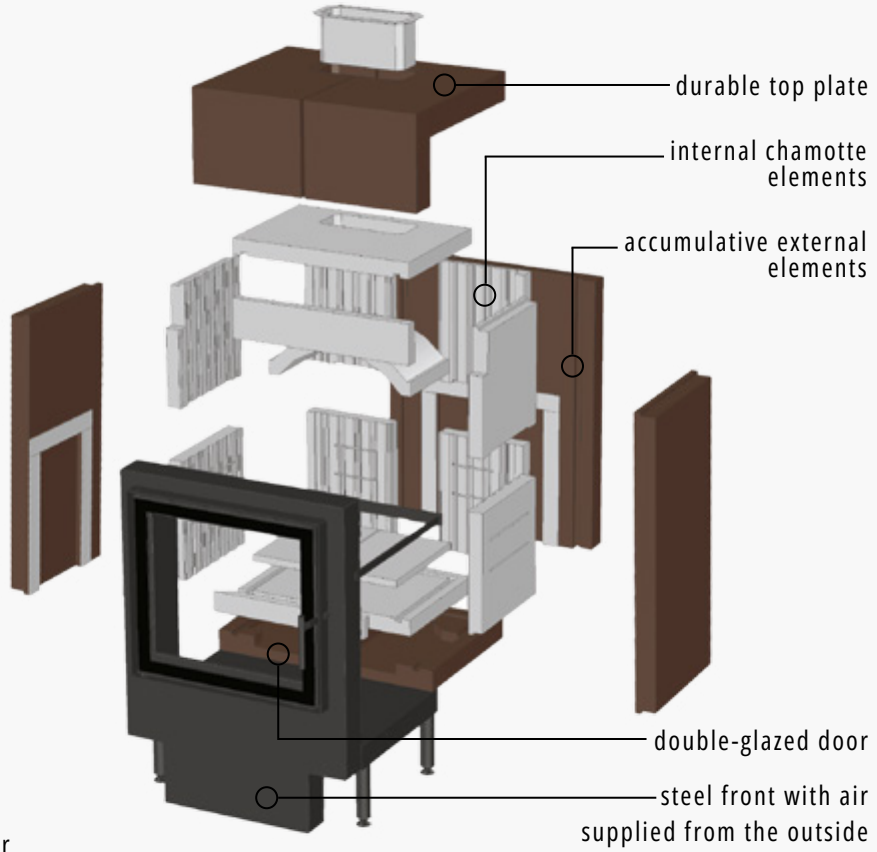
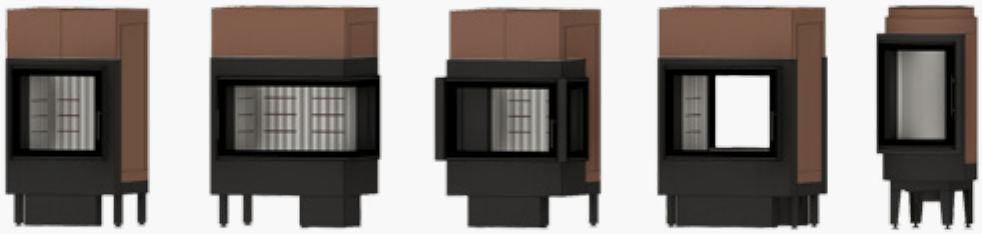


Blucomb pellets gasification burner



Inserts for accumulative stoves

Over 60 models for the combustion of wood logs and wood gas generated from pellets



straight | corner | three-sided | tunnels | round

Accumulative modules for stove channels

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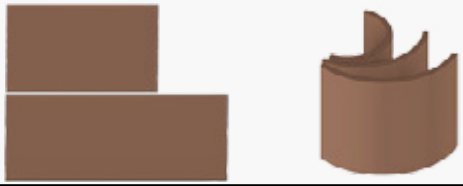

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We are a Polish family company, relying on many years of experience, a good and dynamic team of employees and proven technological solutions. We know every single one of our products inside out and have tested them in many different ways. We vouch for its quality, functionality and, above all, safety. We manufacture only such terrace heaters we would like to use ourselves. We are not afraid of competition, because… there's practically none of it.

30 years of continuous development and improvement have allowed us to clearly define our goals, proven solutions and the values we hold dear. We trust that by sharing them with us, you will choose Vulkan products.

PRODUCTION STANDARDS

Unlike many of our competitors on the market, we do not import finished products from China. We are a manufacturer in the full sense of the word. All our products are manufactured in a production plant in Pszczyna, by qualified staff, using the best certified materials and specialized machinery.

CERTIFICATES

The quality of Vulkan products has been recognised not only by our customers, but also by independent experts and auditors. The entire production process is carried out in accordance with the adopted and supervised Company Quality Control System, as part of the ISO 9801–2015 Quality Management System. Each of our heaters is fully compliant with the PN-EN standard and has obtained a certificate authorising the marking of products with the European CE mark. However, we realise that the ultimate reviewer of our products are… you, our customers.

SAFETY

To ensure safety, all manufactured heaters are equipped with a number of protections, such as protection against uncontrolled outflow of gas from the burner or an installed tilt switch, and are subject to a meticulous final inspection, including a tightness test and a flame safety test. This makes our products synonymous with safety for the whole family – and they can even withstand small hands!

EASY INSTALLATION

We know how important, apart from high quality and attractive price, is the functionality of the product. Therefore, we make every effort to ensure that the assembly of our terrace heaters is simple and does not require higher technical knowledge, all its necessary elements are perfectly fitted, and the instructions for the operation of the equipment are clear and logical. Above all, we want to provide you with a high temperature after the entire installation, not during it…

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There is no smoke without fire, but there is fire without smoke!

The FireFly garden fire pit is an environmentally friendly alternative to a traditional one. FireFly has been designed to minimalize the emission of visible smoke and harmful substances. The cast iron body of the wood-fuelled fireplace maintains a high internal temperature, whereas its design makes our garden visually more attractive.

Fire without smoke - how is it possible?
The designers of the FireFly fire pit place great importance on ecology and cleanliness of combustion, which is why they created a garden heater that consumes little fuel and does not emit exhaust gases hazardous to health. All this was possible thanks to the optimization of air flow and the double-walled structure allowing both primary and secondary air to be supplied to the furnace. This causes a more complete and cleaner burning of the wood. An additional advantage of FireFly is that its user can burn both wood and high-quality pellets.

Fire without danger
The FireFly garden fire pit is safe for children and pets because it retains some of the sparks and produces much less smoke than a traditional fire pit. Smoke stops coming out of the fire when the Fire Fly reaches a certain temperature.

FireFly design
FireFly is available in two design versions – Black Diamond and Patina Queen. In the Black Diamond model, the cast iron fireplace is covered with a high-temperature-resistant black coating. Patina Queen is a version of a garden fire pit made of raw cast iron with a patina coating.

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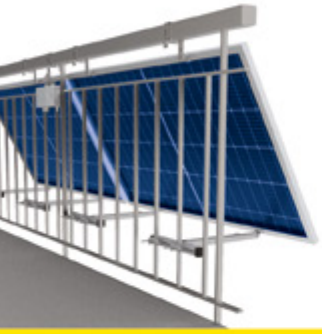

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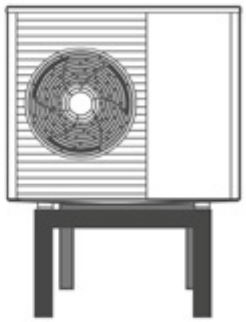

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REPORT

Polish Market of Solid Biofuels Renewable Energy Equipment

PhD Marta Jach-Nocoń
member of the Chamber of Commerce for Renewable Energy Sources Devices (Polish acronym: IGU OZE)

Dr. Marta Jach-Nocoń has been working for 20 years on renewable energy sources, combustion processes in low-power boilers and the quality of solid biofuels. It was in this field that she earned her doctorate in sciences. During her career, she has supervised and controlled the work of the Laboratory for Actual Combustion of Solid Fuels. As part of numerous projects, she conducted analyses and tests aimed at optimizing combustion processes and improving the energy efficiency of heating equipment using renewable energy sources.

Her hands-on approach to science has allowed her to successfully combine theory and practice. Through scientific publications in the heating industry, she has contributed to the introduction of innovative RES products to the European market.

Pellet boiler Defro
model GAMMA

Wood boilers: on the left Rakoczy model SMART RHV,
on the right Metal-Fach model SEMAX BASIC

Pellet boiler Heiztechnik
model Q PELLET

The Polish industry of renewable energy source (RES) devices based on solid biofuels plays a key role in the country's energy transition. In the face of global climate challenges, developing low-carbon technologies is becoming a priority. Solid biofuels, such as pellets and chunk wood, offer an alternative to traditional fossil fuels while providing integrated environmental, economic and social benefits. A key aspect is their potential to support the local economy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, which aligns with the European Union's climate policy.

