

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

01

ABOUT US

Eurovent is the voice of the European HVACR industry, representing over 100 companies directly and more than 1.000 indirectly through our 17 national associations. The majority are small and medium-sized companies that manufacture indoor climate, process cooling, and cold chain technologies across more than 350 manufacturing sites in Europe. They generate a combined annual turnover of more than 30 billion EUR and employ over 150.000 Europeans in good quality tech jobs.

MISSION

Eurovent's mission is to bring together HVACR technology providers to collaborate with policymakers and other stakeholders towards conditions that foster fair competition, innovation, and sustainable growth for the European HVACR industry.

VISION

Eurovent's vision is an innovative and competitive European HVACR industry that enables sustainable development in Europe and globally, which works for people, businesses, and the environment.

VALUES

Openness: Eurovent is inclusive and representative, with low thresholds to entry for small and medium-sized enterprises and strong connections to the industry's national associations. All members are given an equal voice, regardless of company size or membership fee levels. Reasonable efforts are made to compromise, accommodate disagreements, and establish unity of purpose.

Expertise: Eurovent values expertise. Members and staff bring expert knowledge that lend authority and credibility to Eurovent's actions and publications. Eurovent strives to further develop the state of the art and proactively shares its knowledge and expertise. Eurovent bases its judgements on evidence, justification and data and expects the same of its interlocutors.

Responsibility: Eurovent has confidence in the potential of HVACR technologies to enable a better quality of life, and takes industry's environmental and social responsibilities seriously. In that context, Eurovent is committed to work constructively with decision-makers towards good policy that works for our industry, in full respect of democratic principles and the highest standards of transparency and anti-corruption.

SCOPE

Indoor climate and indoor air quality technologies, which ventilate, condition and purify indoor spaces for the comfort and well-being of people.

Process and IT cooling technologies, which remove heat for rejection or recovery and provide stable temperatures for industrial processes and IT infrastructure.

Cold chain technologies, which preserve temperature-sensitive food and medicine across supply chains.

INDOOR CLIMATE
& INDOOR AIR QUALITY

PROCESS
& IT COOLING

FOOD COLD
CHAIN

STRONG NETWORK
1,000+
ORGANISATIONS

FOUNDED IN
1956

MEMBERS
FROM
24
COUNTRIES
IN EUROPE

12
ASSOCIATE
MEMBERS

GENERATING
COMBINED ANNUAL
TURNOVER
30+
bn EUR

REPRESENTING
150,000+
EMPLOYEES

100+
CORESPONDING
MEMBERS

17
NATIONAL INDUSTRY
ASSOCIATIONS

02

ABOUT THE EUROPEAN HVACR INDUSTRY

AT EUROVENT, WE BELIEVE THAT AN INNOVATIVE AND COMPETITIVE **EUROPEAN HVACR INDUSTRY** IS ESSENTIAL TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN EUROPE, WHICH WORKS FOR PEOPLE, BUSINESS AND THE ENVIRONMENT.

HVACR FOR QUALITY OF LIFE

HVACR technologies improve the quality of life and wellbeing of people. They create healthy indoor environments, facilitate mass data storage and computation, ensure global distribution of fresh food and medicine, and play an important role in climate change adaptation.



Healthy **indoor environments**



Mass **data storage** and **computation**



Cold chain for **fresh food and medicine**



HVACR FOR DECARBONISATION

HVACR technologies hold the key to decarbonisation of the built environment and enable important industrial processes, including for example hydrogen and battery production. Our sector continues to innovate to make products more energy efficient, durable, repairable, recyclable and to reduce environmental impacts.



Decarbonisation of buildings



Enabled **industrial processes**



Innovation for sustainable products



HVACR FOR PROSPERITY

The HVACR sector contributes to prosperity, growth and employment in Europe. It is a sector with many small and medium-sized companies and a strong manufacturing footprint in Europe, with more than 350 manufacturing sites. These companies generate a combined annual turnover of more than 30 billion EUR and employ over 150.000 people in good quality jobs.



