



## **European Solar Thermal Technology Platform presents first findings at estec2007**

**Brussels, 08. May 2007. The demand for renewable heating and cooling is growing steadily and will further accelerate for many years to come. With this the demand for new technologies, such as solar thermal, is also rapidly increasing in this sector. The European Solar Thermal Technology Platform (ESTTP) is at the forefront of these changes, and aims at developing a strategic research plan for solar thermal technology and markets until 2030.**

The European Solar Thermal Technology Platform (ESTTP) was launched by ESTIF and EUREC Agency in May 2006. Three focus groups, consisting of twelve working groups which include experts from across Europe are committed to tackling this assignment. By developing a solar thermal roadmap, the ESTTP is helping the European Union to reach its target of a 20% share of renewable energy sources by 2020.

The first preliminary findings of the focus group "Solar Thermal Systems for Buildings" as well as of the focus group "Solar Thermal Systems for Industrial Processes and Refrigeration" will be presented on the morning of 19<sup>th</sup> June before the opening of the European Solar Thermal Energy Conference estec2007 in Freiburg, Germany. This workshop is open to the public and participants are invited to register via the ESTTP website, [www.esttp.org](http://www.esttp.org).

Several countries are in the process of setting up their own national technology platforms in close cooperation with ESTTP. Among those are not only market leaders such as Austria and Germany, but also newer members of the European Union such as Slovenia. "It is essential that the work of the technology platform is also carried out on a national level as this is the basis for the work at European level. The national technology platforms need to define what is needed in the individual countries." says Gerhard Stryi-Hipp, Chairman of the European Solar Thermal Technology Platform.

However, not only the cooperation with national solar thermal technology platforms is essential for the work of the ESTTP. Close contacts with technology platforms from other sectors and supplier industries are also of great importance. According to Mr. Stryi-Hipp, "We need to look into developing new applications and into how new materials can help us reach our goals. Together with affiliated industries, we can design and implement the next generation of solar thermal technology."

**ESTTP developing solar thermal technology strategy for 2030**

ESTTP helps European Union to reach 20% share of renewable energy sources

Preliminary findings to be presented before estec2007 on 19<sup>th</sup> June in Freiburg, Germany

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A working conference for all supporting group members will be held on October 22 and 23 to evaluate and discuss the draft of the first vision paper. This first edition of the Strategic Research Agenda is to be presented and distributed during a special conference during the European Union Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW) in February 2008.

First edition of Solar Thermal Strategic Research agenda to be presented at EUSEW 2008

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**Further Information:**

Additional Information:

ESTTP Weblink: [www.esttp.org](http://www.esttp.org)

ESTIF Weblink: [www.estif.org](http://www.estif.org)

EUREC Agency: [www.eurec.be](http://www.eurec.be)

Estec2007 Weblink: [www.estec2007.org](http://www.estec2007.org)

ESTIF is proud to support the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign:  
[www.sustenergy.org](http://www.sustenergy.org)

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