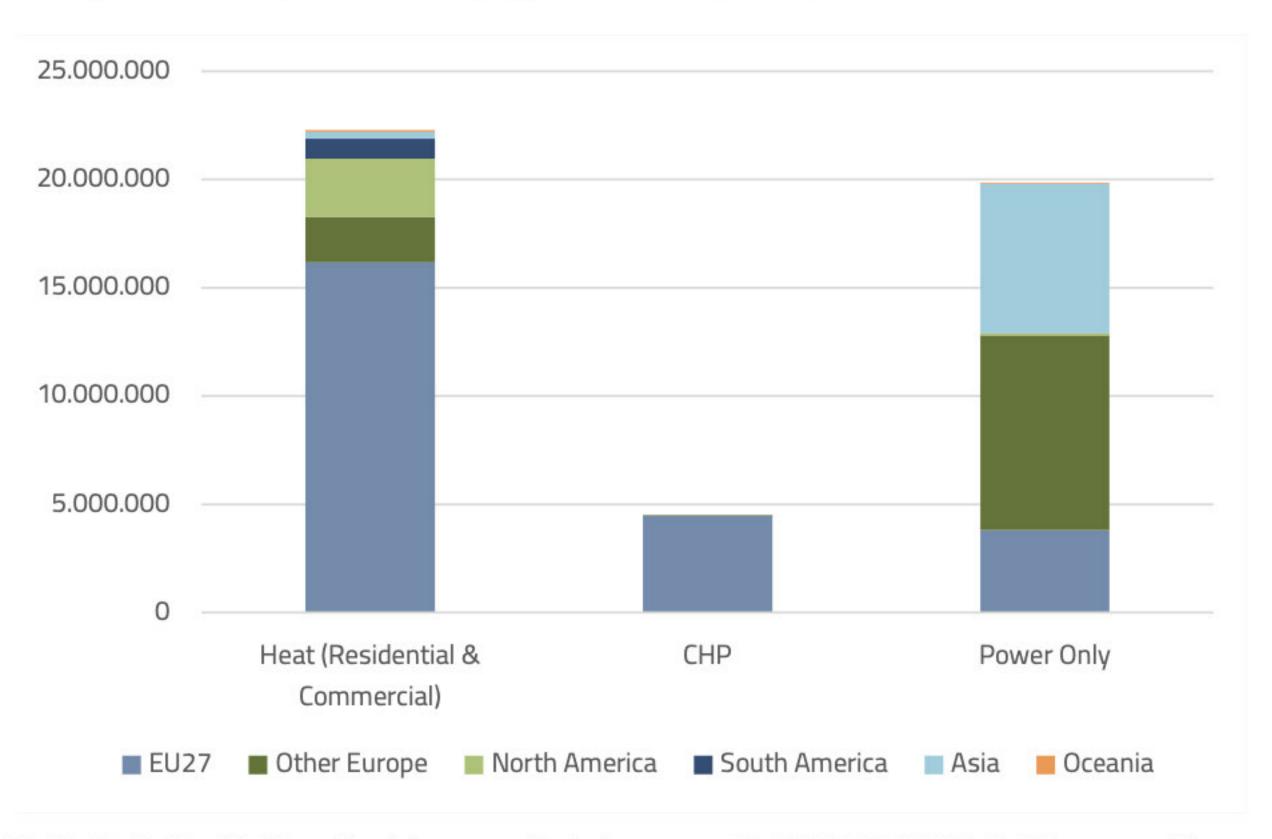








Figure 5 World pellet consumption in 2021 by type of end-use (tonnes)



Note: LV, PT, US, CL, JP, KR, AU, NZ residential consumption is from 2020. FR, LV, PT, SI, SK, US, CL, NZ commercial consumption is from 2020. BE, PL, SI, CA CHP consumption is from 2020. PT, CA, NZ. Power Only consumption is from 2020.

Source: EPC survey 2022; Hawkins Wright

Figure 6 Distribution of world pellet consumption in 2021 (tonnes and %)

