Energy Efficiency in Industry

Germany is Europe’s manufacturing powerhouse and consistently emphasizes energy efficiency in industrial production. Although among the most efficient in the world, German industry has massive untapped potential for investment in energy efficient production processes and technology. This translates into a substantial business opportunity for service and technology providers.

Germany’s favorable government policy, generous incentives, conducive energy price environment, and a culture that values sustainability have helped create a thriving market for energy efficiency products and services.

Latest GTAI industrial energy efficiency news

April 20: Heat From Sewage Project To Receive Public Funding
April 20: German government makes energy efficiency top procurement criterion
April 20: Waste Heat to Become Primary Source in Dortmund’s District Heat Network
March 20: German Utility Using Waste Heat From Local Textile Industry
July 19: Energy Services Stable in Germany in 2017, Potential Remains
July 19: Record Investments by German Industry in Energy Efficiency
May 19: May 2019: New Competitive Energy Efficiency Funding Program
May 19: Franco-German Waste Heat Recovery Project Technically Feasible
April 19: EUR 30,000 Energy Efficiency Award open for entries
April 19: Further Funding for Energy Saving Meter Pilot Programs
February 19: Germany Restructures State Support for Energy Efficiency in Business
November 18: EUR 6 Billion for Energy Innovation
November 18: German Energy Consumption Set to Fall Sharply in 2018
November 18: Perpetuum Energy Efficiency Award 2019 open for entries
October 2018: 200 Energy Efficiency Business Networks in Germany
October 2018: German SMEs Investing More in Energy Efficiency
October 2018: German Energy Agency Inaugurates First Heat Recovery Flagship Project
August 2018: Sixth Round for Competitive Electrical Efficiency Funding Program
July 2018: Record German Govt R&D Funding for Energy Efficiency in Industry
July 2018: New waste heat atlas for Frankfurt
July 2018: R&D project on industrial waste heat storage launched
July 2018: Successful first year for innovative heat networks funding program
June 2018: German retailers launch efficiency and climate protection initiative
June 2018: German energy efficiency market expected to grow at average 9.1% p.a.
April 2018: Fifth round for competitive electrical efficiency program underway
April 2018: Strong impact of KfW funding program on energy efficiency in production
March 2018: German market for energy services estimated to have reached EUR 9 billion in 2016
March 2018: Framework scenario for grid expansion in Germany
March 2018: District heating from waste incineration
January 2018: Results of first call for tenders for cogeneration plants
January 2018: Successful year for Thuringian industrial energy efficiency funding program
December 2017: Construction starts on major waste heat utilization project in Hamburg
October 24th, 2017: Energy storage in salt being piloted in Berlin power station
October 24th, 2017: German network agency publishes first call for tenders for cogeneration plants
October 19th, 2017: Germany’s “first Power-to-Heat / Power-to-Cool system” enters service
October 2017: Even better funding for waste heat avoidance or utilization
August 2017: Federal fuel cell incentive program expanded to include commercial buildings
August 2017: Germany launches funding for innovative pilot heat networks
July 2017: Vattenfall announces Germany’s largest power-to-heat system
ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN INDUSTRY

July 2017: Germany’s energy efficiency branch growing despite lower energy costs
June 2017: New funding strategy for energy efficiency and renewable heating published
May 2017: Ministry publishes draft CHP auction legislation
April 2017: Competitive electrical efficiency program enters third round
March 2017: Record KfW energy efficiency funding in 2016

Testimonial: Anke Fröbel, Managing Director - Willbee Energy GmbH

"As a provider of energy-efficiency services we decided to enter Germany – the largest economy in Europe. With its strong industry and ambitious climate policies, the country represents a strategic market for us. The huge number of energy-intensive companies in Germany provides a major opportunity for our energy auditing, engineering and metering services." (2019)

Industrial heat recovery, ORC, and heat storage

German industry releases more than 200 TWh in waste heat every year. That’s more than the total annual energy consumption of Denmark. Germany’s many cement works, glass factories, and steel works create large amounts of high-temperature process heat. The country also offers extremely generous federal incentives, meaning manufacturers of heat exchangers, large-scale heat storage, and ORC (heat-to-power) systems will find an extremely market in Germany.
Energy efficiency networks

500 energy efficiency networks will be established in Germany by 2021. To date, 21 industry association and business organizations are involved, alongside the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy. The networks facilitate the systematic and bureaucratic exchange of experience and ideas, normally between 8 and 15 companies with the aim of improving energy efficiency within 2-3 years.

Read more (German)  

Energy consumption in German industry
Heating uses the most energy – with process heat the main application

Energy consumption in industry by application
Germany, 2015

Source: Fraunhofer ISI, September 2016
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