



## THE VOICE OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY IN EUROPE

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**Issue n°5. July 2007**

WELCOME... to the second issue of the EGEC Newsletter...for 2007

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### **A word from the EGEC President :**

Dear members of EGEC, dear readers of this newsletter,

it is more than a month now since we could close the European Geothermal Congress 2007 in Unterhaching, Germany. EGEC has been a vital partner with EGC 2007, by integrating the EGEC Business Seminar 2007 into the international conference. The EGEC Business Seminar in one session collected the papers concerning economy and policy for geothermal energy, and in the other session it offered a platform for presenting EU-funded R&D-projects in the geothermal field. The papers are distributed with the EGC 2007 proceedings on a CD-ROM, and later will also become available online (we will inform our members when and where).



I reckon those of you having attended EGC 2007 will agree that, looking back at the whole of the action, we can call it a great success, bringing together ca. 400 persons from throughout Europe and overseas, presenting the latest in R&D as well as in business and policy to the geothermal community, and showing exhibits from all the geothermal sectors.

EGEC wishes to express sincere appreciation for all efforts and contributions to the event, and in particular likes to mention: The municipality of Unterhaching, under the leadership of the mayor Erwin Knapek; the main organiser GtV-BV e.V.; the congress convenor IGA ERB / IGA EBF; the European Commission DG-TREN supporting the EGEC sessions through projects K4RES-H and RESTMAC. And finally, EGC 2007 would not have been possible without all the speakers, poster presenters, exhibitors, congress participants, visitors, who with their activity and presence made EGC 2007 what it was - THE meeting for geothermal energy in Europe!

Albeit the second quarter of 2007 was dominated by EGC 2007, also a substantial number of other activities had to be carried out for promotion of geothermal energy, and to secure a favourable environment for geothermal energy use for heat, cold and electric power. A particular highlight was a hearing on June 22, when two Commissioners, Andris Piebalgs (Energy) and Janez Potocnik (Science & Research), listened to the energy industry to learn about ideas on a Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SETP). EGEC was honoured to represent geothermal energy at that event. Visit our website to learn more about the SETP in the near future!

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Burkhard Sanner

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## EGEC has conducted its first geothermal event at an international trade fair

In the framework of a new trade fair for renewable energy in Budapest, Hungary, a geothermal conference was organized with the target to provide an overview of geothermal technology and application in Hungary and neighbour countries. This conference was arranged by EGEC in co-operation with REECO GmbH, a German-based fair organiser (and EGEC member). It was the first common project of REECO and EGEC; however, EGEC's German member association GtV-BV has a decade of successful joint activities with REECO on a German regional scale.

The conference was held on April 20, 2007, in the conference centre of the Hungexpo Budapest Trade Fair Centre (Vásárközpont). The program of the conference was oriented on issues concerning the geothermal energy use in Central and Eastern Europe, and the goal was to bring together people from East, South and West to discuss the possibilities of geothermal energy for electric power, heating and cooling.

The documents from the different presentations are available as pdf-files, for download from the member's corner of the EGEC website [www.egec.org](http://www.egec.org), or through a direct link which is available to the conference participants (if you are a conference participants and do not have received the link yet, please contact EGEC at [info@egec.org](mailto:info@egec.org) ).



*Impressions from the Conference for Geothermal Energy in Eastern Europe, 20.4.2007: View into the lecture hall (upper right), Hungarian speakers Gábor Szita (above left) and György Patzay (above centre), and EGEC president Burkhard Sanner with Romanian colleagues during the coffee break*

## EGEC Business Seminar 2007 at EGC 2007 in Unterhaching, Germany

The small city of Unterhaching, at the Southern outskirts of Munich, Germany, was the venue of the European Geothermal Congress 2007 from May 30 – June 1, 2007. This event, under the auspices of the European Branch of the International Geothermal Association IGA, was organised jointly by the German geothermal association GtV-BV, the Swiss geothermal association Geothermie.CH, and EGEC. It was accompanied by the international exhibition GEOEnergia Europe 2007, where EGEC was present with a booth and could distribute brochures and the geothermal heating and cooling action plan for Europe.

Within the congress program, the EGEC Business Seminar 2007 was integrated and offered a platform for the discussion of economic and policy issues, as well as for presentation of R&D-projects funded by the European Union. The Business seminar started, after the EGC 2007 opening session, with a panel discussion among geothermal actors on the European scene and the auditorium. Panelists were Elisa Boelman from the European Commission DG-TREN, Beata Kepinska from Poland for the IGA European Branch and to represent the new member states, Alexander Richter from Glitnir Bank, Iceland, for

investors in the geothermal field, Patrick Ledru from BRGM, France, for the ENGINE consortium and to represent the R&D-community, and Gareth Ll. Jones from Ireland for the European Federation of Geologists (EFG).



*EGEC Business Seminar at EGC 2007: Speakers Christian Boissavy (left) and Miklos Antics (centre) and view into the auditorium in the Unterhaching Sports Centre (right)*



*Panel discussion during the EGEC Business Seminar 2007; from left: Gareth Ll. Jones (EFG), Patrick Ledru (BRGM/Engine), Alexander Richter (Glitnir Bank), Beata Kepinska (IGA EBF), Elisa Boelman (EC DG-TREN); in the right photo Elisa Boelman and EGEC president Burkhard Sanner, moderator of the panel*



*Left: During the second EGEC session, on EU-funded R&D projects; session chairman Ernst Huenges (GFZ Potsdam) introduced Patrick Ledru (BRGM) for a speech on the ENGINE project. Right: The EGEC booth at the accompanying exhibition*

Some project history: Drilling had been started with a fairly light rig, later to be pursued by a heavier installation for the deeper sections. Sandstone was struck at the expected depth of 1750 meter. At this location two consecutive and potentially productive formations/layers were expected – the Berkel and Rijswijk Sandstones. In April 2007 the well tests were performed and the provisional conclusion was that the well could produce water in the predicted range of 100 to 150 m<sup>3</sup>.