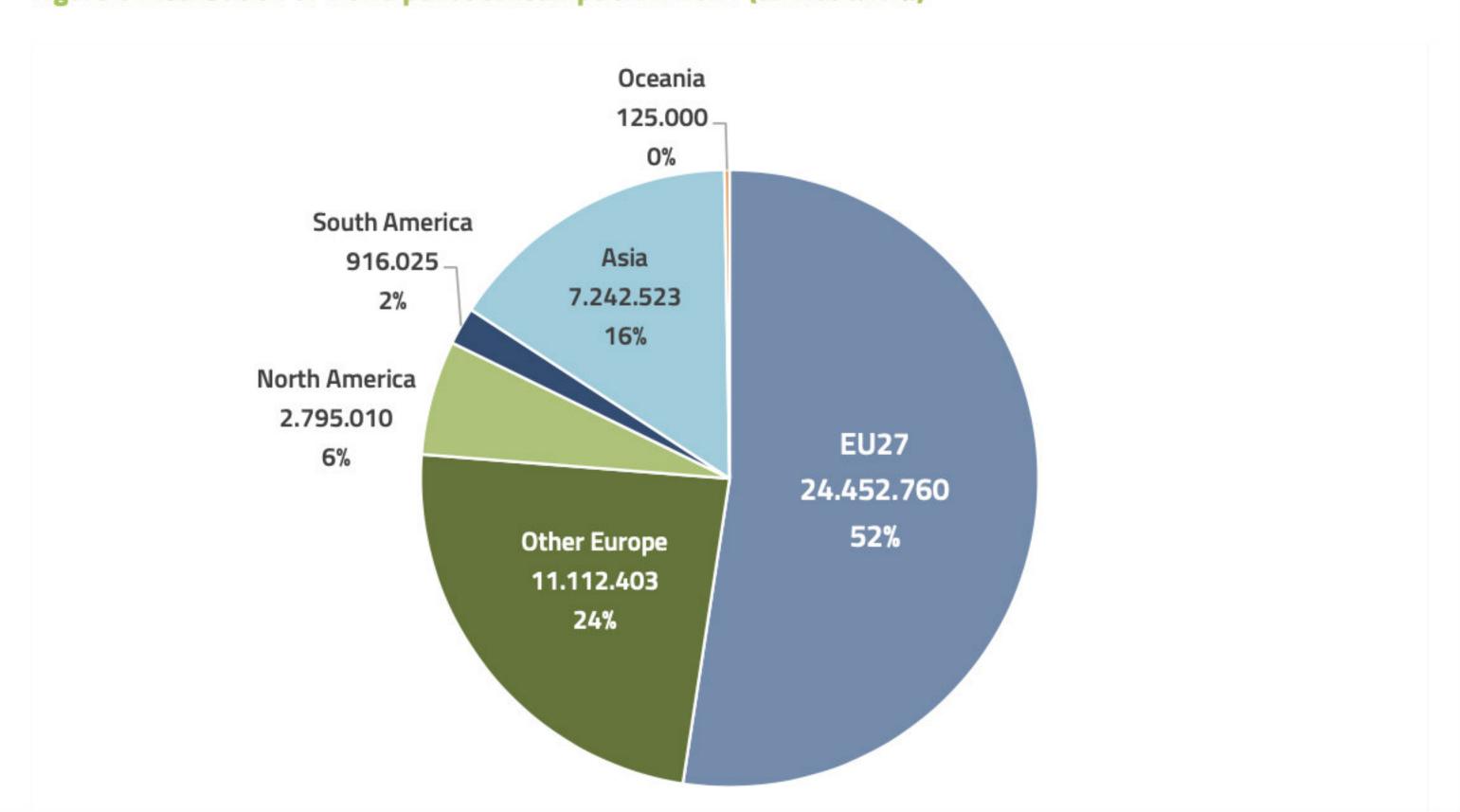
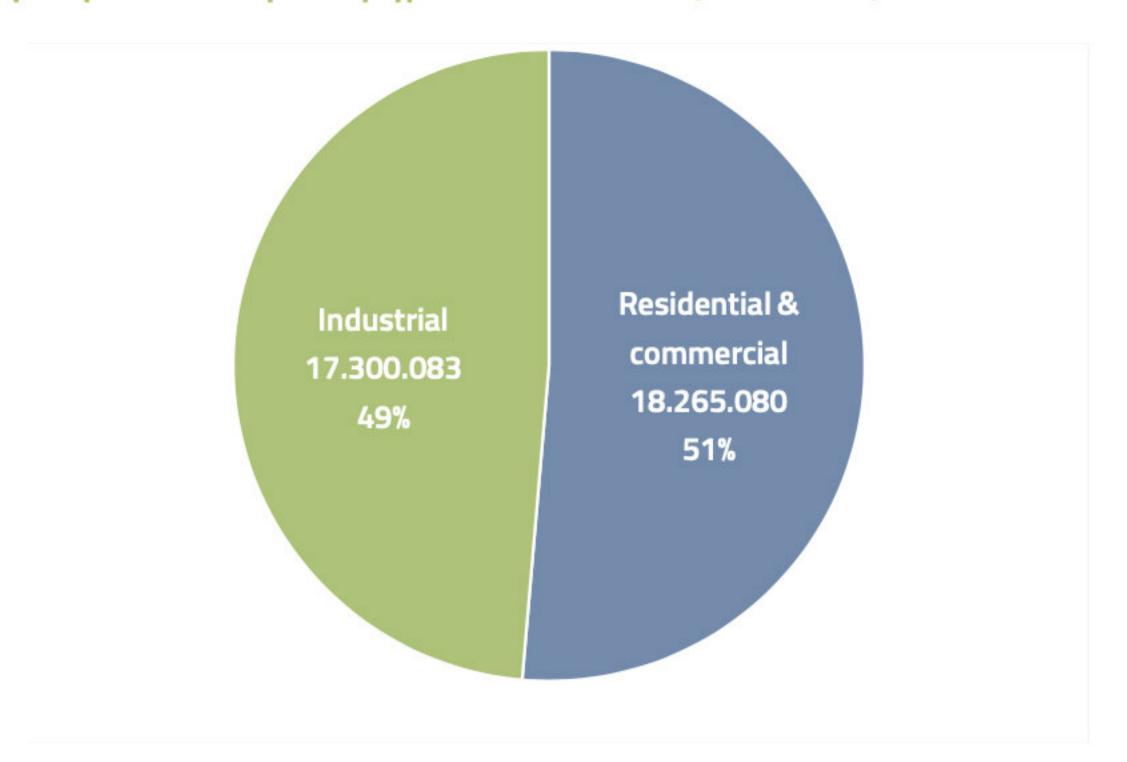