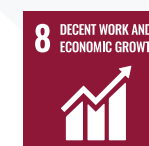
350+ manufacturing sites in Europe



30+ bn EUR annual turnover



150.000+ European jobs



03

OUR CORE ISSUES

1. HEALTHY AND COMFORTABLE BUILDINGS

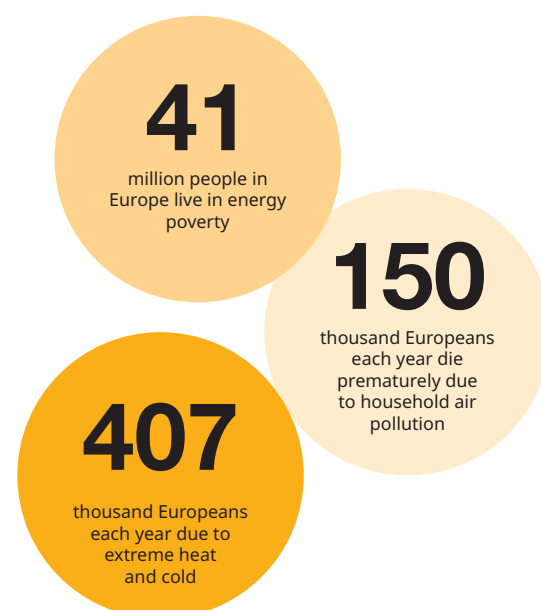
Eurovent recognises the importance of energy efficiency and reducing environmental impacts in the built environment, and is committed to ensure that HVAC technologies make their contributions to the decarbonisation of the building stock.

That said, a building cannot be green or sustainable if it fails to meet the basic human needs for shelter, safety, and functionality, for which it was built. Too many buildings in the EU don't meet adequate Indoor Air Quality (IEQ) standards¹, and 41 million people in Europe live in energy poverty². As a result, each year 150.000 Europeans die prematurely due to household air pollution³ and 407.000 due to extreme heat and cold⁴.

Eurovent aims to change this, by advocating for Indoor Environmental Quality to be recognised as a priority in its own right, without having to hide behind other considerations. In this context, HVAC technologies should be recognised as essential solutions – rather than problems – for sustainable buildings, as they enable people to live, learn, and work in healthy and comfortable indoor spaces. This is the foremost contribution that HVAC technologies make to quality of life and, by extension, to sustainability in the built environment.

More specifically, we advocate for legally codified standards to ensure that both new and renovated buildings deliver optimal

Indoor Environmental Quality, adequately supported with financial incentives for the measures and technologies that help achieve it. We also remain committed to working together with other associations and knowledge partners to advance and share knowledge on Indoor Environmental Quality and its impacts on health and wellbeing, and make available guidance and expertise to policy makers, HVAC practitioners, building owners, and other stakeholders.



2. SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS

Product sustainability aspects beyond energy consumption are becoming more important. These include the environmental impacts across the product lifecycle, from raw materials extraction to end-of-life. In this context, our sector continues to innovate to make products more energy efficient, durable, repairable, recyclable and to reduce their environmental impacts. That said, assessing environmental performance is expensive, and since there is no single harmonised framework across the EU, rules are proliferating. Navigating this fragmented landscape is a huge challenge for manufacturers, offering little benefit for consumers or the environment.

Eurovent therefore favours sensible and proportional EU regulation that enables manufacturers to manage the environmental performance of their products, according to a single, harmonised methodology and ruleset, which is meaningful, science-based and scalable. This framework must allow for standardised product-level declarations but also enable product data to be integrated into building-specific assessments.

Eurovent is committed to take on a proactive role in this, including by facilitating the development of harmonised Product Category Rules as appropriate, and to work with rule-making bodies to create clarity for our sector.

^{1/} A. Asikainen et al., 'The Proportion of Residences in European Countries with Ventilation Rates below the RegulationBased Limit Value', *Int. J. Vent.*, vol. 12, no. 2, pp. 129-134, Sep. 2013, doi: 10.1080/14733315.2013.11684007.