Poland is one of the leaders in producing and using solid biofuel heating devices. It is estimated that the annual domestic production capacity of RES-based equipment is 150 000 wood pellet and wood gasification boilers, 50 000 heat pumps and 100 000 space heaters (IGU OZE, 2024). Since 2017, there has been an increase in the share of boilers fueled by wood biomass, reaching more than 60% of total solid fuel boiler production in 2020 (Kubica, 2018). Introducing emission standards under the Ecodesign Directive has significantly affected the quality and efficiency of the available equipment.

Modern pellet boilers have a high energy efficiency of over 90% and A+ energy efficiency class. Key innovations include advanced control systems, automatic fuel feeding, as well as heat exchanger and burner cleaning mechanisms. These appliances enable virtually maintenance-free heating, making them significantly easier to use. In particular, the implementation of real-time combustion monitoring technology allows users to optimise the operation of the appliances, thus further reducing operating costs. All solid fuel heating appliances are subject to rigorous testing following the PN-EN 303–5 standard, which includes tests for pollutant emissions and energy efficiency. The development of appliance certification contributes to consumer confidence in those products and facilitates their export to foreign markets.

At the beginning of 2023, the biofuel boiler industry employed more than 20 000 people, mostly highly skilled professionals. Unfortunately, as the result of bad policy

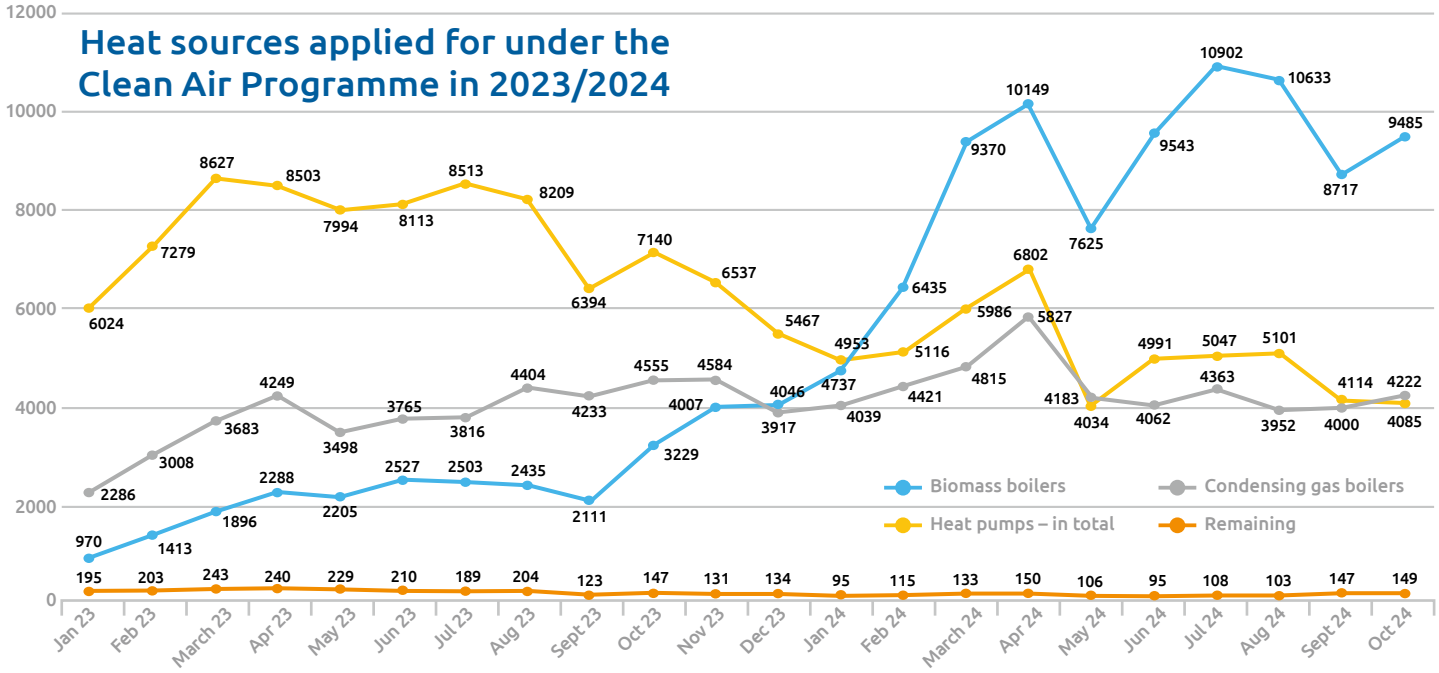

Figure 1. Subsidy applications for individual heat sources
Source: www.czystepowietrze.gov.pl

and the flooding of the Polish market with heat pumps from Asia, employment in the Polish RES sector has almost halved.

Market Analysis in 2024

In 2024, the market for solid biofuel-based heating equipment recorded dynamic changes that reflect both the challenges and opportunities of the energy transition. In the first quarter of 2024, 20 542 applications were submitted under the Clean Air Programme to replace a heat source, indicating a biomass boiler as a new device (Figure 1). In the second quarter of this year, 27 317 applications were already submitted, while the third quarter saw an increase of more than 47% compared to the beginning of the year. The number of applications submitted to purchase biomass boilers ammounted to 30 252.

Undoubtedly, this increase resulted from the stabilisation of pellet prices, which have settled at a level acceptable to consumers after wild fluctuations in previous years. At the same time, additional incentives were introduced under the Clean Air Programme, which increased the interest in solid biofuels among household owners.

The highest number of applications is for the lowest level of subsidy (orange area), suggesting that many households take advantage of this form of support during the winter months. The rise in the number of applications in February indicates an increased interest in subsidies during the winter months. These applications may be caused by the urgent need to upgrade heat sources in winter. The dominance of the lowest level of subsidy in these months suggests that households submitting applications prefer this form of support, possibly due to favourable financial conditions.

Consumers increasingly opted for appliances meeting higher emission and energy efficiency standards. Pellet boilers with automatic feeders were particularly popular, becoming the sales leader due to their functionality and ease of use. Research carried out by the IGU OZE indicates that 70% of new biomass installations completed in 2024 were equipped with boilers characterised by the A+ emission class, which is in line with the EU's carbon reduction policy.

As part of the Clean Air Programme (Polish acronym: PCzP), the Green Devices and Materials List (Polish: Lista ZUM) was launched as early as September 2019, which catalogues heating appliances and insulation materials submitted by manufacturers that meet the energy efficiency criteria of the Clean Air Programme, see: https://lista-zum.ios.edu.pl/. The list is supervised by the

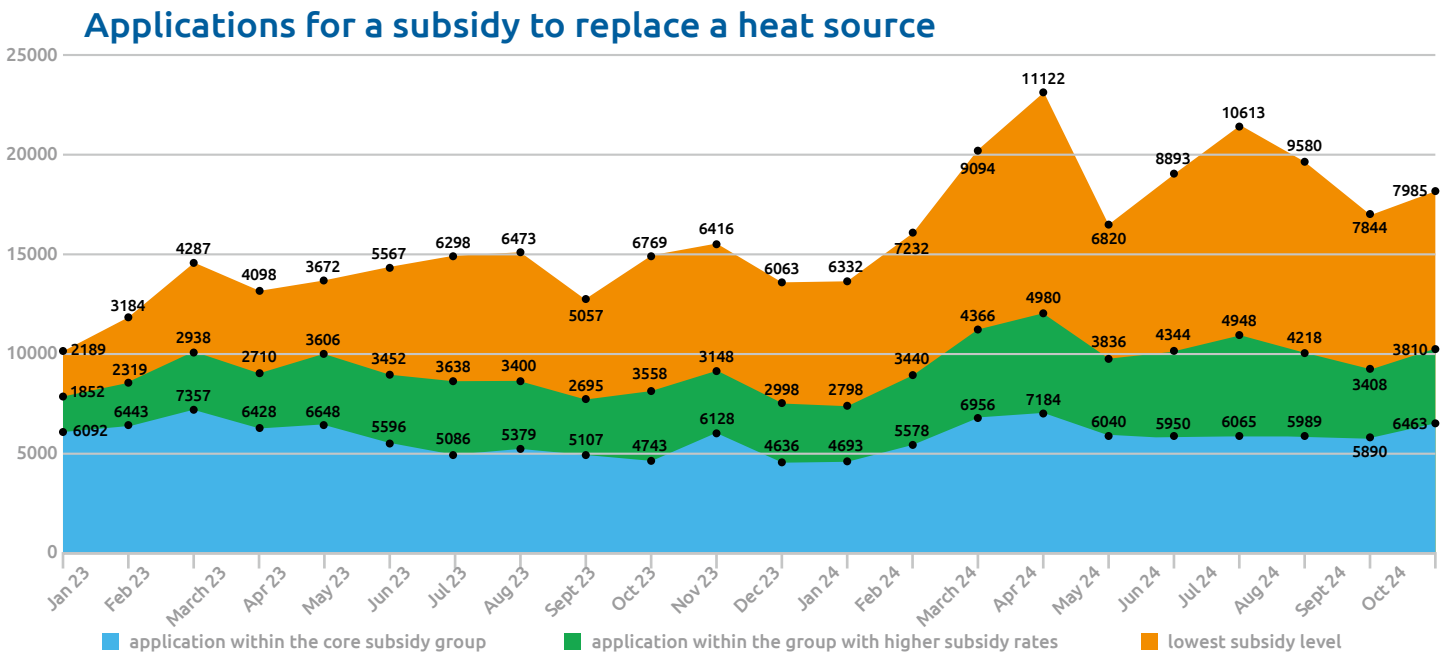

Figure 2. Subsidy application by beneficiary group in 2023-2024
Source: www.czystepowietrze.gov.pl

Institute of Environmental Protection – National Research Institute (Polish acronym: IOŚ-PIB). The list constituted a database of heating devices submitted by domestic manufacturers that met the energy efficiency criteria and the emission criteria set out in the PCzP regulations. In the case of boilers, specific test certificates from laboratories accredited by the Polish Centre for Accreditation (Polish acronym: PCA) or an EU-accredited laboratory were required for submission. This catalogue provided assistance to PCzP applicants but was not mandatory. It is worth noting that, from April 2024, it was made compulsory to choose equipment only from the Green Devices and Materials List (ZUM), thus significantly affecting the quality of the products offered. This list, developed in collaboration with leading scientific institutions, includes appliances tested for energy efficiency, durability and minimised emissions. As a result, consumers have gained greater confidence in the quality of the devices they choose, which in turn has increased their trust in domestic manufacturers.

