

The PellCert project

The key objective of the project European Pellet Quality Certification is to **create and implement an ambitious and uniform certification system** for pellets in Europe, called “ENplus”, which will be used both by the **heat and the power markets**, for intra-European trade but also for imports.

In addition, **sustainability criteria** will be designed to be part of ENplus or come on top and create an “ENplus GREEN” scheme. The project is proposed by a **unique consortium of 10 pellet associations**, ensuring a direct relationship with pellets market players. LABORELEC represents the **interest of the power sector**, and coordinate activities with members of EURELECTRIC. The European Biomass Association AEBIOM is leading the project.

The finalisation of the **European pellet standard EN 14961-2** was a first very important step to create a harmonized set of pellet qualities in Europe and ENplus contributes to the **implementation of this standard**. A solid European quality certification schemes is crucial to simplify work of the pellets producers and increase confidence of pellets equipment manufacturers and consumers.

Visit the project website www.PellCert.eu for:

-  (Inter)national market reports
-  Pellet statistics
-  Sustainability criteria
-  Schedule of events

Give your input and help making the ENplus certification even better!



European Pellet Quality Certification:
Creating a uniform system for Europe
www.PellCert.eu

Project coordinator and partners



European Biomass Association
www.aebiom.org



ProPellets Austria
www.propellets.at



German Energy Wood and Wood Pellet Association
www.depv.de



Swedish Bioenergy Association
www.svebio.se



Finnish Pellet Energy Association
www.pellettienergia.fi



Spanish Bioenergy Association
www.avebiom.org



Propellet France
www.propellet.fr



Italian Agroforestry Energy Association
www.aiel.cia.it



Valorization Biomass Association
www.valbiom.be



Portuguese Pellet Association
www.anpeb.pt



Hungarian Pellet Association
www.mapellet.hu



LABORELEC
www.laborelec.com



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ENplus -

the new benchmark

for wood pellets



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The new European standard for wood pellets (EN 14961-2)...

...and its implementation through the ENplus certification



Why do wood pellets need a new certificate?

New European standards for solid biomass fuels have been introduced in 2011. They include a **standard for wood pellets (EN 14961-2)** which ENplus helps to implement all over Europe. The individual national standards are no longer valid.

Which quality classes exist in ENplus?

The standard includes **quality classes A1 and A2** that are also implemented via ENplus. Class A1 is the premium quality used in private household boilers or stoves. A1 pellets produce the least amount of ash and fulfill the highest requirements. Class A2 is used in larger installations and produces more ash. Industrial pellets are not called "ENplus", but can be certified as "EN B".

Is ENplus following exactly the EU standard?

The standard as well as ENplus include **bulk density & fines** as new parameters. The **ash melting** behavior is voluntary in the standard, but mandatory in ENplus. A high ash softening point is an essential quality criterion for pellets.

Important quality criteria of ENplus

Parameter (unit)	ENplus A1	ENplus A2
Length (mm)	Up to 40 ¹⁾	Up to 40 ¹⁾
Fines (% mass)	≤1 ²⁾	≤1 ²⁾
Ash content (% mass)	≤0.7 ³⁾	≤1.5 ³⁾
Ash melting temp. (°C)	≥1200 ⁴⁾	≥1100 ⁴⁾

¹⁾ 1% of all pellets can be longer than 40mm, but max 45mm

²⁾ Particles < 3.15mm, fines at the final point of delivery

³⁾ Ash content at 550°C

⁴⁾ Ash for determining the melting temperature is created at 815°C

How do the boiler/stove manufacturers see ENplus?

Most manufacturers embrace ENplus and recommend using ENplus pellets and include ENplus in the **warranties** of their installations. Also installers recommend ENplus.

What is new in ENplus?

Until now quality labels only focused on the production. ENplus goes one step further and includes additionally to the strict production criteria also the trade afterwards. Every (intermediary) trader **until the final delivery** to the consumer is controlled, thus ensuring adequate transport and storage along the chain.

How does ENplus ensure the right quality?

ENplus is a very **transparent system**. Identification numbers for both producers and traders secure an extensive **traceability** of the product. ENplus is the new benchmark for the consumers and the operation of their boilers and stoves.

Does ENplus take new developments into account?

Yes! The involved associations represent the pellet sector in Europe and work closely together with all stakeholders to quickly respond to market needs and in order to adapt and optimize the ENplus system accordingly. The EU project PelCert has been established to maximize this stakeholder involvement.

Are pellets more expensive because of ENplus?

The ENplus certification **does not cause high extra costs** for producers or traders. Furthermore, consumers can choose pellets with the same high quality from a wider production base, thus fostering **competition**. Pellet producers on the other hand profit from **easier access to new markets**.

Who manages ENplus?

The **European Pellet Council (EPC)** brings together national pellet associations from all over Europe to manage ENplus and also discuss issues like safety, security of supply, education and training, and the quality of pellet using devices. For more information visit the EPC website.

How can the consumer identify ENplus pellets?

The ENplus logo is used together with an **identification number** which appears according to the form of pellets delivery either on the bag or on the delivery note (bulk delivery). All ID numbers are listed on the ENplus website.

How can producers and traders use ENplus?

A contract with an independent **certification body**, which oversees the process, is made. Once conformity with the ENplus regulations is approved, EPC or a national pellet association allows the use of the ENplus seal.

How is the conformity to ENplus regulations checked?

Pellet plants get **audited once a year** to inspect the production process and the quality management. Pellet samples are taken and analyzed in specialized labs. Traders are checked as well and agree to follow strict rules. Producers and traders are free to choose any **accredited company** listed on the ENplus website for the audits and tests. Training courses for new auditors are organized to ensure the same quality of audits all over Europe.

How is the market uptake of ENplus in Europe?

ENplus is spreading quickly since its first introduction in Germany in 2010. By the end of 2011 pellet producers from **Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, Romania, Spain, United Kingdom and even Canada** are producing ENplus pellets (around 3 million tons of production capacity). Already 90% of produced pellets in Austria and Germany are ENplus!

More information on ENplus and its development:

www.enplus-pellets.eu

www.PellCert.eu