

Keeping wood pellet quality standards high

"ENplus" scheme brings together sector professionals at Holzforschung Austria in Vienna

The recent ENplus auditors' workshop - the fourth of its kind - held in Vienna this November 29th at the premises of [Holzforschung Austria](#) brought together several sector professionals to be updated on the recent developments of ENplus and to discuss upcoming challenges of this scheme.

[ENplus](#) is a pellet quality scheme that certifies the whole wood pellet supply chain – from production to delivery to the customer, ensuring both the high quality of the product as well as transparency throughout the process. First introduced in Germany in 2010, ENplus is now present in 41 countries and 5 continents. By now 362 pellet producers from 41 countries as well as 318 pellet traders from 22 countries are ENplus certified, while 8 million tons of ENplus certified wood pellets are being expected to be produced in 2016.

The aim of such workshops is to facilitate the professional exchange between ENplus auditors to guarantee comparable and high quality standards for controls. Important future improvements for the [ENplus Handbook](#) (at its 3rd version since August 2015), the official document detailing all quality requirements for pellet producers and traders that wish to certify, have been discussed and the main priorities for 2017 have been identified. Practical recommendations from auditors active in the field are valuable input for the [European Pellet Council](#) to improve future requirements.

The company hosting the event, Holzforschung Austria, operates [a pilot biomass plant](#) that pioneers pelletizing technologies and is deeply involved in research & development activities. All participants had a chance to see the plant in person at a field trip that closed the event on the notes of innovation and continuous improvement.

Photo © Holzforschung Austria: Participants of the 4th ENplus Auditors Workshop at Holzforschung Austria in Vienna

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