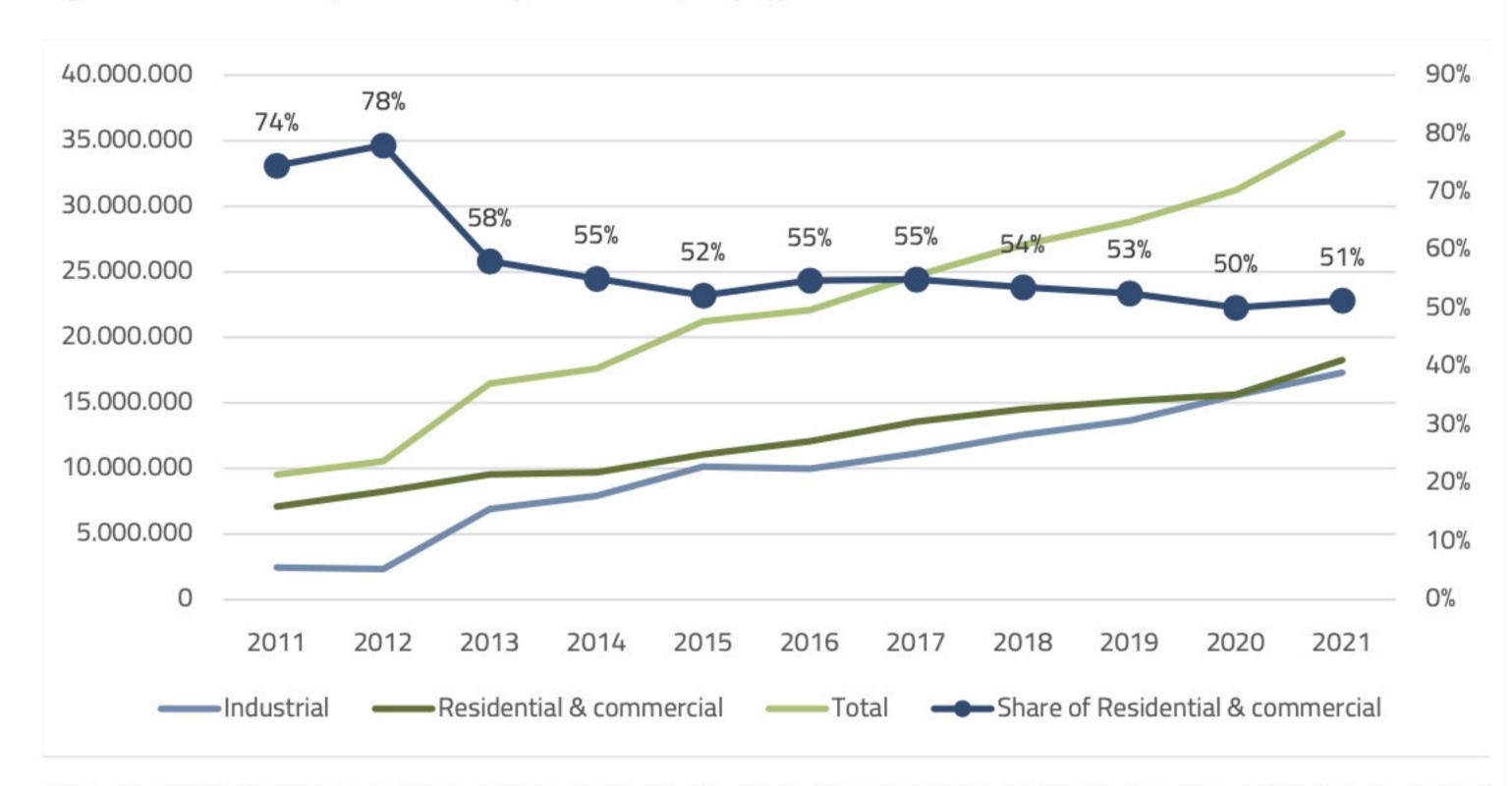
Figure 24 European pellet consumption by type of end use in 2021 (tonnes and %)



Note: LV, PT residential consumption is from 2020. FR, LV, PT, SI, SK commercial consumption is from 2020. BE, PL, SI CHP consumption is from 2020. PT Power Only consumption is from 2020.

Source: EPC survey 2022; Bioenergy International, Hawkins Wright

Figure 25 Evolution of pellet consumption in Europe by type (tonnes and %)

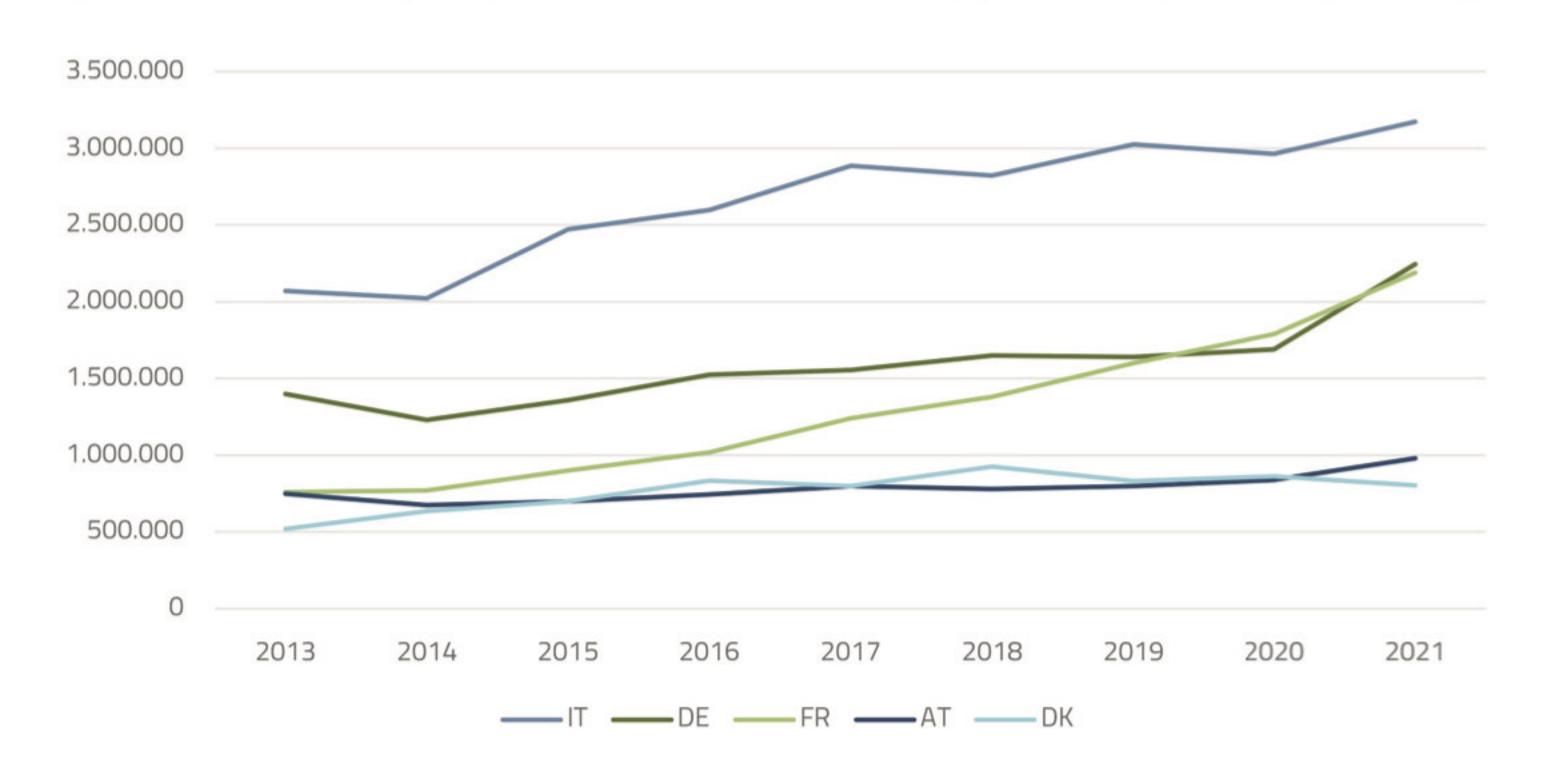


Note: LV, PT residential consumption is from 2020. FR, LV, PT, SI, SK commercial consumption is from 2020. BE, PL, SI CHP consumption is from 2020. PT Power Only consumption is from 2020.

