

Wood Pellets Handbook – a mean for improved dissemination of knowledge

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The Wood Pellets Handbook fulfils an identified need for dissemination of knowledge on pellets. It will serve as a practical tool for Danish professionals to improve the quality of information to wood pellet users. The Handbook compiles all relevant information on the Danish wood pellets sector. A web edition will secure updated information on market, prices and regulations.

The Handbook covers most subjects on wood pellets: Resources and market potentials; Systems for production and distribution of quality pellets; Practical advises for consumers on quality assurance of pellets; Technical, economical and environmental best practice on installation and operation of plants; A database on suppliers of plants and pellets.

The Handbook will be completed this summer. Analysis, database and content of the Handbook will be presented at the conference. The project is financed by the Danish Energy Agency.

Aim and organisation of the Wood Pellets Handbook

Objectives: The ambition of the Handbook is to support increased use of pellets and to support technical, economical and environmental better practice in production and use of wood pellets. This is done by: 1) collection of updated knowledge on pellets, pellets plants and pellets use; 2) dissemination of the knowledge to professionals and consumers; 3) secure updating of market information on prices, products, quality criteria and service. By increasing visibility and transparency of the pellets market and disseminating knowledge on quality criteria and best practice the Handbook will support increased competition on these parameters.

Organisation: The Wood Pellets Handbook is organised as a loose-leaf book and a corresponding web edition. Professionals and consumers can use the book or relevant pages in field. The web edition secures efficient updating of information. The text will be easy to read and there is extensive use of illustrations. Seminars for professionals will be held along with publication of the Handbook.

Content of the Wood Pellets Handbook

Resources and future market: Several aspects are covered to counter insecurity by Danish consumers. Potential consumers are lacking confidence on future pellets supplies and market conditions. The resource for good quality pellets is analysed and it can be concluded that resources are abundant. The supportive Danish energy policy is described, where pellets will play an increasingly important role in mitigating the greenhouse gas emissions.

Pellets Quality: Pellet quality is of utmost importance for high-quality combustion. Several steps are taken to support improvement of pellets quality on the market. Information on preconditions for production of good quality pellets. Descriptions on distribution systems keeping the quality of pellets. Practical advice to the consumers on how to verify the quality of wood pellets.

Installation and operation of plants: Small, medium and large heat and cogeneration plants are described. Handling and storage of pellets. Practical advises on installation, operation and maintenance of pellet plants. Economical, environmental and technical key figures for various technologies.

Grants and regulations: The Danish Government supports new pellet plants by paying up to 20% of the installation costs. Regulations on fire safety, emissions, handling of ash etc.

Database on suppliers of pellets, plants and services: Information on Danish suppliers are registered in a database that will be updated and published on the web.

References

[1] Bjerg, J et. al: The Wood Pellets Handbook. 2001. To be published.