Undoubtedly, the choice of heat source is also influenced by the operating cost of the heating device. The end of the year is a good time to evaluate, so it is also worth examining these calculations. It is worth using commonly available calculators to familiarise yourself with the annual heating costs, depending on the type of heat source and the type of building (construction standards in which the house was built). The most popular calculator over the years has been the one developed by the Industry Alliance for Energy Efficiency POBE (Polish: Porozumienie Branżowe Na Rzecz Efektywności Energetycznej POBE). What is essential when using the available tools is that fuel prices need to be updated to actual and current values. Figure 3 shows the annual heating cost of an existing single-family building with a heated area of 100 m² and complying with the WT 2017 standard, together with the cost of domestic hot water for a family of four. It shows that the cost of heating with a pellet boiler in the case of a building complying with the WT 2017 standard is 3 520 PLN (efficiency of the heating device 87%) while using a heat source in the form of a chunkwood boiler, the heating cost is 3 360 PLN, assuming the device efficiency of 83%. The most popular type of heat pump in Poland, i.e. the air-to-water type, came only 7th in the ranking, with an annual heating cost of 4 150 PLN. The distant position of gas heating and the significant cost of heating with this heat source, amounting to 5 340 PLN, is also surprising.

The annual cost of heating a 100 m² building (compliant with the WT 2017 standard and EU=80 kWh/m²year) and preparing domestic hot water (number of people:4)

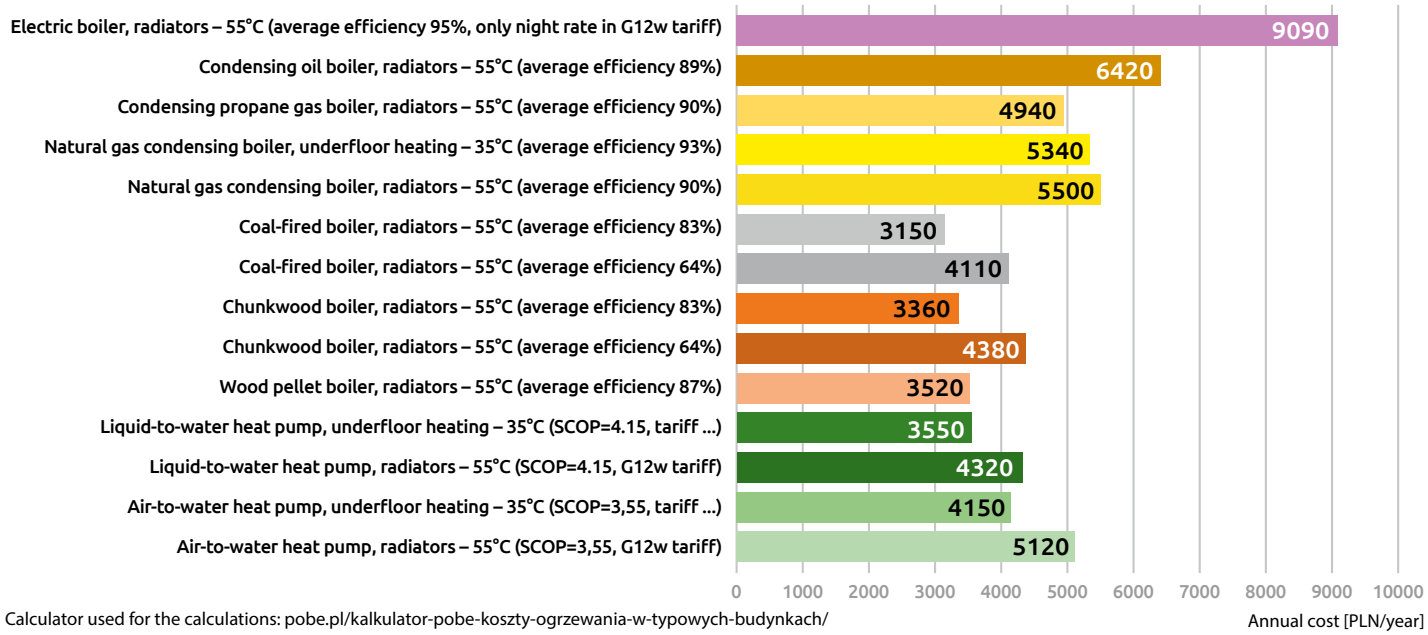

Figure 3. Example heating costs for a residential house
Source: Sam-Bud-Rol

Export opportunities for Polish heating devices

Polish solid biofuel heating devices are gaining popularity in European markets thanks to their quality and competitive price. According to the latest data, the value of biomass boiler exports from Poland in 2024 was approximately PLN 1.2 billion, an increase of 18% compared to the year before. The main customers for Polish equipment remain Scandinavian countries, Germany and France, which account for more than 60% of the total exports.

A key strength of Polish manufacturers is their ability to adapt to regulatory requirements in various EU countries. Poland is currently one of the largest exporters of pellet boilers in Central and Eastern Europe. Particularly popular are premium-class devices, meeting the most stringent emission standards, which are highly regarded in Western European markets. In addition, the development of certifications, such as the CE marking and EN 303-5 standard compliance tests, is helping to build trust among international partners.

The export of heating equipment is also supported by the dynamic development of the logistics industry and Poland's favourable geographical location, which enables products to be transported quickly to key markets. Forecasts indicate that by 2026, the value of exports may increase by up to an additional 25%, placing Poland among the leaders of the European market for biomass equipment.

It is worth noting that Polish manufacturers are increasingly investing in research and development to create innovative equipment that meets the needs of modern consumers. Smart control technologies and integration with RES systems, such as photovoltaic installations, significantly increase the export attractiveness of Polish products. Rising exports of Polish heating equipment can strengthen the country's position on the map of the European energy transition.

Recommendations and conclusion

The Polish market for RES devices based on solid biofuels is growing dynamically due to the growing interest in low-carbon technologies and support from government programmes such as the 'Clean Air Programme'. Solid biofuels, such as pellets, briquettes and chunkwood, are a key element of the energy transition, in line with the European Union's

carbon reduction policy. Poland plays an important role in producing and exporting solid biofuel boilers, offering high-quality equipment that is popular both in domestic and foreign markets. Innovative technologies, such as automatic fuel feeders or advanced control systems, increase the energy efficiency of these devices, thus contributing to their success.

In 2024, the number of applications for subsidies for biomass boilers increased, especially during the winter and spring periods, suggesting a strong seasonal demand for this type of technology. The introduction of an obligatory selection of devices from the Green Devices and Materials List (ZUM) has further increased the quality of the products on offer. This, in turn, increased consumer confidence. As the industry develops and pellet prices become more stable, the market has the potential for further growth, including in the export field, where Polish devices are gaining recognition.

In order to support further development of the RES market for solid biofuels in Poland, the following actions will be crucial:

- **Continuation of financial support:** It is essential to maintain stable and predictable subsidies under programmes such as the Clean Air Programme. Such programmes not only stimulate demand for RES technologies but also enable consumers to benefit from modern and more environmentally friendly heating solutions. Financial support should be dedicated to both households and the industrial sector, promoting the broader use of solid biofuels.
- **Consumer education:** Increased awareness of the benefits of low-carbon technologies can accelerate their use. It is necessary to intensify educational activities to explain the advantages and savings associated with solid biofuel devices and their positive environmental impact.
- **Investment in research and development:** Polish manufacturers should continue investing in innovative technologies, such as integrating RES systems, e.g. with photovoltaic installations, as well as intelligent control systems for heating devices. Such solutions increase competitiveness in international markets and attract more demanding customers.
- **Export promotion:** Poland is already one of the export leaders when it comes to biomass heating equipment in Central and Eastern Europe. Supporting activities related to certification, adaptation to the requirements of various markets and promotion of devices at international fairs can contribute to further export growth. Additionally, increased cooperation with international partners and participation in research and development projects will be crucial.
- **Balanced regulatory policy:** A predictable and stable regulatory framework that supports the development of the market for solid biofuel appliances is needed. Policies should take into account the need to comply with EU energy efficiency and emission reduction requirements while also protecting the interests of domestic producers.