Source: EPC survey 2022; Bioenergy International, Hawkins Wright

3.2.2.1 RESIDENTIAL PELLET CONSUMPTION

Figure 32 Evolution of Europe's top 5 countries for residential (<50kW) pellet consumption in Europe (tonnes)



ProPellets Switzerland

EXPERT COMMENT



Pellets Market in Switzerland 2021

In the year 2021 a great increase in pellets use was registered. ProPellets.ch estimates a sale of 418.000 tonnes, an increase of 22% compared to 2020. 198.000 tonnes were ENplus certified, an increase of 20% compared to the previous year. ProPellets. ch estimates the total production in Switzerland at 324.000 tons (+20%) of which 271.000 tonne (+16%) were ENplus certified. Import remains a the same low level as in 2020, with 80.000 tonnes there was only a minor increase of 2% compared to 2020. With 43.500 tonnes, more than half of the imported pellets were ENplus certified, an increase of 0.8% compared to 2020. Overall, the production, trade and import of ENplus certified pellets did not increase in the same volume as the total volume.

These figures are collected by ProPellets.ch durin the monthly production and trade survey and the customs statistics of the Swiss federation. The production of about 10 small producers of pellets which do not participate in the surveys of ProPellets.ch are estimated at 35.000 tonnes and are included in the statistics.

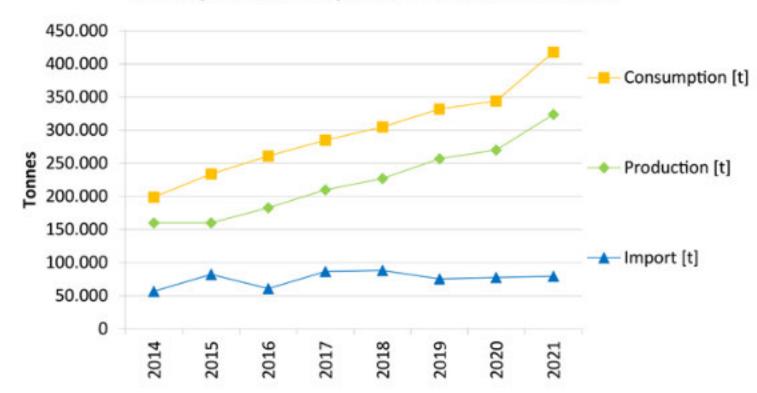
The whole market around pellets registered in 2021 a much larger increase than the previous years. Pellet boiler sales increased by 46% compared to 2021 and many producers invested in expanding their production. Still, the higher demand could be covered by the increased production, even if it was a close call. To minimize the risk of a pellet shortage and ensure supplies in short and long term, ProPellets.ch increased the market analysis and is in close contact with the federal office for national economic supply.

2021 was a tense year and we expect the next few years to be at least as demanding.

Sabine L'Eplattenier-Burri

Managing Director
ProPellets.ch

Development of the pellet market in Switzerland



Source: proPellets.ch, Swiss federal stastitical office 2021



Pellet boilers sold in Switzerland 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 500 400 300 200 100 5 - 13 kW 13 - 20 kW 20 - 50 kW 50 - 100 kW > 100 kW

Source: Holzfeuerungen Schweiz 2021

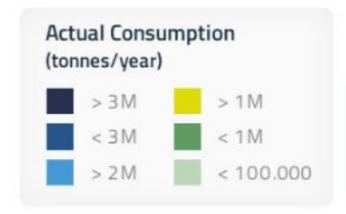


3.2.3 European industrial pellet consumption

Figure 43 European map of industrial pellet consumption in 2021



(in 2021, tonnes, %) Source: EPC Survey 2022, Hawkins Wright

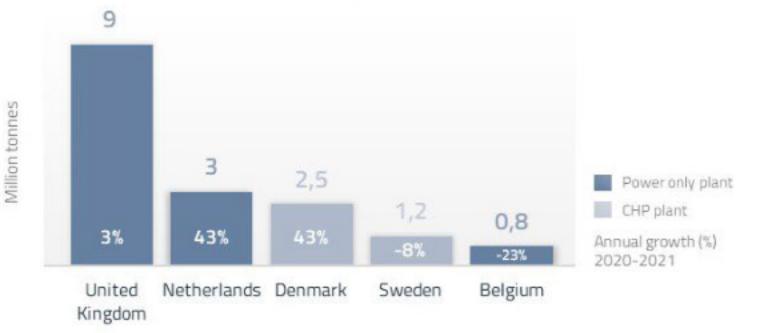


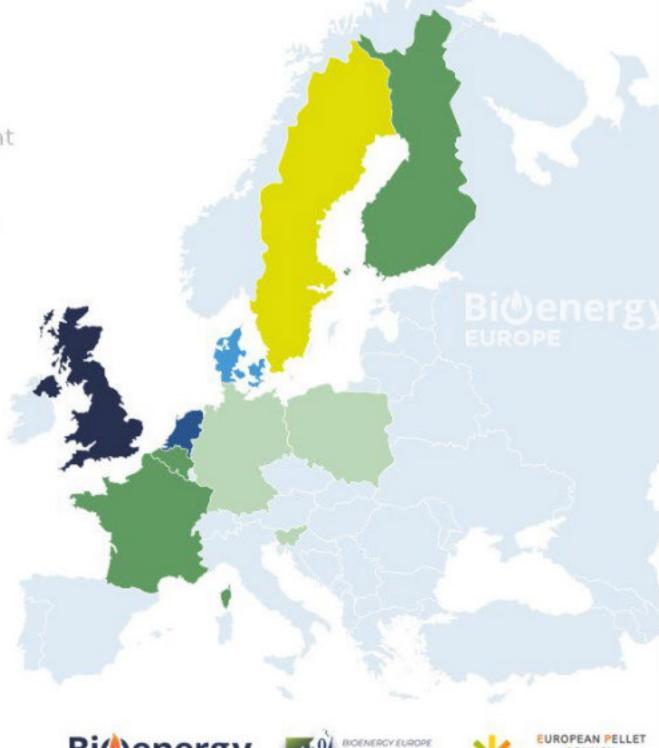
EU-27 industrial pellet consumption increased by 21% between 2020 and 2021

