



## Editorial (#2)

Dear Reader,

We're pleased to be sending you the second issue of our act2 newsletter.

We can look back on a year when climate and climate protection were never out of the news for long, and with Concerto we have a local-based project that shows how to pursue climate protection aims by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promoting energy saving habits. Concerto-act2 has also got participating local authorities and their politicians around the table to exchange ideas and suggestions on further local climate protection measures and learn from each other's experiences.

Some measures have been put into practice this year: Nantes has completed a hostel for young workers, while in Hannover a 1,800-m<sup>2</sup> solar thermal installation was completed for an open-air swimming pool, the wood energy centre opened, and detached and multiple-occupancy houses have been retrofitted for energy efficiency. The City of Newcastle organised a training programme for town planners together with Malmö and Hannover, and Koszalin hosted the fourth Steering Committee meeting.

All in all, it's been a successful year, and our projects in 2008 will continue to make their contributions to a steady improvement in climate protection.

We hope you find plenty to interest you in the newsletter, and would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Best regards,

Astrid Hoffmann-Kallen - act2 Project Coordinator  
City of Hannover - Energy and Climate Protection Unit

Visit [www.concerto-act2.eu](http://www.concerto-act2.eu) for further information about the Concerto-act2 project. If you have any questions or suggestions concerning this newsletter please send an e-mail to the editorial team ([vincent.hure@nantesmetropole.fr](mailto:vincent.hure@nantesmetropole.fr) or [ute.heda@hannover-stadt.de](mailto:ute.heda@hannover-stadt.de))



## Hannover - Enercity wood fuel centre opens!

On 27 November 2007 *Stadtwerke Hannover AG (enercity)* opened the new wood fuel centre at its Stöcken power station, part-funded by Concerto/act2. Around 70 guests from business and politics celebrated the opening of the wood fuel sales centre and toured the log splitting and wood chip plant, and the kiln for firewood grown on the site, dried by district heat from the neighbouring power station. The wood comes from *Stadtwerke's* own plantations in the nearby Fuhrberger Holz, guaranteeing supplies from the Hannover region. Wood pellets are also made from sawdust and shavings from local sawmills. In total, around 30,000 tonnes of wood fuels will be sold to private customers each year, avoiding up to 80,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Customers can either collect small quantities themselves or have larger quantities delivered.

The 'Infocenter' on site also offers advice on wood-burning stoves and possible grants towards the purchase of wood-fuelled heating plants.



## Hannover - Energy Saving Days

From 16-18 November a new fair called 'Energy Saving Days' in Hannover was conducted. Companies for energy efficient technologies, insulation as well as the City of Hannover, the Climate Protection Agency Region Hannover and proKlima were presenting their products. A comprehensive and informative programme of lectures was presented by experts.

The City of Hannover presented Concerto/act2 and was looking for investors who want to retrofit their houses in the Concerto districts. Ca. 200 consultations on act2 were offered.



## Nantes - 3rd Nantes Métropole's Energy Week

From 12 to 16 November Nantes Métropole and its partners organised their 3rd Energy Week. Beside a large range of events available for all (preview of "the 11th hour" by N. Cooners and L. Connors Petersen, site visits of exemplary projects, energy-related games and activities for children...), two specific expo rooms set downtown welcomed anyone looking for information and advice on how to contribute to a more sustainable energy use in one's daily life or one's own construction project. Nantes Métropole took advantage of this event to highlight some of its projects led within its Pluriannual Action Plan for the Energy, Concerto-act2 in particular.

Useful Links:

[Webpage of the 3rd Nantes Métropole's Energy Week](#)

[Programme of the 3rd Nantes Métropole's Energy Week](#)

[Videos available on Nantes Métropole's Pluriannual Action Plan for the Energy](#)  
(for the Concerto-act2 project : select 'agir dans l'aménagement et l'habitat')



## Nantes - Energy standards above regulation for all new buildings in the Ile de Nantes district

For few weeks, SAMOA, the Concerto-act2 partner in charge of the Ile de Nantes urban planning, has been imposing a set of minimal energy prerequisites to all new constructions that is above the current French Thermal Regulation.

