

COGEN Europe Appoints Hans Korteweg as New Managing Director

Brussels, 16 May, 2017

COGEN Europe today announced the appointment of Hans Korteweg as Managing Director of the association effective 15 May.



Commenting on his appointment, Mr. Korteweg said: "Europe's energy policy is at a crossroads. Today's energy and climate decisions will shape Europe's energy system for the next decades, thereby determining the future level of greenhouse gas emissions, security of energy supply and the competitiveness of European economies.

I look forward to leading COGEN Europe and ensuring that the cogeneration sector continues to have a strong and united voice in Brussels and Europe. The ongoing debate at EU level on the Clean Energy Package is key to ensure a cost-effective and secure energy transition. This is where COGEN Europe can make a meaningful contribution towards establishing a ambitious, yet balanced and predictable legislative framework, creating new opportunities for the sector and rewarding the benefits of cogeneration to save energy, reduce CO₂ emissions as well as to boost energy efficiency and competitiveness in Europe".

COGEN Europe chairman Wouter-Jan van der Wurff, said: "COGEN Europe members are delighted that Hans is joining us at this pivotal time for the cogeneration sector. His breadth of experience will be a key asset to our association in driving forward our ambitions for Combined Heat and Power (CHP) in Europe".

Brief biography:

Hans Korteweg brings a wealth of expertise to his new role at COGEN Europe. He has more than 15 years of energy and environment policy experience, during which time he spearheaded the implementation of effective communications and lobbying strategies for high-growth organisations in Brussels, across Europe and internationally. He also has a decade of association management experience.

Mr. Korteweg, who lives in Belgium, is a French-born Dutch-American. He has a BA in international affairs and politics from Vesalius College - Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), Belgium. He is also an Advanced Management Programme graduate of the IE Business School in Madrid, Spain.

Most recently, Mr. Korteweg was Director of Communications and Government Affairs, EMEA Region, for the Westinghouse Electric Company.

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About cogeneration:

Cogeneration (also known as CHP or Combined Heat and Power) involves the simultaneous production of heat and electricity from a single plant which results in massive savings to the economy of primary energy and consequential reductions of GHG emissions.

Today, a significant 11.2% of Europe's electricity is generated using a vast array of proven and cost effective techniques (cumulative capacity > 100 GWe). About half of the heat produced is used in district heating networks while the remaining half serves industrial needs.

Cogeneration units can be found in various sectors and sizes: in industries, households and tertiary buildings and in capacities ranging from a kilowatt to hundreds of MegaWatts of electricity output. CHP plants can draw upon a wide range of energy sources, from traditional fossil fuels to renewable energies (combustion-based units with biomass, biogases or bioliquids, or steam-based plant connected to geothermal or concentrated solar panel installations) that make them ready for the future energy system.

Realising the identified economic potential for cogeneration in Europe – estimated at 110-120 GWe additional – will be instrumental to reaching the EU's strategic climate and energy goals, while underpinning job creation and being an engine to industrial competitiveness.

About COGEN Europe:

COGEN Europe is Europe's umbrella organisation representing the interests of the cogeneration industry, users of the technology and promoting its benefits in the EU and the wider Europe. The association is backed by the key players in the industry including gas and electricity companies, ESCOs, equipment suppliers, consultancies, national promotion organisations, financial and other service companies. More information on www.cogeneurope.eu