

Press Release

COP21: Transparency of heat consumption contributes to climate protection

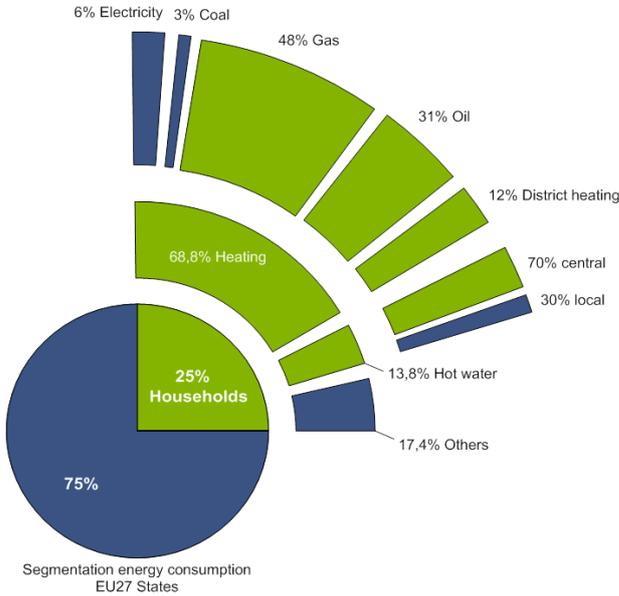
Essen/Paris, November 30, 2015. Political decision-makers from all over the world are negotiating climate protection action at the UN Climate Conference (COP21) starting today in Paris. The aim is to limit global warming to two degrees Celsius. Increasing energy efficiency in buildings can make an important contribution to this. To ensure this succeeds, however, residents must obtain greater transparency of their heat consumption.

Heating and hot water account for the lion's share of a household's energy consumption. Even small changes in the residents' heating behaviour can help to increase the energy efficiency of a building. One requirement for this is greater transparency of the residents' own consumption, for example through submetering, i.e. the consumption-dependent billing of heating and hot water costs. The advantage for the users: every resident only pays for the energy he actually uses. It has been proved that this motivates people to pay more attention to their own heating behaviour.

The EU Commission estimates that annual heating consumption per household can thus be reduced by an average of 25%. In Germany alone, where submetering has been mandatory since 1981, 350 million tonnes of CO₂ emissions have been saved as a result since then. Furthermore, a pilot project of the German Energy Agency (dena) shows that the savings potential can be increased by about another 16% if the annual bill is supplemented by monthly consumption information. According to the international consultancy, Ecofys, 1.3 million tonnes of CO₂ emissions could be economically saved in this way every year, assuming a savings potential of just 5%. That roughly corresponds to the annual consumption of a city with 400,000 inhabitants.

In view of this tremendous savings potential, the EU Commission has obliged all member states to introduce submetering by early 2017 and therefore to make an important contribution towards achieving the European climate protection goals. However, the implementation proceeds slowly in many member states. As the EU Commission announced recently, the EU member states will be able to cut their CO₂ emissions above and beyond the target of 20% by 2020 but will fail to achieve the planned energy efficiency objectives. As effective climate protection action is now being discussed in Paris, submetering makes sense both for Europe and the rest of the world as a low-cost and easy-to-implement method.

Visitors to the UN Climate Conference can obtain more information on submetering as an approach to climate protection at ista's stand at the Solution COP21 event, which is being held in the Grand Palais in Paris from December 4 to 12, 2015.



[Graphic: Energy consumption in the EU]

About ista

ista is one of the leading companies in improving energy efficiency in the building sector. With our products and services, we help to sustainably save energy, CO₂ and costs. ista has specialised in so-called submetering, in other words the individual metering, billing and transparent visualisation of consumption data for multi-family buildings and commercial properties. As a basis for this, we use a portfolio of ultramodern hardware components for energy data management. It includes radio-based heat cost allocators, water meters, heat meters as well as the relevant installation systems. The company employs more than 4,700 people in 25 countries worldwide and helps roughly twelve million units (apartments and commercial properties) to save important resources. Moreover, ista makes a major contribution towards tenant safety with radio-based smoke alarm devices and drinking water analyses. The ista Group recorded sales of EUR 781.2 million in 2014. More information available at www.ista.com

Contacts for further information:

ista International GmbH
Corporate Communications & Public Affairs

Dr Mirko-Alexander Kahre
Tel.: +49 (0) 201 459 3281
E-mail: Mirko-Alexander.Kahre@ista.com

Dr Torben Pfau
Tel.: +49 (0) 201 459 3725
E-mail: Torben.Pfau@ista.com