2021 European Consumption 17,3
Million tonnes

2021 EU-27 Consumption **8,3** Million tonnes

Consumption in top 5 European countries in 2021













Source: EPC survey 2022, Hawkins Wright

Percent of homes with pellet stoves. The top five are Italy, France, Spain, Austria, and Germany.

| cria, aria GC | i i i i a i i y . |
|---------------|-------------------|
| IT | 7,11% |
| FR | 4,62% |
| ES | 2,31% |
| AT | 1,44% |
| DE | 0,57% |
| SE | 0,47% |
| EL | 0,38% |
| HR | 0,26% |
| LV | 0,26% |
| cz | 0,20% |
| SK | 0.04% |

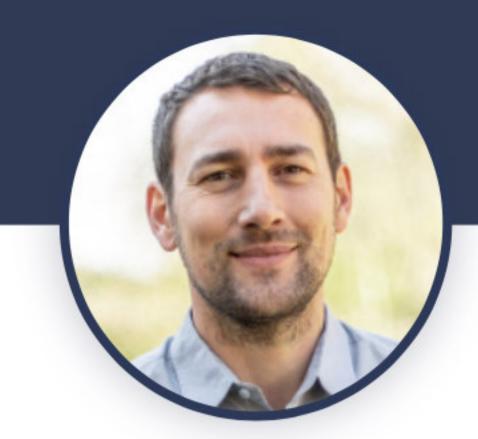
3.3.2 European residential boiler market

Table 11 Average percentage of households with pellet boilers in 2021 in select European countries (%)

| AT | 3,89% |
|----|-------|
| LV | 1,61% |
| SE | 1,28% |
| PL | 0,82% |
| DE | 0,81% |
| CZ | 0,81% |
| IT | 0,53% |
| FR | 0,41% |
| SK | 0,35% |
| ES | 0,32% |
| EL | 0,15% |
| HR | 0,06% |
| | |

ÖkoFEN

EXPERT COMMENT



Extraordinary times for the residential pellet boiler market

In 2021, the momentum of recent years continued. Pellet heating is now considered an established solution in most regions of Europe. To follow the demand, all manufacturers of boilers have greatly expanded their production capacities. In our case, the production volume was even tripled within two years.

Until now, the main target group was clearly the 18 million oil-fired heating systems still in operation in Europe.

Since the war in Ukraine, however, the target group of gas heaters is gaining strongly in importance. Many customers are extremely insecure and also want to get away from gas for moral reasons. Above all, however, the prices for gas have risen sharply in many countries and heating is often no longer affordable for homeowners.

This customer segment is more difficult for the pellet heating market because these customers are not used to needing space for fuel storage, but on the other hand the market is several dimensions larger and even a few percent shift has a big impact. In Germany, Austria and France alone, 1.4 million gas heating systems were sold last year. That is 69% of all heating systems sold! By comparison, pellet boilers were sold 101,000 units in these countries in 2021.

Unfortunately, however, the market for pellets has not been spared the effects of the war and the associated energy crisis in Europe. Sharply increased prices and, in some cases, poor availability cost us a lot of confidence among end customers.

Trust is also being lost with the discussion about REDIII. It is completely incomprehensible how EU politicians, in the midst of the biggest energy crisis in post-war history, question the only year-round renewable energy source, stainable forest products. Even more so when pellets for the heating market are predominantly produced from sawmill residues and are therefore a prime example of circular economy.

Despite the negative headlines surrounding these issues, however, more and more people want to switch to green heat from pellets. Technologically, a lot has happened in recent years. Today, there are devices that are ultra-clean and highly efficient. And the most important thing: the switch can be made NOW and immediately brings independence and climate protection.

Therefore, we are still firmly convinced that pellets will play a major role in the heating market of the future. In addition to good and affordable products, this requires above all reliability in the supply and prices of pellets. We are all hopeful to get this back in the course of the next months.

Stefan Ortner CEO ÖkoFEN

3.5 European pellets price

Limitation of liability - Under no circumstance shall EPC and its contributors be liable for the exactitude, or the use made of the price information available in this section. Moreover, the high unpredictability of today's market makes it difficult to provide any kind of forecast on its development.

Table 17 VAT rate for pellets compared with general VAT rate applied in select European countries in 2021 (%)

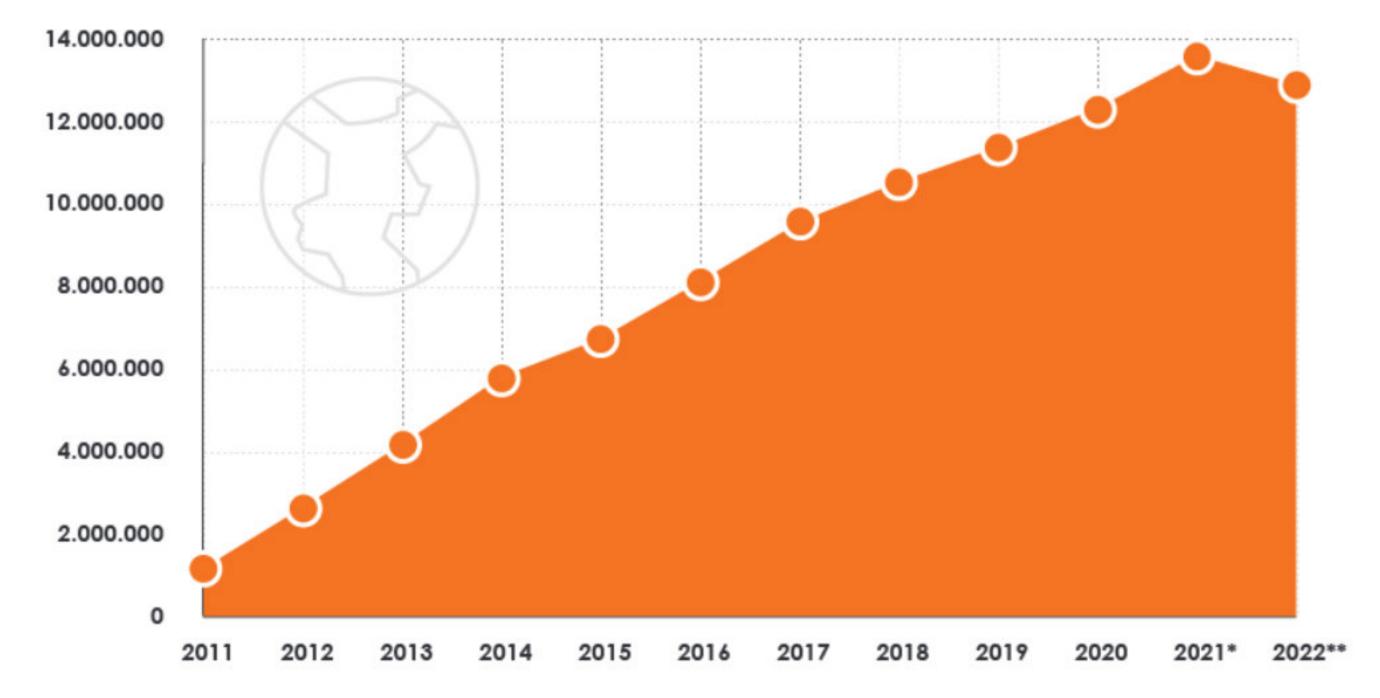
| | 2021 VAT rate for wood pellets (in %) | 2021 General VAT rate (in %) |
|----|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| AL | 20 | 20 |
| AT | 13 | 20 |
| BA | 17 | 17 |
| CZ | 15 | 21 |
| DE | 7 | 19 |
| EL | 24 | 24 |
| ES | 21 | 21 |
| IT | 22 | 22 |
| LV | 12 | 21 |
| ME | 21 | 21 |
| PT | 23 | 23 |
| RO | 19 | 19 |
| RS | 10 | 20 |
| SK | 20 | 20 |