Implementing these recommendations will allow further development of the Polish RES sector, thus contributing to sustainable economic growth, increased exports, and improved air quality and climate protection.

■

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Chamber of Commerce for RES

The Chamber of Commerce for Renewable Energy Sources Devices (Polish acronym: IGU OZE) is an organisation that brings together leading Polish manufacturers of heating equipment, as well as automation and components necessary for their production. Within its structure, there are also renowned installers and service technicians whose experience and high work standards contribute to the development of the renewable energy sources market in Poland. The Chamber of Commerce for Renewable Energy Sources plays a key role in shaping Poland's renewable energy sources market. Thanks to the dynamic activity of our departments, constant dialogue with public administration, and cooperation with industry representatives, we strive for a stable and sustainable development of the RES sector. Our goal is to ensure fair market competition for domestic producers, to support technological innovation, and to promote environmentally friendly and efficient energy solutions.

Solid Biofuels Quality Department

The Department is responsible for monitoring and controlling the quality of biofuels available on the domestic market. Biofuels are defined as fuels derived from biomass that are used to produce bioenergy in the form of heat, electricity, and cooling. The Department ensures that the raw materials used meet the highest quality standards and are safe for users and the environment.

Market Quality Control Department

The main objective of the Department is to ensure that the equipment, subassemblies, and components used in the production of RES devices meet the highest quality standards. The Department implements and supervises quality assurance procedures that guarantee the safety and efficiency of the products supplied to the market.

Geothermal and Heat Pump Department

The Department focuses on ensuring that heat pumps offered in the Polish and European markets meet the highest quality standards. Verification is based on complete test reports carried out exclusively in accredited European Union and EFTA laboratories.

The Department also promotes innovative solutions for heat pumps and their optimal use in heating systems.

Solid Biofuel Equipment Development Department

The key objective of the Department is to support the development of heating technologies based on solid biofuels while aiming for maximum emission neutrality. The Department is involved in the legislative process, taking action to amend regulations on subsidy levels, increase income limits, and update government programmes such as the Clean Air Programme.

Local Space Heating Department

The Department focuses on representing and supporting Polish manufacturers of modern, low-emission stoves and fireplace inserts fuelled by solid biofuels (wood logs, briquettes and wood pellets). Its goal is to develop this type of equipment and implement a support system for producers and distributors, thus increasing the share of ecological heating technologies on the market.

Small Wind Energy Department

The Department is involved in popularising micro wind turbines and increasing public awareness of their benefits. The Department promotes the sustainable development of the renewable energy sources sector and supports initiatives that facilitate the implementation of small-scale wind turbines in households and businesses.

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Polish heating boiler manufacturer from Pleszew

KOTŁOSPAW – How did it all begin?

KOTŁOSPAW is a family company established in 2001 by Przemysław Wroński. The founder's previous experience of nearly fifteen years in the boiler industry resulted in the introduction of products which were very quickly accepted by customers. From the very beginning, we have focused on very intensive development, and we use the experience we have gained and our knowledge of the latest technological achievements to improve the quality of our products to satisfy the requirements of our customers in Poland and worldwide. We are dynamically developing our Sales Department, Customer Support Department and Service Department to meet our customers' expectations.

Improving the quality of design concepts

A qualified team of employees and the implementation of the latest technological solutions contribute to improving the design and quality of the structural solutions offered in our boilers. Cooperation with institutes and other companies producing central heating boilers results in modern, eco-friendly solutions that influence the modernization and enhancement of our products. Our production is one of the few in Poland that is supervised and certified by the Office of Technical Inspection.

Ecology and certificates

Our boilers have ecological certification and emission levels and energy efficiency tests carried out by authorised institutes. All our products meet emission standards in accordance with **EN 303–5+A1:2023–05 and Eco Design** label.

Flagship products

DrewKo Hybrid – a dual fuel wood gasification boiler with the possibility of pellet combustion, in accordance with **EN 303–5+A1:2023–05 and Eco Design** standards. Thanks to the capability of burning two fuel types, the DrewKo Hybrid boiler is an excellent solution for uncertain times or when the user has their own wood resources but does not limit themselves to operating only on it. The choice of burning method is simply a matter of selecting the function on the boiler controller. The boiler is equipped with a self-cleaning burner with a rotary combustion chamber. This product highly appreciated by customers thanks to its fuel flexibility and available nominal outputs of **12 kW**, **18 kW** and **24 kW**. The device has to be installed with a buffer tank, which is also included in our offer.

SlimKo Plus – one of the smallest pellet boilers on the market, with a large fuel hopper. Optional side hopper configuration is possible. Produced in the **8–35 kW** power range, the boilers with automatic feeder are based on a pipe heat exchanger. Thanks to the well-thought-out design, running a pellet boiler is limited to periodically refilling the hopper and removing the ash from the ash drawer. The modern design and fully automatic control of the solid fuel boiler make the SlimKo Plus stand out from other pellet boilers in terms of functionality, compactness and completely maintenance-free operation, while ensuring all the parameters required in terms of the **EN 303–5+A1:2023–05 and Eco Design** standards.

SlimKo MAXI – modern design, simplicity of operation, plus excellent energy efficiency of up to 91% and compliance with **EN 303–5+A1:2023–05 and Eco Design** standards. The SlimKo MAXI central heating boiler is an ideal solution for heating both small offices and buildings with a huge surface area. Pellet boilers are available in a wide range of power outputs ranging from **50 kW** to **520 kW**. Depending on the type chosen, they are capable of efficiently heating an area from around 150 m² to as much as 4,000 m². The highest quality materials are used in their manufacture, i.e. P265GH boiler steel plate and a high-quality self-cleaning pellet burner. As a result, the construction is durable, has a long service life, and guarantees excellent energy efficiency, which translates into lower heating costs.

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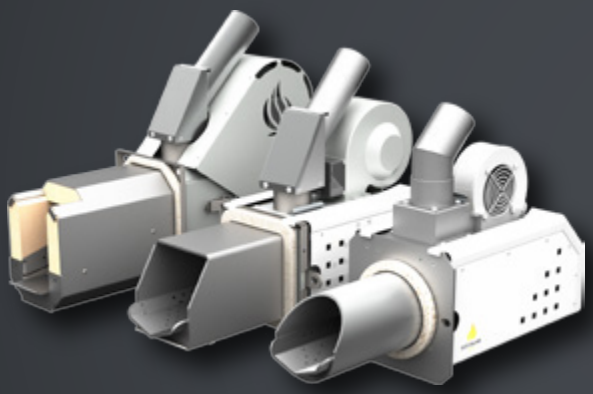

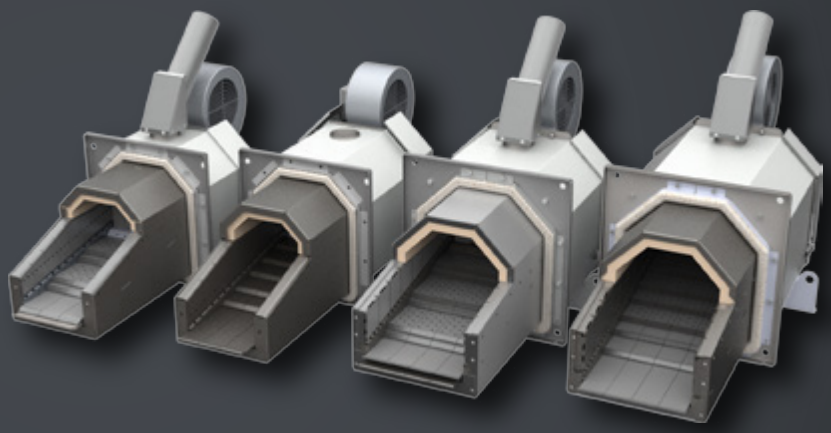

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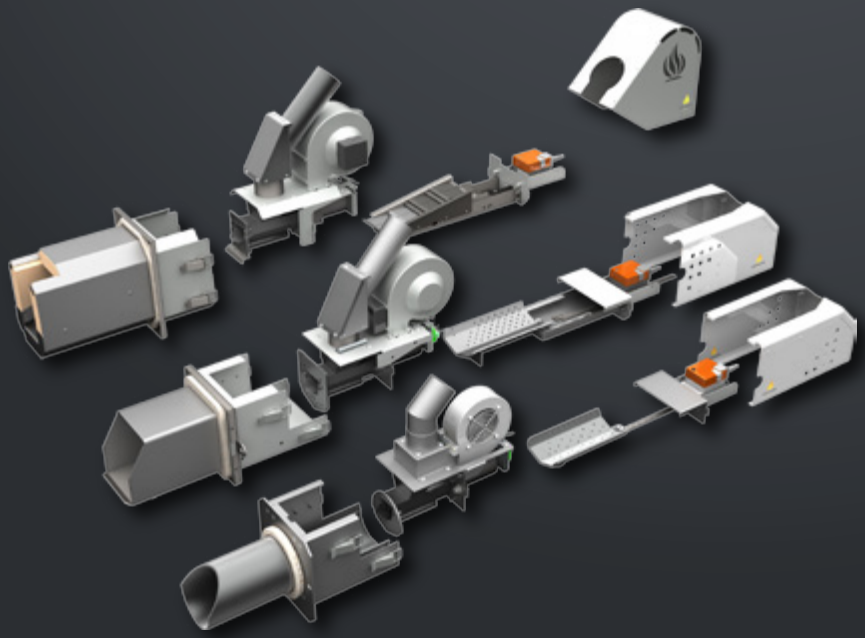

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UNIWERSAL – selected products

ORA-160 fan is a modern device with a compact construction that meets contemporary design demands. Its aesthetic appearance perfectly matches the needs of contemporary architecture. Equipped with a three-speed electric motor that drives a radial rotor with backward-curved vanes, it ensures quiet and efficient operation. Three speeds allow adjustment of the output, permitting the amount of extracted air to be adapted to current conditions and the needs of the inhabitants. The Ora-160 fan is designed for collective ventilation in residential buildings up to 5–6 storeys high. It also performs its function well in contemporary modular construction.

