



# SolidStandards



Enhancing the implementation of quality and sustainability standards and certification schemes for solid biofuels (EIE/11/218)



D4.5f  
Workshop report  
2 December 2013  
Zagreb, Croatia



## SolidStandards-project

The SolidStandards project addresses ongoing and recent developments related to solid biofuel quality and sustainability issues, in particular the development of related standards and certification systems. In the SolidStandards project, solid biofuel industry players will be informed and trained in the field of standards and certification and their feedback will be collected and provided to the related standardization committees and policy makers.

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## About this document

This document is part of work package 4.6 of the SolidStandards project. It is the summary report of the national workshop on sharing the experience on standards implementation. This document was prepared in **December 2013** by:

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## Intelligent Energy Europe

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## 1. Event summary

In Croatia the sharing of experience on standards implementation within the IEE SolidStandards project was organised within the 4<sup>th</sup> *International Energy Conference: How to Use Wood Biomass for Regional Development and New Investment Projects in Economy and Local Government in SEE* (<http://www.wood-energy.info/en/o-konferenciji.php>). The conference was organised by the Croatian Wood Cluster and was co-organised by REGEA, and a special presentation and Q/A session of the conference was dedicated to the SolidStandards project and the standard implementation in the wood pellet production company Energy Pellets Ltd.

The conference was attended by over 100 persons, including representatives of other pellet producers in Croatia and one of the main results of the session on standard implementation was the inquiry and desire of two more pellet producers to implement quality assurance standards and obtain the ENplus certificate.

## 2. Participants

The conference had an attendance of over 100 participants, which included wood pellet producers, representatives of ministries, cities and municipalities, representatives of wood biomass boiler producers, representatives of wood processing industry and potential pellet producers, representatives of pellet consumers and other interested stakeholders. The decision to organise the SolidStandards workshop within the national conference was mainly motivated by the desire to ensure a wide audience and overall participation of stakeholders, which was achieved.

## 3. Programme

### 3.1. Agenda

The Agenda of the conference is presented in the following text.

- 09:00-10:00 Registration of participants
- 10:00-10:45 Opening, welcome and introductory speeches:  
REGEA – Co-organizer of the conference  
Fund for Environment Protection and Energy Efficiency – Partner  
Hrvatske šume Ltd.  
Association of pellet, briquette and wood biomass producers  
Ministry of Regional Development and EU funds  
Ministry of Agriculture
- 10:45-11:30 Main panel discussion: Energy projects in the region, interest of foreign investors, main advantages and pitfalls of investment projects  
Participants: energy companies, institutions, project designers, equipment suppliers, energy agencies
- 11:30-11:50 Q&A session
- 11:50-12:30 Main presentations  
Velimir Šegon, REGEA: Example of ENplus certification of pellet production within the SolidStandards project  
Bruno Bogdan, ENERKON: Example of biomass gasification

- Vedran Uran, Energetske usluge d.o.o.: Example of efficient and technologically advanced cogeneration facility
- 12:30-12:40 Case study example: Raoul Cvečić Bole, director of Energy Pellets Ltd. Production and utilization of wood pellets
  - 12:40-13:15 Q&A session
  - 13:15-14:00 Lunch break
  - 14:00-15:30 Workshops (in parallel)  
Workshop 1: Cogeneration and new technologies  
Workshop 2: Energy strategies and financing of RES projects
  - 15:30-16:00 Plenary discussion
  - 16:00-16:15 Conference closing and conclusions

### **3.2. Situation in Croatia**

Utilisation of wood pellets and the solid biofuels market in Croatia is at an early stage of development. Currently there are 10 companies which produce in total approximately 140.000 tonnes per year and export over 95% of their production to other EU countries (mostly Italy, Austria and Slovenia). Due to the fact that pellet producers have to compete on the EU market, the introduction of standards related to quality assurance and quality control and afterwards obtaining the relevant quality certificates (mainly ENplus) has increasingly become an important issue for Croatian pellet producers and currently 3 pellet producers have obtained the ENplus certificate (including the Energy Pellets company which was certified within the activities of the SolidStandards project).

One of the outcomes of the conference and the sharing of experience of the introduction of standards and certification within the SolidStandards project was the direct inquiry and desire of two pellet producers present at the conference to implement standards and obtain the ENplus certificate.

## 4. Quality of the workshop

### 4.1. Feedback from participants

The feedback from participants at the conference was gathered through a formal Q&A session after the presentations regarding the introduction of standards and ENplus certification as well as through informal discussions during the lunch break. The main questions coming from participants were related to the costs of the introduction of quality assurance standards and ENplus certification as well as the general procedure of the certification and the specific steps and actions to be taken. REGEA provided answers to all these questions and invited all interested parties to direct meetings in order to provide more detailed information.

As one of the main outcomes of the presentations and the interaction with the participants, two Croatian pellet production companies expressed their interest to introduce standards and obtain the ENplus certificate, specifically the following:

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e-mail: [predrag.vucicevic@sk.t-com.hr](mailto:predrag.vucicevic@sk.t-com.hr)  
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### 4.2. Lessons learned

Overall the conference was quite successful in the terms of number of participants as well as the additional interest of pellet producers to introduce quality assurance standards and obtain the certificates. In that regard the decision to organise the sharing of knowledge and experience within the SolidStandards project not as a separate workshop but as a part of the national conference was proved to be a very good one.

## 5. Conclusions

The conference indicated the need and desire of Croatian pellet producers to introduce quality assurance standards and obtain the relevant certificates (mainly ENplus) which prove their dedication to production of high quality pellets. Several pellet producers present at the conference asked and were in turn provided with additional information regarding implementation of standards. In that regard it can be concluded that the implementation of the SolidStandards project was very timely and relevant, and fulfilled the needs of the wood pellet industry in Croatia.

## Annex I - Participants list



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#### 4. Međunarodna energetska konferencija o biomasi

Zagreb, 02.12.2013.

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