Source: EPC survey 2022

4 Focus on EN*plus*®

Figure 67 Worldwide ENplus® certified production from 2011 to 2022 (tonnes)





^{*}Estimated. Due to the war situation numbers for Ukraine, Russia and Belarus could not be confirmed.

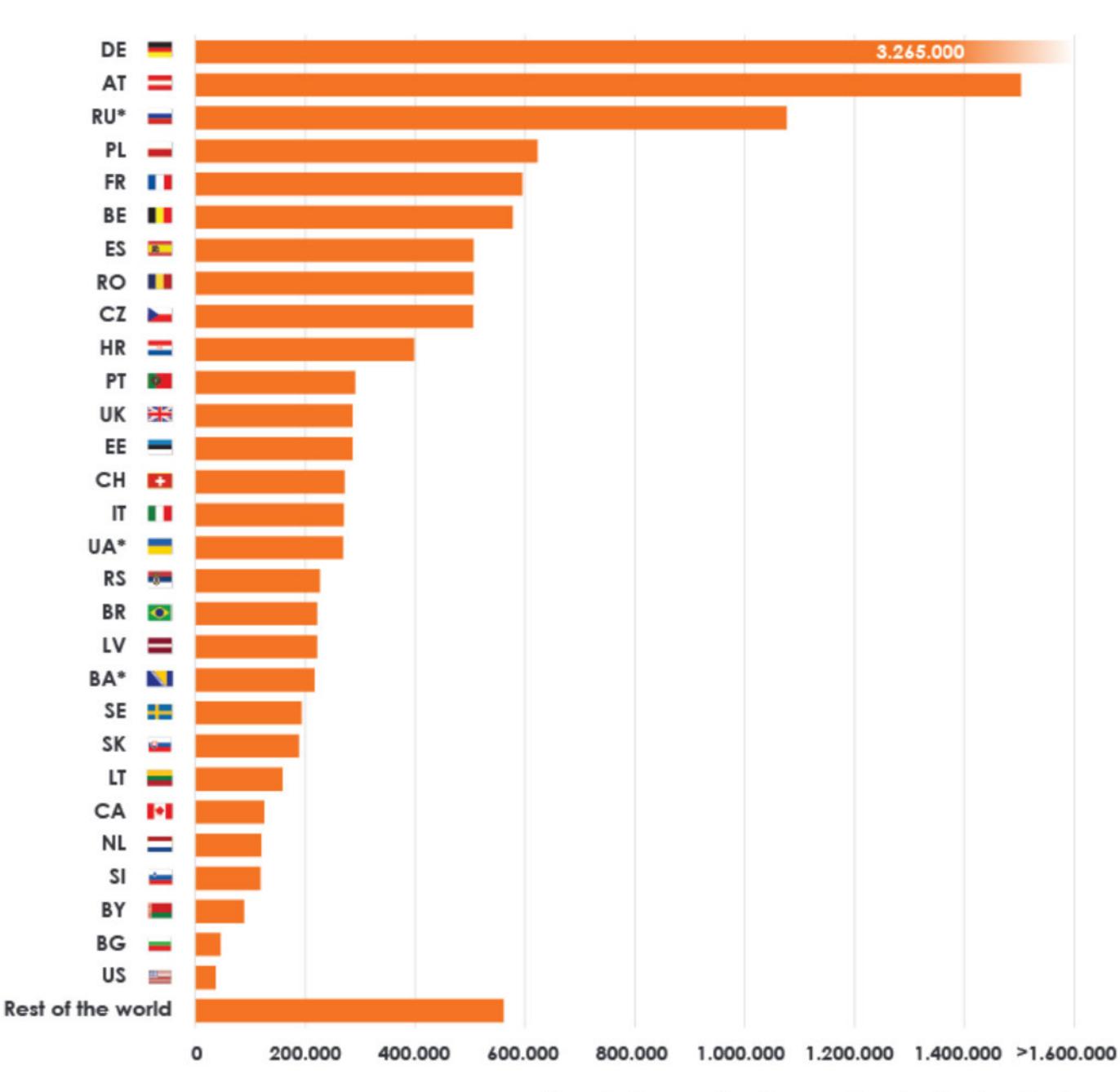
Source: ENplus®

^{**}Estimated. The numbers do not include Russian and Belarussian estimates.