MAG-160 is an energy-efficient roof fan explicitly developed for modern residential construction. It is designed to provide optimum airflow in multi-storey buildings (up to 6 storeys). It meets the building standards requirements in terms of efficiency, reliability and quiet operation. The unit also features compact size construction and modern design. Efficient and failure-free operation for many years in collective ventilation ducts of multi-family buildings is ensured by a three-speed electronically commutated (EC) motor. The durability of the MAG-160 energy-saving fan against environmental factors is ensured through a durable construction material i.e. polyester-glass composite. The design of the body and dome effectively prevents rainwater from entering the ventilation duct.

Thanks to a mounting adaptor suitable for SCHIEDEL's ventilation block (AVANT 12) and anti-vibration mounting studs, the unit is easy to install, stable when in operation and maintenance-free.

VERO-150 is a high-performance, low-noise roof ventilator for kitchen hoods that effectively disposes of unpleasant odours generated during cooking. The device is mounted outside the building on the chimney. The fan is distinguished by its attractive and modern design. The radial rotor, with backward-curved blades, is designed to make the fan low-noise and highly efficient.

The ProVERO controller is designed for use with the VERO-150 roof fan and allows the fan to operate at one of three speeds. The current fan speed is indicated by LEDs. The controller is also equipped with a delayed switch-off function, which keeps the fan running for a period of 4, 10 or 14 minutes after the switch-off. This function can also be deactivated. The controller is surface-mounted near the cooker hood and is connected to the fan via a three-wire cable. It also requires a 230V AC supply voltage (L + N). The ProVero controller also provides overload and short-circuit protection for the motor using a PTC fuse.

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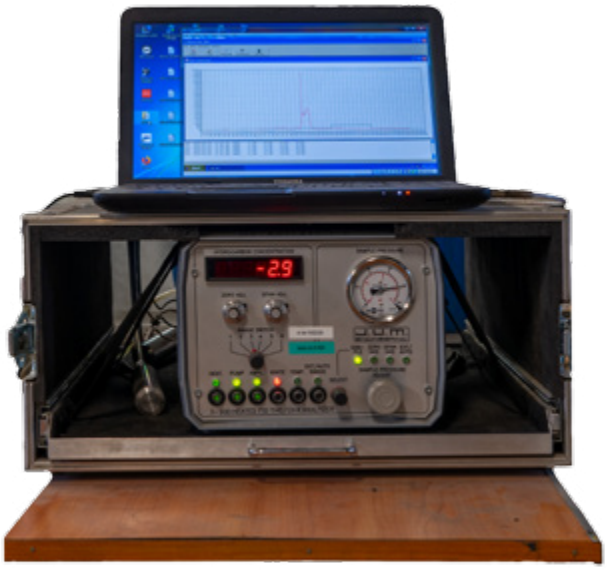

We will test your fireplace and heating boiler

Who are we?
The Power Engineering Equipment Research Department has over 30 years of experience in testing boilers, burners and heating equipment fired by solid fuels. The department also provides consulting and expert services in the above-mentioned field. The department's clients are domestic and foreign (Germany, Latvia) customers. An Accredited Laboratory (no. AB 087) operates within the department structure. It carries out tests on boilers and solid fuel equipment.

What do we do?
Over 30 years of experience in the design and testing of heating equipment enables us to:

- design and modernise low-power heating equipment (up to 1 MW),
- rent a measuring station (with or without an operator),
- test pellet burners,
- test capacity water heaters according to PN-EN 12897+A1:2020–03,
- test hot water storage tanks,
- test other low-power heating devices (e.g. air heaters),
- test residential solid fuel burning devices according to the PN-EN 16510 series of standards,
- perform thermo-emission tests for combustion of alternative fuels,
- conduct research and development in the power industry of low-power heating devices (up to 1 MW).

Accredited laboratory
The Power Engineering Equipment Research Department has an Accredited Laboratory (no. AB 087) that tests boilers and solid fuel equipment. It is the only laboratory in Poland accredited to test heating boilers with a thermal power of up to 1 MW.

The Boiler and Heating Equipment Testing Laboratory offers accredited and notified tests for:

- roomheaters according to PN-EN 16510–2-1:2023–06 or PN-EN 13240:2008,
- inset appliances including open fires according to PN-EN 16510–2-2:2023–06 or PN-EN 13229:2002,
- mechanically by wood pellets fed roomheaters, inset aplliances and cookers according to PN-EN 16510–2-6:2023 or PN-EN 14785:2009,
- cookers according to PN-EN 16510–2-3:2023 or PN-EN 12815:2004,
- slow heat release appliances fired by solid fuels according to PN-EN 15250:2009,
- heating boilers for solid fuels manually and automatically stoked according to PN-EN 303–5+A1:2023.

The laboratory carries out tests within the framework of accreditation and evaluates performance in the 3 CPR system according to the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council (EU) No. 305/2011 of 9 March 2011, (CPR) on the basis of the notification issued by the EC. Compliance with the requirements of the above standards during the assessment by a notified body, together with

documented factory production control, enables the equipment to be placed on the market within the EU.

Benefits of cooperation

The Power Engineering Equipment Research Department has an experienced team of experts who offer comprehensive services in the field of testing boilers, burners and heating equipment fired by solid fuels. The department has a laboratory which is accredited by the Polish Centre for Accreditation (AB 087).

About IEN – PIB

The Institute of Power Engineering – National Research Institute (Polish acronym: IEN - PIB) is one of the largest institutes in Poland conducting research in the field of energy technologies. The Institute is a modern research and implementation centre subordinate to the Ministry of Climate and Environment.

The Institute's activities cover a wide range of energy research, from expert work for the electricity sector to the most advanced future energy generation technologies, such as fuel cells, clean coal technologies and renewable energy sources.

The advantages of the Institute include its experienced scientific, engineering and technical staff and its modern, often unique laboratory facilities. The Institute is a member of the Executive Committee of the European Energy Research Alliance (EERA) and participates in numerous international research projects of the European Union.

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REPORT

Dynamics of development of the Polish wood pellet industry

Agnieszka Kędziora-Urbanowicz
President of Biocontrol Sp. z o.o.
Vice-president of the Polish Pellet Council
Auditor ENplus/DINplus/KZR SURE/SNS

I graduated from the Faculty of Commodity Science, specialisation: Commodity Science and Quality Management at the Maritime Academy in Gdynia. Later, I graduated from postgraduate studies in Energy Science and Renewable Energy Sources at the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn. For 10 years, I have been involved in certifying product quality and management systems. I am a long-term third-party auditor in certification bodies, i.e. Polish Centre for Testing and Certification, SGS Polska Sp. z o.o., Control Union Poland Sp. z o.o., DINcertco GmbH, Bureau Veritas Polska Sp. z o.o. and DQS Polska Sp. z o.o. I am an active working committee member at the European Pellet Council (EPC) within Bioenergy Europe. Currently, I am also Vice-President of the industry association, the Polish Pellet Council.

Changes and challenges for the Polish pellet industry

The wood pellet industry in Poland is currently undergoing a number of significant changes and challenges. The last two years, viz. 2023 and 2024, have seen a dynamic increase in demand for biomass boilers, contributing to increased domestic pellet production.

However, the inflow of cheaper pellets from the Baltic States and Ukraine is a major challenge for domestic producers. In addition, there has been a significant decline in exports to Western markets. All this affects the situation of Polish companies in this industry.

It is also worth noting that in 2022, the average price of pellets rose from PLN 850 to around PLN 2600–2700 per tonne. This was primarily due to uncertainty in the fuel market. The price situation is currently more stable, but future trends remain uncertain, and companies need to adapt to new market conditions to maintain their position within it.

In conclusion, the Polish wood pellet industry faces challenges from import competition, regulatory changes and price fluctuations. Companies need to adapt to new market conditions to maintain their position in the market.

However, everything could change if strong government support is provided for the installation of new pellet devices.

