

PRESS RELEASE

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The EnergyAgency.NRW

Service provider to the state of North Rhine-Westphalia in all matters relating to energy

The **EnergyAgency.NRW** (www.energieagentur.nrw.de) works on behalf of the state government of North Rhine-Westphalia as an operative platform with broad expertise in the field of energy: from energy research, technical development, demonstration, market launch and energy consultancy to continuous vocational training. In times of high energy prices it is more important than ever to forge ahead with the development of innovative energy technologies in NRW and to highlight from an impartial point of view how companies, local authorities and private individuals can handle energy more economically or use renewable energies in an appropriate fashion.

The EnergyAgency.NRW manages the energy industry cluster "EnergyRegion.NRW" (www.energieregion.nrw.de) and the cluster EnergyResearch.NRW "CEF.NRW" (www.cef.nrw.de).

Furthermore the EnergyAgency.NRW offers energy services in the form of initial and contracting consultancy for companies and administrative bodies, as well as information and continuous training facilities for specialists and private individuals. Courses in user behaviour are also included in the portfolio.

The three focal areas covered by the EnergyAgency.NRW are specifically:

Cluster management: The EnergyAgency.NRW is responsible for management of the **clusters EnergyRegion.NRW** with the eight networks for biomass, fuel cells and hydrogen, energy-efficient and solar construction, geothermics, fuels and engines of the future, power plant technology and wind energy, and **CEF.NRW**. Both clusters offer higher education institutions, companies, local authorities and experts successful platforms for working together. Both clusters concentrate on forging ahead with innovative processes in NRW, setting up co-operations and strategic alliances, and speeding up market launches of innovative products nationally and internationally. This also includes providing support for companies from NRW in the domain of foreign trade.

Energy consultancy: Engineers from the EnergyAgency.NRW supply information on energy weak spots – from technical systems in buildings to production processes in companies. This ranges from the heating system and

heat recovery though to insulation as a protection against heat and cold in large production shops, from leak detection to the drawing up of energy concepts. The engineers give advice on possible sources of funding, they help companies to cut energy costs and thus contribute to an increase in their competitiveness.

Continuous training: The EnergyAgency.NRW offers a range of continuous training seminars – including some for end consumers. The 50 seminars can be used by continuous training institutions, energy supply utilities, corporate associations and federations, institutes of higher education, local authorities and companies in NRW. Within the programme, "E fit" action weeks are also offered to company workforces. With its Energy Knowledge Portal the EnergyAgency.NRW provides an on-line platform on the Internet for vocational initial and continuous training.

State-wide campaigns and joint actions such as "NRW Saves Energy" (www.nrw-spart-energie.de) "My House Saves" (www.mein-haus-spart.de), "50 Solar Housing Estates in NRW" (www.50-solarsiedlungen.de), "100 Climate Protection Estates in NRW" (www.100-klimaschutzsiedlungen.de) "Photovoltaics NRW" (www.photovoltaike.nrw.de), the "Wood Pellets Campaign" (www.aktion-holzpellets.de) or the "Heat Pumps Marketplace NRW" (www.waermepumpen-marktplatz-nrw.de) supply the general public in NRW with information on environmentally friendly and innovative heating technologies and give further tips on energy conservation.

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