

## **Growth in heat-pump sales volumes in Finland – 670,000 heat pumps are drawing 5 TWh worth of renewable energy from around buildings**

**67,000 heat pumps were sold last year in the country of five million people. This represented a growth of 10% as compared to the previous year. The market-share growth in energy-efficiency refurbishment as well as the warm summer increased the air-source and air-to-water heat pump sales. The strong decline in construction brought the ground-source and exhaust-air heat pump figures down. The 670,000 heat pumps draw 5 TWh worth of local heat from around buildings annually. Finns invested approximately 400 million Euros in heat pumps in 2014.**

Air-to-water and air-source heat pump sales grew by 15%. As many as 53,000 air-source heat pumps were sold. This was partly due to the warm summer last year, which drew attention to the capacity with which heat pumps also provide cool relief to a hot building. The strong decline in construction brought the ground-source and exhaust-air heat pump figures down. The sales figures of geothermal heat fell by 10% to just over 11,000 pumps. However, the market shares of heat pumps have continued to grow. Already more than 50% of constructors choose a ground-source or exhaust-air heat pump solution. Approximately 6,000 oil-fired boilers were replaced last year by eco-friendly ground-source heat pumps, or the oil consumption of the boilers was reduced with air-to-water heat pumps.

Finns already invest as much as 400 million Euros in heat pumps annually. The reason goes without saying. Most often, the return on the investment is more than 10% per year. The impact of saved fuel on the Finnish trade balance is already in the region of one hundred million. The heat-pump industry already offers employment for approximately 2,000 people. Furthermore, the reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions is in the region of a megaton, with the 670,000 heat pumps in Finland gathering 5 TWh/a of local energy from around buildings from the ground, the ground rock or from the air – Executive Director Jussi Hirvonen says enthusiastically, as he introduces the Finnish Heat Pump Association statistics for 2014.

The good news was that finally, exhaust-air heat pumps in apartment buildings also began to be more common. As many as a few hundred apartment buildings were fitted with a heat pump that retains the heat of exhaust air, which reduces as much as 50% of district-heating or other energy expenditure of the buildings. The potential of these solutions is truly enormous. More than 30,000 apartment buildings release 20°C exhaust air through ventilation up into the skies – Mr Hirvonen continues.

Despite the nation's challenging financial situation, the number of Finnish Heat Pump Association members has continued its strong growth. The growth in the number of members is indicative that the industry has great confidence in the future, and it wants its operations to be professional, of high-quality, transparent, and it also naturally wants to ensure, e.g., compliance with the increasingly stringent refrigerant and fitter-qualification regulations. Indeed, a heat-pump customer can find over 150 high-quality member businesses from our association's website [www.sulpu.fi](http://www.sulpu.fi) map service – the Executive Director points out happily.

The heat-pump industry has only taken its first steps on its road to success. According to a survey conducted by independent consult company Gaia Ltd, a total of 12 billion Euros will be invested in heat pumps by 2030. By then, there will be 3,000 new jobs within the industry, and the savings that will have been achieved with heat pumps will be a billion Euros per year (<http://www.sulpu.fi/in-english>).