Production and consumption of pellets in Poland

Poland is the third largest producer of pellets, with a production of 2.2 million tonnes, almost equal to that of France. Although production in both countries is nearly comparable, Poland has almost twice as many active production facilities as France, namely 140 in 2023, with a total capacity of 2.7 million tonnes. Figure 1 (see next page) shows that, on average, Polish plants are significantly smaller in terms of production capacity. Moreover, the effects of the wood raw material crisis are being felt in Poland, with production expected to decline in 2024, with an expected capacity reduction of 200,000 tonnes.

In 2022 and 2023, the total wood pellet consumption in Europe declined. Indeed, as shown by the yellow line in Figure 2 (see page 43), consumption followed a period of steady growth between 2013 and 2021, reaching its record of 34.6 million tonnes in 2021. Consumption then declined by around

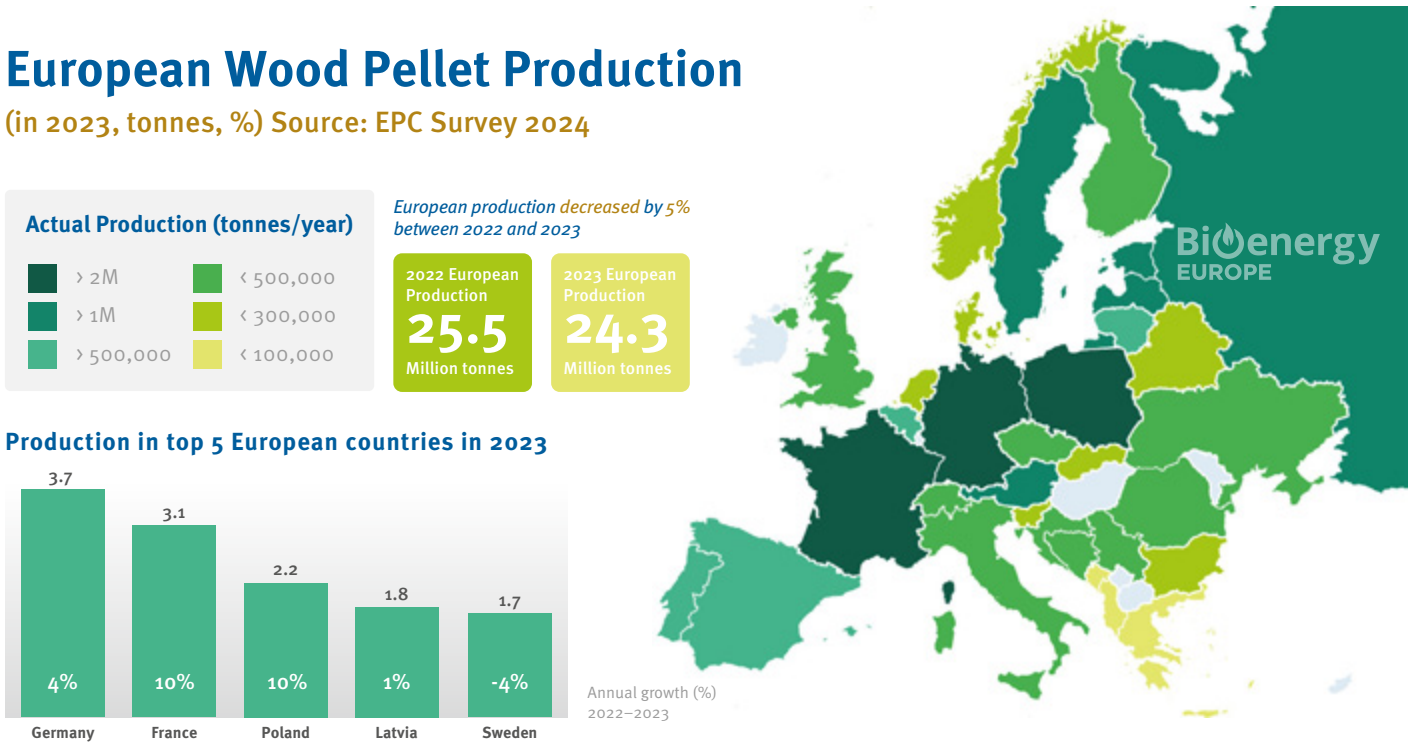

Figure 1. Wood pellet production in Poland and Europe
Source: Bioenergy Europe Statistical Report/ PELLETS 2024

8% in 2021 and 2022 (due to an energy crisis of 2022, when pellets were in short supply, and record high prices were recorded, both resulting from the geopolitical context). In the following years, i.e. 2022 and 2023, this consumption decreased by a further 6%, dropping to a total consumption of 30 million tonnes in Europe.

Figure 3 (see opposite page) shows housing consumption in markets with consumption levels ranging from 350,000 tonnes to 1 million tonnes. The figure reveals completely different trends for individual countries, making it difficult to identify any overall trend. Spain and Poland, on the other hand, have seen a steady increase in housing consumption over the last 5 years, even though the pace has been slowing down from 2021 onwards.

In Poland, forecasts for the development of the pellet industry show moderate optimism, both in terms of use in boilers dedicated for individual consumers and in commercial power generation. An increase in the number of pellet boiler installations in households is observed under the Clean Air Programme (Polish: Program Czyste Powietrze). The stabilisation of pellet prices in 2024 and the growing environmental awareness of the public are contributing to an increased interest in this heating source. However, experts point to potential challenges related to the availability of the raw material, especially in the context of planned regulations restricting the burning of sawdust and woodchips for energy purposes.

Poland's wood pellet industry faces competition from cheaper imports from the Baltic States and Ukraine and potential regulatory changes. However, growing interest in renewable energy sources and support programmes for environmentally friendly heating systems may foster further growth of the pellet market in Poland.

Despite the difficult geopolitical situation in the period 2022–2024, the Polish pellet industry has recorded tremendous progress – today, we are in first place in terms of the number of certified companies in the country, and we can be proud of the impressive number of ENplus® certified companies. Additionally, it should be mentioned that further modern production lines are being built. In 2024, 13 new ENplus®-certified manufacturers and 9 new ENplus®-certified trading companies were

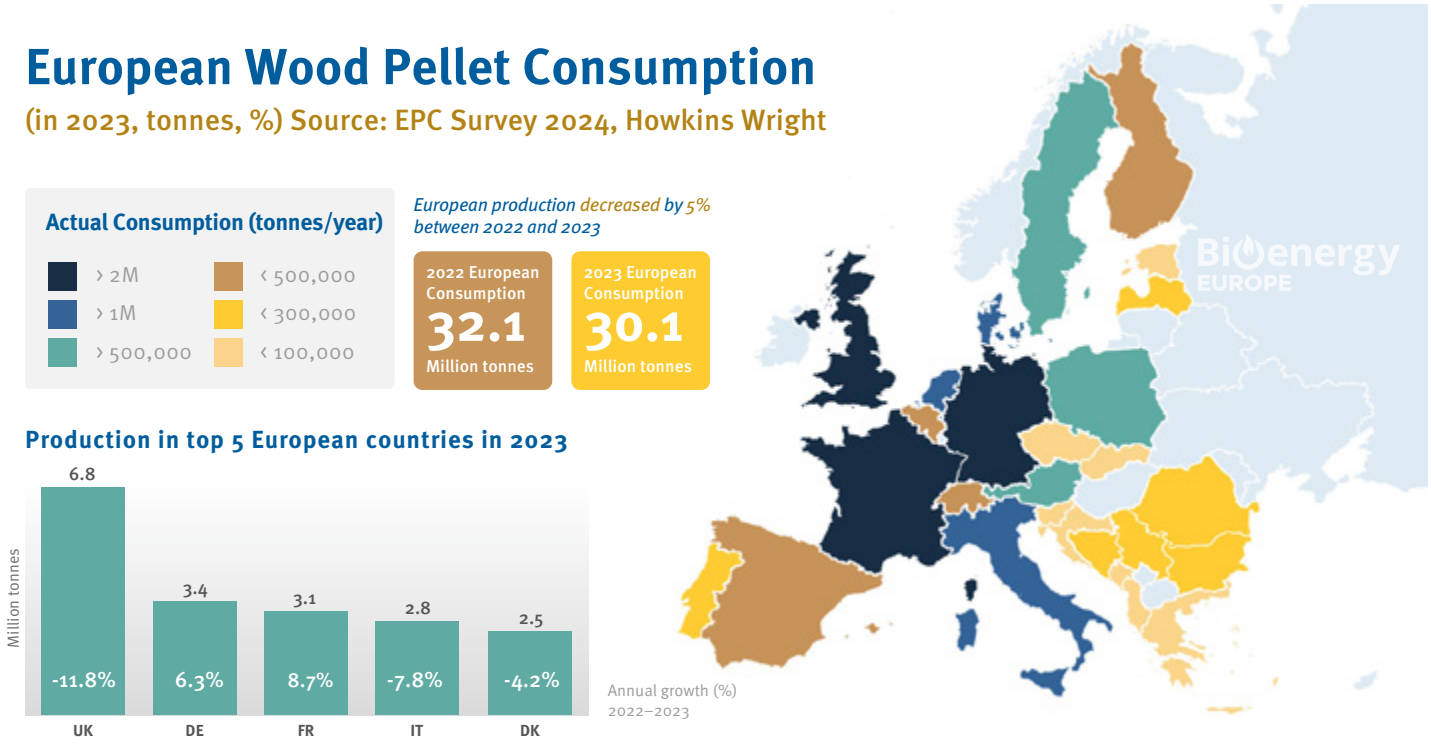

Figure 2. Wood pellet consumption in Poland and Europe
Source: Bioenergy Europe Statistical Report/ PELLETS 2024

recorded, which shows lower growth than in previous years but, nevertheless, demonstrates the continuous development of this industry in Poland.

