

PRESS RELEASE

## Multi-energy heating, efficient storage and renewables to reduce household energy consumption

*Eurofuel spells out its 2020 vision on the future of domestic heating at the 2nd European Innovation Summit*

**Brussels**, 12 October 2010 – Improved efficiency measures such as best-practice heating systems, smart metering and energy storage, together with renewable energies, will be key in reducing the environmental impact of household heating in the European Union, contributing to the EU 2020 target of a 20% cut in energy consumption, according to **Eurofuel**, the European Heating Oil association.

*“Multi-Energy Hybrid Vision – Strategies to Achieve Sustainable, Secure and Affordable Energy Supplies for Europe’s Buildings: Towards 2020 and Beyond”* is Eurofuel’s contribution to the energy efficiency debate in the EU, where buildings account for around **35%-40%** of energy needs and associated Greenhouse Gas emissions.

**MEP Silvia-Adriana Ticau**, who hosted the debate on "Reducing Energy Consumption - a priority for Europe " within the European Parliament today, said: *“Reducing household energy consumption will be crucial to the achievement of the goals set out by the EU 2020 strategy. Every household in Europe must be able to put in place a system which drastically reduces wasted heating, and raises energy efficiency. We call on the Commission and on the member States to use the mid-term review and the future financial perspective to significantly increase the financial resources dedicated to the improvement of the energy efficiency of the buildings”*.

Eurofuel’s innovative approach proposes a multi-energy hybrid system for heating, combining different energy-saving strategies: the introduction of **efficiency measures** – smart metering, improved insulation, the use of oil condensing technology and a reliable heating oil storage tank, plus solar thermal and ambient heat - and the introduction of **renewable combustion technologies**, such as sustainably-derived bioliquid blends, wood and renewable electricity.

**Prof. Christian Küchen**, President of Eurofuel, said: *“The focus should be on decreasing primary energy consumption, which includes energy contained in a given fuel or in electricity, as well as the energy necessary for the generation, transport and distribution of the energy source. Our vision is that this could be effectively done through multi-energy systems, using liquid fuels – which have unmatched properties to store energy over a long period – in conjunction with smart metering.”*

In the framework of the forthcoming Energy strategy for Europe and the revised Energy Efficiency Action Plan, outlined in today’s debate by **Marzena Rogalska**, Member of EU Energy Commissioner *Günther Oettinger*’s cabinet, Eurofuel will call for a consistently applied legal framework which promotes technology-neutral primary energy reductions, energy taxation for heating use based on primary energy consumption alone, and R&D investment on technologies for cost-effective reduction of primary energy consumption.

For more information, please visit <http://www.eurofuel.eu/>

- ENDS -

### Media enquiries

Francesca Micheletti – Weber Shandwick  
+32 (0)2 894 90 22  
[fmicheletti@webershandwick.com](mailto:fmicheletti@webershandwick.com).

### Other enquiries

Michael Bennett - Eurofuel Executive Director  
+32 473 706 326  
[mbe@eurofuel.eu](mailto:mbe@eurofuel.eu)

### Notes to editors

#### *About Eurofuel*

**Eurofuel (the European Heating Oil Association) is the umbrella organisation representing 10 national associations, which promote best practice in the use of heating oil for domestic heating.**

Eurofuel's members cover the complete home heating supply chain, from oil companies of various sizes, through to independent fuel traders and distributors, heating equipment manufacturers and finally heating installers. The great majority of these members are Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), key in boosting economic growth and employment throughout the EU.

The main activities of Eurofuel focus on the **efficient use of energy** for the heating of buildings and domestic warm water, and the protection of the environment. These activities aim at **keeping a fair place for liquid heating fuels** compared to other fossil fuels, and other energy sources. Also key is informing consumers, local authorities, architects, builders and heating installers about present solutions combining oil heating with sustainable solar energy, and ongoing R&D for future liquid biofuels applications in the European heating sector.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.eurofuel.eu/>