The objective is actually to heighten progressively energy standards in anticipation of the next regulation and keeping promoting Concerto standards.

The prescriptions are both technical and methodological:

- Envelop and energy consumptions 10% more efficient than the 2005 regulation + feasibility study to reach 20%
- Thermal bridges break-up and promotion of external insulation
- Integration of an energy expert in the master building team
- Thermal inspection within the mandatory technical control of the construction
- Study of the district heating system within the energy solutions for the project



## act2 project - Steering Committee on October 4th-5th in Koszalin

The City of Koszalin welcomed on October, 4th and 5th 2007 the fourth act2 Steering Committee. Representatives from demonstration and associate communities participated to specific energy-related workshops and joined the Municipal Heating Company of Koszalin (MEC) for a visit of the district heating plant, where biomass is to replace coal in part of the boilers.

The City of Koszalin and MEC combined this committee with a seminar held at the Technical University dedicated to local companies and students where act2 members from Hannover and Nantes were invited to present their demonstration programmes.



## Nantes - The Forges Residence welcomes its new tenants

The Forges Residence is the first Concerto building delivered in Nantes. This project is part of the renovation and extension of the 'Port-Beaulieu' Hostel for Young Workers led by Atlantique Habitations. The building is made of 45 one- and two-room apartments and some collective rooms dedicated to common services.

Developer: Atlantique Habitations  
Architect: In Situ Architecture & Environnement

EC Concerto grant: 22,172.50 €

To have a full description of the project, please visit its dedicated [webpage](#) on the act2 website.



## Hannover - Public Meeting in Ahlem

On 11 September 2007 the City of Hannover staged a public information meeting in the Concerto district of Ahlem together with *Klimaschutzagentur Region Hannover* and *proKlima* as part of the 'Gut-beraten-starten' (start well advised) campaign. It was opened by District Mayor Wilfried Gunkel and attended by the entire City District Council.

Over 30 local people gathered in the Martin Luther Church hall. The church plans to participate in Concerto - the hall is to be retrofitted for energy efficiency and the

heating plant replaced with a wood pellet-fuelled boiler. Along with information on the project and the available subsidies, Gyn Kraft presented one of the first Concerto projects, retrofitting of a detached house in Ahlem, to give house owners an idea of the scheme in practice. The next public meeting for local people and multiple-occupancy house owners is planned for the spring in Vinnhorst, another Concerto district.



### **Hannover - 'Energy Efficient Retrofitting' workshop in August 2007**

The City of Hannover held a workshop at the target GmbH offices on 'From national energy saving regulations to Low Energy House and Passive House Standards - obstacles and constraints to energy efficient retrofitting'.

The workshop was aimed at housing associations, property developers, architects, technical planners, tenants' representatives and the energy supplier. After a presentation of the initial experiences with Concerto/act2 in Hannover, discussion turned to the problems of energy efficient retrofitting and recommendations were formulated, addressed to the City of Hannover, the State of Lower Saxony, Federal Government and the EU, on how energy efficient retrofitting could be supported by public bodies. The findings can be requested from the act2 team in Hannover.

### **Agenda and Upcoming Events (#2)**

**29th - 31st January - Dunkerque, France**  
9th French Energy Conference of the Communities  
([www.assises-energie.net](http://www.assises-energie.net) )

**28 January - 1 February - Brussels, Belgium**  
2nd EU Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW), and 7th ManagEnergy Annual Conference  
([www.eusew.eu](http://www.eusew.eu))

**1st February 2008 - Brussels, Belgium**  
Energy & Cities - Concerto Conference  
link to: [Conference description and registration](#)

**19th - 20th February 2008 - Brussels, Belgium**  
CONCERTO II Opening

**June 2008 - Nantes, France**  
Delivery of the next 2 Concerto projects:  
- Headquarters of two housing companies  
- 180 kWp Nantes Métropole power plant

**September 2008 - Malmö, Sweden**  
(dates to be confirmed)  
5th act2 Steering Committee

[www.concerto-act2.eu](http://www.concerto-act2.eu)