The wood pellet industry in Poland continues to see increases in pellet production, which are mainly due to new, medium-sized (up to 10,000 tonnes/year) production units. Most of them opt to obtain a certificate confirming the uniformity of pellet parameters in quality class A1 or A2, i.e. the ENplus® certificate.

Poland's wood pellet industry needs legislation to regulate the use of wood pellets

The Ministry of Climate and Environment has introduced new quality standards for woody biomass, which could affect the availability and price of pellets on the domestic market. Experts are concerned that these regulations could limit the availability of high-quality fuels and lead to higher prices.

According to a draft ordinance published by the Ministry of Climate and Environment, quality standards for wood pellets and briquettes – both those produced in Poland

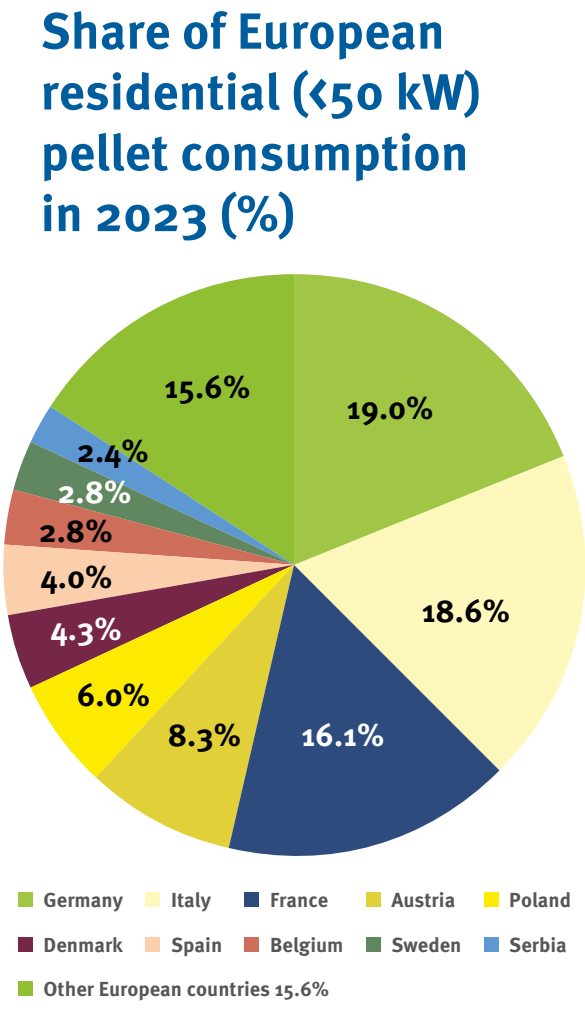

Figure 3.
Wood pellet consumption in Poland and Europe in individual installations with a power of up to 50 kW
Source: Bioenergy Europe Statistical Report/ PELLETS 2024

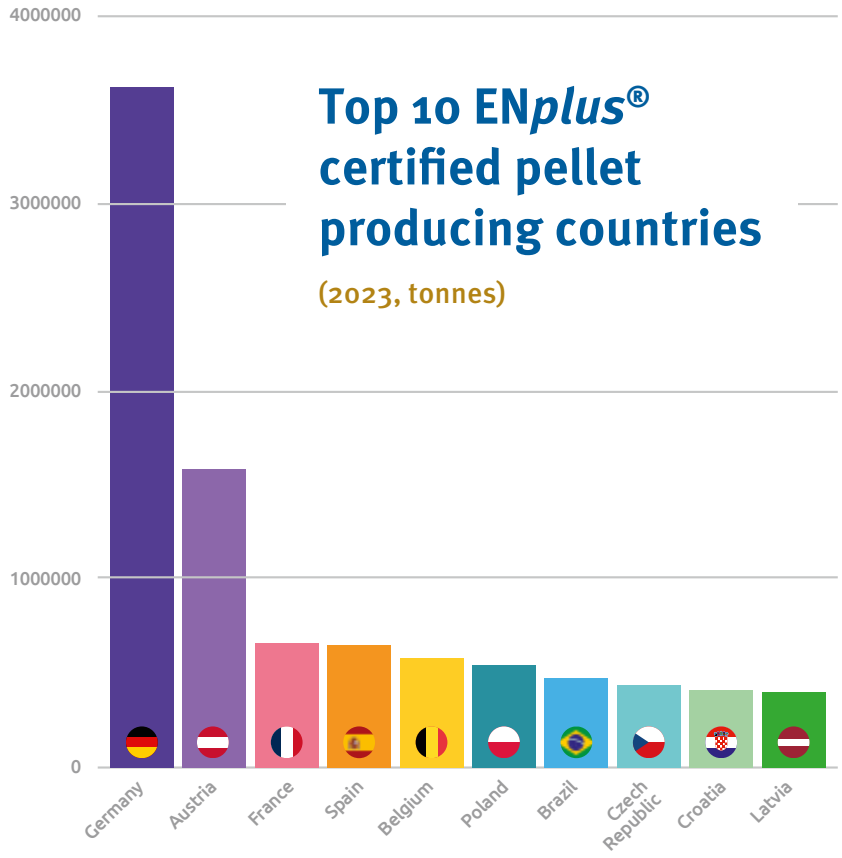

Figure 4. Major countries producing certified pellet
Source: Brochure for Pellets 2024, EPC

Poli Trade Polska, Feniks Pellets

and those imported from abroad (subject to customs procedures) – will be tightened. As the project's authors emphasise, current biofuels in the form of wood pellets and briquettes are not covered by the monitoring and control system, and no legally binding quality requirements have been established in their case. The new legislation will, therefore, tighten quality requirements for the sale and, consequently, the combustion of biomass-based biofuels, i.e. wood pellets and briquettes.

In the case of wood pellets intended for boilers of energy classes 3, 4, and 5 or those that meet ecodesign requirements, the quality requirements will correspond to quality class A1 according to PN-EN ISO 17225–2, so, among other things, they will have to show a maximum acceptable ash content of up to 0.7% (and not 1.20% as in quality class A2). The Ministry of Climate and Environment emphasises that the new regulations are intended to limit the burning of solid biomass fuels with admixtures of chemically processed additives and plastics in households and heating installations with a power of up to 1 MW.

Currently, not all commercially available wood pellets and briquettes meet the quality requirements of the ISO EN 17225 of the European standards. Increasing the control over the quality of biofuels available on the market is expected to help eliminate low-quality products from the market and reduce emissions of pollutants into the environment.

The proposed amendments introduce mandatory certification, i.e. confirmation of the quality class of wood pellets by an independent third party. This means that any type of wood pellet introduced to the market and sold in Poland must meet specific quality standards for quality class A1, if it is intended for use in heating appliances of class 3, 4, and 5 and/or those meeting the requirements for ecodesign, or quality class A2 if used in heating devices rated as below emission class 3 as defined in the EN305-5 standard. Thanks to this, the users will be ensured that the biofuel they buy is of the highest quality and, thus, that it is efficient when combusted and safe for health and the environment.

Are we in danger of running out of wood pellets on the Polish market, and are owners of pellet boilers going to face a huge problem? The Polish Pellet Council (Polish: Polska Rada Pelletu) predicts that the situation from two years ago should not happen again. What is more – the proposed regulation will improve the regulation of quality issues, something the whole pellet industry has been fighting for since 2017. The threat to the Polish pellet market is not the aforementioned draft regulation of the Minister of Climate and Environment but rather the lack of regulation in this area.

This is evidenced by the problem of an inflow of woody and non-woody pellets from across the eastern border into Poland (estimated at 20,000 t/month). It poses a serious challenge for domestic biofuel producers. Imported pellets, characterised by low prices, make it much more difficult for producers to remain competitive. Often, though not always, imported pellets are perceived by consumers as products of inferior quality. Nevertheless, its tempting price attracts many of them, further complicating domestic entrepreneurs' situation by confronting them with the challenge of staying in the market. The last few months have been a time of a significant price battle for Polish producers, who have to face the low price of wood pellets coming in from across the eastern border.

The specific date for implementing the new regulations has not yet been confirmed, although the date 1.01.2025 has been mentioned several times. In the text of the draft itself, one can read that the regulation enters into force 14 days after the date of publication. However, the Ministry of Climate and Environment has announced that appropriate public consultations will precede the introduction of stricter quality requirements for wood pellets. In addition, a transitional period will be defined to allow producers and distributors to adapt to the new requirements.

The introduction of new quality regulations for wood pellets is a step towards improving air quality and protecting the environment. By tightening the requirements for biofuel, users will have access to selected, high-quality products, which will positively impact combustion efficiency, health, and environmental safety. Certification will ensure market transparency and protect consumers from purchasing low-quality fuels.