On April 26 these results and the experiences during the drilling activities were communicated to a gathering of 30 to 40 participants of the Dutch Platform for Geothermal Energy, followed by short presentations of some other ongoing initiatives for developing deep geothermal energy.

In the same week the entrepreneur, Rik van den Bosch received the prestigious Creative Energy Award from the Minister of Economic Affairs, Mrs Maria van der Hoeven. The project is expected to draw a considerable amount of interest from the horticultural sector in The Netherlands.

The energy capacity required for the heating of the Van den Bosch greenhouse is substantial – but not excessive or unusual for Dutch horticulturists. It was also noted, that the particular site of Van den Bosch called for two deviated drillings, whereas following projects might very well be accomplished with one – less expensive - vertical borehole. At the end of April the rig had been relocated a few meters and the drilling of the second borehole started.

More information : Victor van Heekeren, Dutch Geothermal Energy Platform, [www.geothermie.nl/](http://www.geothermie.nl/)



## **ENGINE moves from the state of the art towards the expert phase**

ENGINE (Enhanced Geothermal Innovative Network for Europe) European coordination action started at the end of 2005. The Mid-Term Conference held in Potsdam, Germany last January (see also EGECE News No. 4) was a successful meeting where more than 130 experts from 28 countries debated for the promotion of Enhanced Geothermal Systems.



The first half of the project was dedicated to stating the art during fruitful specialized workshops. The second phase will lead experts to define the best practices and priorities for research investment. In the meantime, a bottom-up and federative strategy will continue through specialised workshops.

After Exploring high-temperature reservoir (Volterra, Italy, last April), the ENGINE participants will discuss about High-temperature drilling (Reykjavik, Iceland, July – see below), Policy makers and public implications (Athens, Greece, September – see events section) and Risk analysis (Utrecht, The Netherlands, November). The ENGINE Final Conference is scheduled for February 2008 in Vilnius, Lithuania.

More information is available on the ENGINE Web site: <http://engine.brgm.fr>

## **Drilling cost effectiveness and feasibility of high-temperature drilling - Reykjavik, Iceland, Workshop 4**

The Workshop 4 "Drilling cost effectiveness and feasibility of high-temperature drilling" of the ENGINE project was hosted by ISOR and held in Reykjavik, from 2 to 5 July 2007, with supplementary excursion on 4 July and optional excursion on 5 July.

All information can be found on: <http://conferences-engine.brgm.fr/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=5>

## Creating an experimental site in Orléans, France, for geothermal heat pumps and their underground heat exchangers

BRGM and the Council for the Centre Region, France, as part of the French Contract for State/Centre Region Projects, 2007-2013, have created a joint venture for setting up an experimental site for the testing of geothermal heat pumps and their underground heat exchangers.



The aim is to arrive at an overall evaluation of the performance of heating systems that work with geothermal heat pumps, based on the three constituent elements that are the subsurface, the geothermal heat pump, and the building to be heated. The activities will fall into three categories: research & development into development of new products, qualification of the performance of underground heat exchangers, and the evaluation of their impact on the subsurface; evaluation and/or certification of systems; and the setting up of a demonstration network for the validation of newly developed concepts and technologies. This site will also provide opportunities for synergetic actions of staff training and publicizing professional activities that will be developed as part of the overall development project of the Centre Region.

## Augsburg shows the way for renewable energy - Renexpo 2007

The renewable energy sector is advancing again. Europe wide we see the launch of new projects and the support for the renewable energy sector being strengthened. In Germany funds of 230 Million Euro were made available on 1st of May. The industry is developing further and thus becoming the job engine of the whole region. Meet the players from the year long established sector meeting place.



From the 27th to the 30th of September 2007 the RENEXPO® 2007 international trade fair and conference for renewable energy is taking place in Augsburg, Germany. Year on year visitors from the whole world convene at this event in the Bavarian renewable energy centre. 2006 saw over 300 exhibitors, 1,400 conference participants and 12,000 visitors (from which 62% were trade visitors) coming together in Augsburg – a very good indication for 2007! The latest information for exhibitors, conference participants and visitors is available on the new website [www.renexpo.com](http://www.renexpo.com).

## EVENTS

### Increasing policy makers' awareness and the public acceptance – ENGINE Workshop 6 Athens, Greece, 13-14 September 2007

It is widely known that the geothermal energy is a versatile renewable energy source that is among the cleanest of the commercially viable technologies available today. Towards this direction, there has been a lot of literature attestation. However there has not been the predictable development in this field. An important reason is that many geothermal projects face strong opposition from politicians, neighbouring communities or environmental pressure groups. This is why there is a global tendency for geothermal companies to develop their policy and their social responsibility. The aim of the workshop ‘‘Increasing policy makers’ awareness and public acceptance’’ is to make policy makers’ aware of the need of a strategy and examine the policy that should be followed in order to eliminate any social opposition.



All information on : <http://conferences-engine.brgm.fr/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=7>