Volumes of ENplus® certified pellets produced per country

(2021*, tonnes)





ENplus® Communication Statistical Report

OCTOBER 2022

Fraud updates – General overview

Since mid-2022, the ENplus® Management has witnessed a sharp increase in the number of counterfeit certificates reported by both certified companies, scheme partners, and end-users, to its fraud management team, now representing 53% of all trademark fraud investigated and managed by ENplus®. The sudden rise in certificate falsifications could be explained by the growing demand for pellets, leading to a surge in such fraudulent practices. This wave of new reported fraud is particularly noticeable in Poland (15% share of all fraud cases received in 2022), Ukraine (9%), Germany (8%) and the Netherlands (6%). Additionally, 25% of new fraud has an unknown origin.

Bioenergy Europe and the National Licensers of ENplus® continue to place significant effort and resources into combating fraud. Practically, 130 fraud cases have been or are currently being handled by this network of partners since the beginning of 2022, of which more than a third (or 35%) is already solved, for a total of 832 fraud cases solved by ENplus® since 2014 (63% of all cases handled). Moreover, an additional 22 infringing companies were included this year on the ENplus® Blacklist, available on the ENplus® website (173 in total since 2014), making their actions known to the wider public, and thus safeguarding the pellet market as a whole.

The recent figures give an overview of the positive results of fraud fighting and highlight once again the importance of this activity. Last year, the total number of cases processed since 2014 reached the symbolic mark of 1000, and as of October 2022, more than 1300 cases have or are being dealt with, an all-time high. In 2022, marketing fraud (the unauthorised use of ENplus® in communication material) is the type of fraud with the second highest percentage (29%), followed by product misuses (the fraudulent use of the ENplus® seal on pellet bags) as the third most common type of fraud handled (13%). Finally, a small number of cases (5%) do not fit into any of those categories.

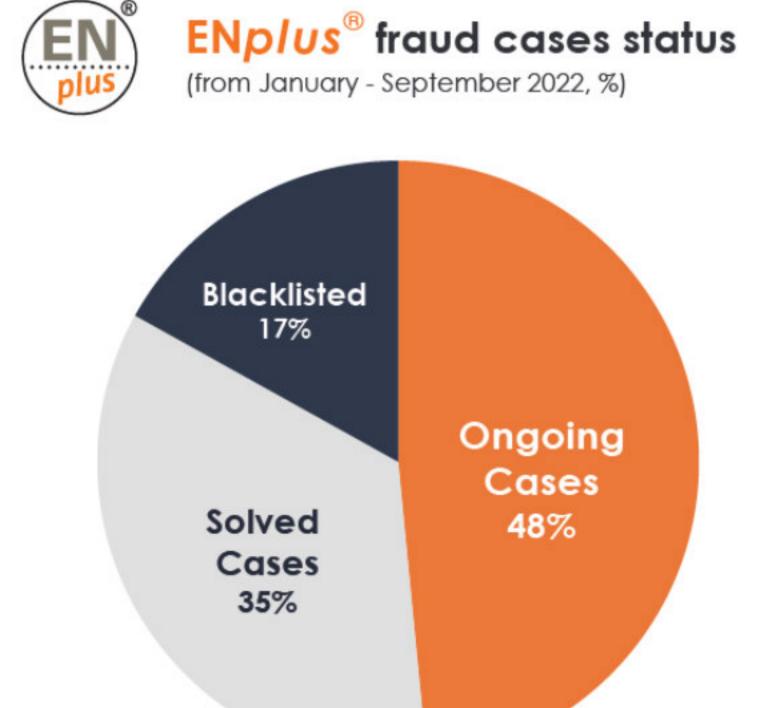
Eoin Stuckens ENplus® Fraud Officer Bioenergy Europe







Figure 77 ENplus® fraud cases status from January 2022 until September 2022



Source: ENplus®

COUNTRY ABBREVIATIONS

| European Union (27 members) | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Austria | | | | |
| Belgium | | | | |
| Bulgaria | | | | |
| Cyprus | | | | |
| Czech Republic | | | | |
| Germany | | | | |
| Denmark | | | | |
| Estonia | | | | |
| Greece | | | | |
| Spain | | | | |
| Finland | | | | |
| France | | | | |
| Croatia | | | | |
| Hungary | | | | |
| Ireland | | | | |
| Italy | | | | |
| Lithuania | | | | |
| Luxembourg | | | | |
| Latvia | | | | |
| Malta | | | | |
| Netherlands | | | | |
| Poland | | | | |
| Portugal | | | | |
| Romania | | | | |
| Sweden | | | | |
| Slovenia | | | | |
| Slovak Republic | | | | |
| | | | | |

| AL | Albania | | | |
|----|--------------------------|--|--|--|
| AU | Australia | | | |
| BA | Bosnia Herzegovina | | | |
| BR | Brazil | | | |
| BY | Belarus | | | |
| CA | Canada | | | |
| CH | Switzerland | | | |
| CL | Chile | | | |
| CN | China | | | |
| ID | Indonesia | | | |
| JP | Japan | | | |
| KR | South Korea | | | |
| ME | Montenegro | | | |
| MY | Malaysia | | | |
| NO | Norway | | | |
| NZ | New Zealand | | | |
| RS | Republic of Serbia | | | |
| RU | Russia | | | |
| TH | Thailand | | | |
| UA | Ukraine | | | |
| UK | United Kingdom | | | |
| US | United states of America | | | |
| VN | Vietnam | | | |

Conventions to geographic regions:

EU27: European Union member states. In the case when a new country has joined the EU, the country will be added also to previous years as a member of EU.