^{2/} *European Parliamentary Research Service, 2023*

^{3/} *WHO Europe, 2019*

^{4/} *European Commission Joint Research Centre, 2024*

3. DECARBONISATION

Heating accounts for around 50% of final energy use in the EU. The success of the energy transition depends on our ability to heat efficiently and from renewable sources, including with heat pumps. Another key role will be played by heat recovery in the broadest sense, including heat recovery ventilation and repurposing waste heat from cooling.

Although cooling still represents a much smaller share of final energy use in the EU compared to heating, it is growing fast. It is already a major concern in the climate zones of southern Europe, and will become ever more challenging as temperatures continue to rise. Cooling degree days in Europe have quadrupled since 1979⁵. By 2050, cities such

as Paris could see summers as hot as 50 degrees. Besides space cooling, the demand for refrigeration and process cooling is also expected to grow quickly, especially in data centres. These trends have to be anticipated. We will have to cope with more frequent and extreme heat waves and the increased demand for cooling, with energy efficient cooling solutions powered by cheap electricity from low-carbon sources.

Eurovent favours policies that facilitate this transition to efficient and renewable heating and cooling systems, leveraging energy efficiency and heat recovery, smart controls, and thermal energy storage where appropriate.

5/ eurostat, 2024

50%

Heating accounts for around 50% of final energy use in the EU



4. REFRIGERANT TRANSITION

Common refrigerants used in refrigeration, air conditioning and heat pumps are greenhouse gases or have other potential impacts on the environment. Their use will be phased out in accordance with the provisions of existing legislation and international agreements.

Eurovent is committed to facilitate the implementation of this phase-down and the switch to low-GWP refrigerants. That said, our industry has concerns about the impacts on the business case for heat pumps relative to fossil fuel heating, the competitiveness of European manufacturers relative to

their international competitors, and on the technical feasibility to switch to flammable and toxic refrigerants in many applications.

Clarity and predictability must be provided as soon as possible on these points, so that the contours of the design space available to manufacturers finally takes shape, and the industry can timely adapt and make the necessary investments to develop, scale production, and bring to market the made-in-Europe decarbonising technologies that will heat our buildings in the future.

5. CONNECTIVITY AND DIGITALISATION

Smart control technologies allow HVACR systems to connect with users, and leverage building data and characteristics, weather data, and grid signals to optimise energy use and facilitate maintenance.

This connectivity can raise privacy and cybersecurity concerns. A clear legal framework at EU level is needed to clarify who owns data, who can share data, who can access and work on data. Clear and uniform rules are also needed to clarify the responsibilities of manufacturers and other entities for keeping products up to date with cybersecurity standards. The potential use of Artificial Intelligence creates new and potentially unforeseen challenges and opportunities in this space. An appropriate legal framework should address these issues without undermining innovation, which can drive more value for businesses, consumers and the environment.

Eurovent aims to help the European industry to remain at the forefront of these and other digital trends, including by sharing knowledge and building up expertise, in support of further digitalisation, digital growth, and a competitive business advantage over more cost-oriented markets. To that end, Eurovent aims to identify necessary measures and projects, as well as contribute to the coordination of new and existing initiatives.

6. COMPETITIVENESS

Economic trends in Europe are not favourable across a large range of indicators, including GDP growth, investment, manufacturing jobs, patent applications, industry gross value added, export shares, and R&D spending.

The European HVACR industry has been affected by its own challenges, including supply chain disruptions, fluctuations in energy and raw material prices, high inflation and interest rates, and a decline in new construction activities. Many companies are also experiencing challenges to fill vacancies and bring in new talent, especially qualified engineers and technicians. And finally, manufacturers are having to navigate an increasingly complex, burdensome, and fragmented regulatory landscape.

In response, Eurovent advocates for a European competitiveness strategy that addresses access to talent, capital, markets, energy and material inputs for European manufacturing in a global context. This should include a market-centric, technology-neutral, evidence-based regulatory agenda, which provides clarity and certainty, and is mindful of its impacts on European competitiveness.

Furthermore, the Single Market and its principles of free movement must be at the heart of any European competitiveness agenda. Fragmentation and intra-EU obstacles are among the foremost business challenges shared by European companies.

Eurovent further undertakes direct and active measures to promote European business in key markets, including through our local chapters and platforms in the Middle East and India.



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