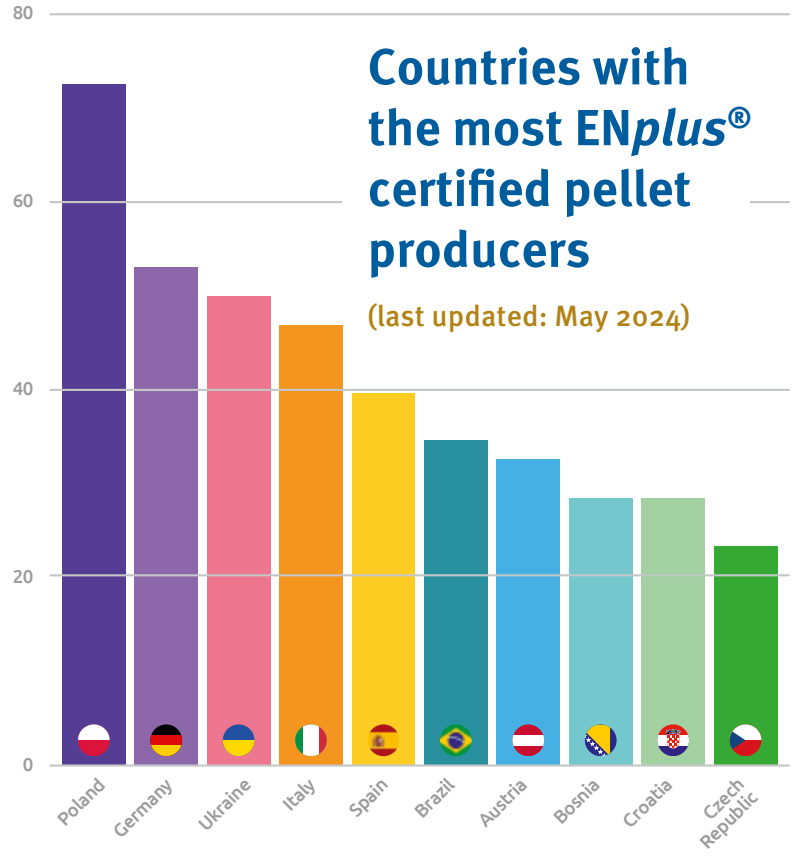

Figure 5. Countries with the highest number of certified pellet producers
Source: Brochure for Pellets 2024, EPC

The new wood pellet legislation is a positive development that raises biofuel quality and safety standards while supporting the fight against air pollution and promoting transparency in the market.

The pellet industry, which was initially a niche industry, has become an important part of the home heating system for several years. The activities of the Polish Pellet Council have contributed to this perception of the industry.

Figure 6 (see next page) shows consumption by individual housing installations in markets with consumption levels ranging from 350,000 tonnes to 1 million tonnes. The figure indicates different trends for particular countries, making it difficult to identify any overall trend. Spain and Poland, on the other hand, have seen a steady increase in consumption by individual housing installations over the last 5 years; however,

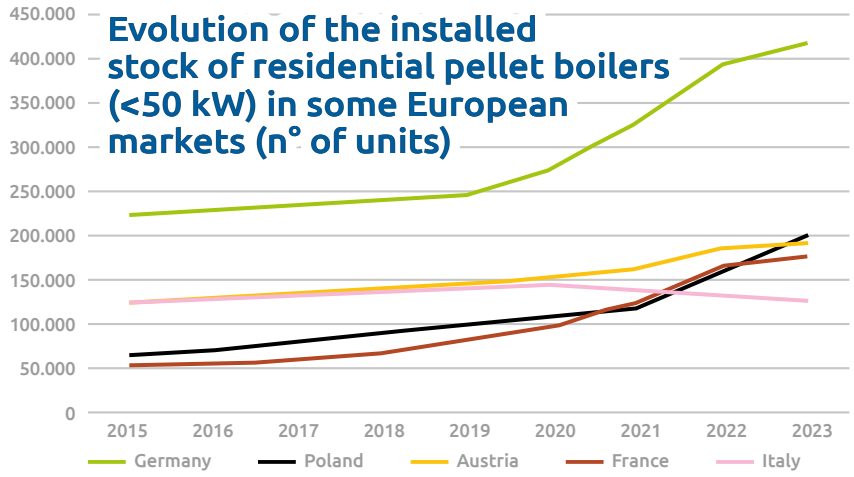

Figure 6. New wood pellet installations in Poland and Europe in individual installations with the power of up to 50 kW
Source: Bioenergy Europe Statistical Report/ PELLETS 2024

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this rate has been slowing down from 2021 onwards. Belgium has seen a lot of fluctuations that distinguish it from the downward trends in Scandinavia and the growth seen in Spain and Poland.

Regarding absolute values, Poland, which has experienced exponential growth since 2015, is the second largest country, slightly ahead of Austria in third place. This growth is mainly driven by attractive financial support programmes, primarily the Clean Air Programme, a government subsidiary programme. It offers investment support for replacing old and inefficient coal-fired boilers with a wide range of more modern installations. According to the Polish government, this programme has already subsidised the replacement of more than 700,000 heat sources, 21% of which were biomass boilers (including also biomass other than pellets). This mechanism is a straightforward means to decarbonise the residential heating sector effectively and has allowed Poland to maintain a constant figure for its annual sales, unlike any other country. Last year, the Polish market contracted by just over 5%. Sales in Italy dropped by more than 80% year-on-year. Similarly, all other markets, except Poland, saw a significant decline. ■

POLISH PELLET COUNCIL

Polish Pellet Council (www.polskaradapelletu.org)

The Polish Pellet Council (Polish: Polska Rada Pelletu), a National Industry Association to promote pellets, was established in 2017 as a result of a grassroots initiative of the representatives to address the needs of this thriving industry. We focus on activities that contribute to improving air quality and reducing CO_2 emissions through ongoing collaboration with legislators on national regulations, promoting pellets as an environmentally friendly biofuel, and conducting research, development, and education activities. We actively support producers, traders, service companies, and end users. The Council also acts as a national point of contact for the pellet industry in Poland and abroad regarding regulations, pellet quality, certification systems, and testing. We are also involved in monitoring and fighting counterfeiting and abuse by entities impersonating certified pellets or introducing non-compliant pellets. Moreover, the Council represents the pellet industry in interactions with bodies of state administration and local governments.

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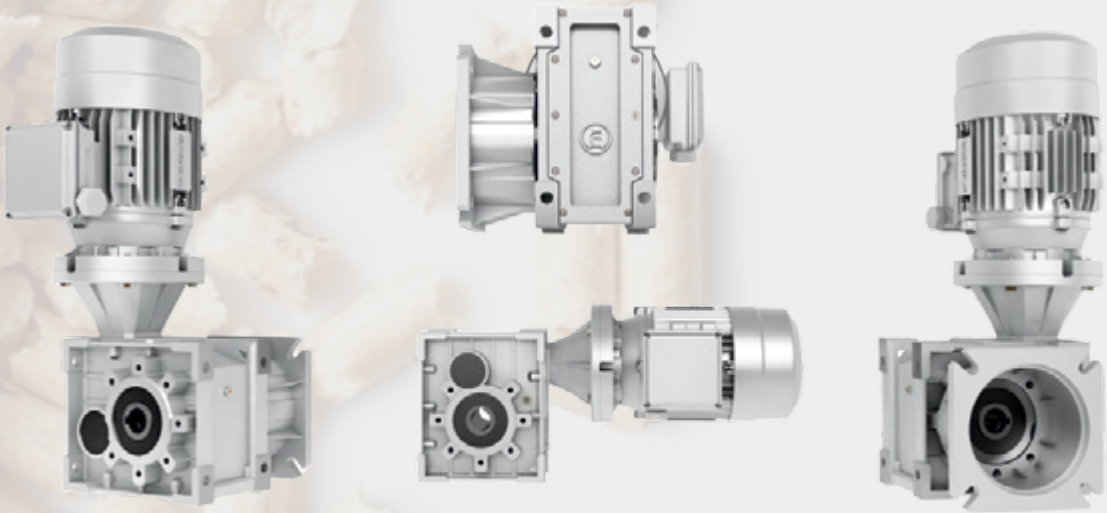

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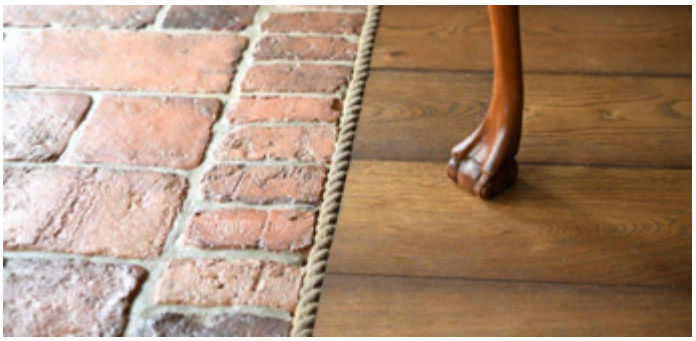

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