Other Europe: Albania, Belarus, Bosnia Herzegovina, Montenegro, Norway, Russia, Serbia, Switzerland Ukraine, United Kingdom

Europe: EU27+other European countries

Balkan countries: Albania, Bosnia Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia

Baltic countries: Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania

FUEL PROPERTIES OF SELECTED BIOMASS FUELS

| Fuel | Net calorific value, dry content (kWh/kg) (moisture content 0%) (q _{p,net,d}) | Moisture content w-% (ar) | Net calorific value, as received=actual value (kWh/kg) (q _{p,net,ar}) | Bulk density (kg/loose m³) | Energy density (MWh/loose m³) | Ash content, dry (%) |
|--|--|------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Sawdust | 5,28-5,33 | 45-60 | 0,60-2,77 | 250-350 | 0,45-0,70 | 0,4-0,5 |
| Bark, birch | 5,83-6,39 | 45-55 | 2,22-3,06 | 300-400 | 0,60-0,90 | 1-3 |
| Bark, coniferous | 5,14-5,56 | 50-65 | 1,38-2,50 | 250-350 | 0,50-0,70 | 1-3 |
| Plywood chips | 5,28-5,33 | 5-15 | 4,44-5,00 | 200-300 | 0,9-1,1 | 0,4-0,8 |
| Wood pellets | 5,26-5,42 | 7-8 | 4,60-4,90 | 550-650 | 2,6-3,3 | 0,2-0,5 |
| Steam wood chips | 5,14-5,56 | 40-55 | 1,94-3,06 | 250-350 | 0,7-0,9 | 0,5-2,0 |
| Log wood (oven-ready) | 5,14-5,28 | 20-25 | 3,72-4,03 | 240-320 | 1,35-1,95 | |
| Logging residue chips | 5,14-5,56 | 50-60 | 1,67-2,50 | 250-400 | 0,7-0,9 | 1,0-3,0 |
| Whole tree chips | 5,14-5,56 | 45-55 | 1,94-2,78 | 250-350 | 0,7-0,9 | 1,0-2,0 |
| Reed canary grass (spring harvested) | 4,78-5,17 | 8-20 | 3,70-4,70 | 70 | 0,3-0,4 | 1,0-10,0 |
| Reed canary grass (autumn harvested) | 4,64-4,92 | 20-30 | 3,06-3,81 | 80 | 0,2-0,3 | 5,1-7,1 |
| Grain | 4,8 | 11 | 4,30 | 600 | 2,6 | 2 |
| Straw, chopped | 4,83 | 12-20 | 3,80-4,20 | 80 | 0,3-0,4 | 5 |
| Miscanthus, chopped | 5,0 | 8-20 | 3,86-4,06 | 110-140 | 1,72-2,19 | 2,0-3,5 |
| Straw pellets | 4,83 | 8-10 | 4,30-4,40 | 550-650 | 2,4-2,8 | 5 |
| Olive cake (olive pomace) | 4,9-5,3 | 55-70 | 1,00-3,10 | 800-900 | 1,46-1,64 | 2-7 |
| Olive cake (olive marc) | 4,9-5,3 | <10 | 4,30-4,70 | 600-650 | 2,6-2,9 | 2-7 |
| | | | | | | |

ENplus® REQUIREMENTS FOR WOOD PELLETS

| Quality class | ENplus® A1 | ENplus® A2 | ENplus® B | Unit | Testing standard |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------|---|
| Diameter (as received) | 6 ± 1, 8 ± 1 | 6 ± 1, 8 ± 1 | 6 ± 1, 8 ± 1 | mm | ISO 17829 |
| Length (as received) | 3,15 ≤ L ≤ 40 (a) | 3,15 ≤ L ≤ 40 (a) | 3,15 ≤ L ≤ 40 (a) | mm | ISO 17829 |
| Share of pellets with a length < 10 mm (as received) - Category L < 20%, 20%≤ M ≤ 30%, S > 30% | value & category to be stated | value & category to be stated | value & category to be stated | w-% | EN <i>plus</i> ® Guidance Document (b) |
| Moisture (as received) | ≤ 10,0 | ≤ 10,0 | ≤ 10,0 | w-% | ISO 18134 |
| Ash (dry basis) | ≤ 0,70 | ≤ 1,20 | ≤ 2,00 | w-% | ISO 18122 |
| Mechanical durability (as received) (c) | ≥ 98,0 | ≥ 97,5 | ≥ 97,5 | w-% | ISO 17831-1 |
| Bulk density (as received) | 600 ≤ BD ≤ 750 | 600 ≤ BD ≤ 750 | 600 ≤ BD ≤ 750 | kg/m³ | ISO 17828 |
| Particle density (as received) | value to be stated | value to be stated | value to be stated | g/cm³ | ISO18847 |
| Coarse fines (3,15 mm ≤ FP < 5,6 mm) (as received) | value to be stated | value to be stated | value to be stated | w-% | analysis based on ISO 18846 (d, e, f, g) |
| Fines (< 3,15 mm) (bulk) (as received) | ≤ 1,0 | ≤ 1,0 | ≤ 1,0 | w-% | ISO 18846 (d, f, g) |
| Fines (< 3,15 mm) (bags) (as received) | ≤ 0,5 | ≤ 0,5 | | w-% | ISO 18846 (e, f, g) |
| Net calorific value (as received) | ≥ 4,6 (h) | ≥ 4,6 (h) | ≥ 4,6 (h) | kWh/kg | ISO 18125 |
| Additives (as received) | ≤ 2,0 (i) | ≤ 2,0 (i) | ≤ 2,0 (i) | w-% | |
| Nitrogen (dry basis) | ≤ 0,3 | ≤ 0,5 | ≤ 1,0 | w-% | ISO 16948 |
| Sulfur (dry basis) | ≤ 0,04 | ≤ 0,04 | ≤ 0,04 | w-% | ISO 16994 |
| Chlorine (dry basis) | ≤ 0,02 | ≤ 0,02 | ≤ 0,03 | w-% | ISO 16994 |
| Arsenic (dry basis) | ≤ 1 | ≤ 1 | ≤ 1 | mg/kg | ISO 16968 |
| Cadmium (dry basis) | ≤ 0,5 | ≤ 0,5 | ≤ 0,5 | mg/kg | ISO 16968 |
| Chromium (dry basis) | ≤ 10 | ≤ 10 | ≤ 10 | mg/kg | ISO 16968 |
| Copper (dry basis) | ≤ 10 | ≤ 10 | ≤ 10 | mg/kg | ISO 16968 |
| Lead (dry basis) | ≤ 10 | ≤ 10 | ≤ 10 | mg/kg | ISO 16968 |
| Mercury (dry basis) | ≤ 0,1 | ≤ 0,1 | ≤ 0,1 | mg/kg | ISO 16968 |
| Nickel (dry basis) | ≤ 10 | ≤ 10 | ≤ 10 | mg/kg | ISO 16968 |
| Zinc (dry basis) | ≤ 100 | ≤ 100 | ≤ 100 | mg/kg | ISO 16968 |
| Ash deformation temperature | ≥ 1200 | ≥ 1100 | ≥ 1100 | °C | ISO 21404 (j) |