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AdvanceETV

**“Coordination action on Environmental Technology Verification ETV -
Building a framework for international cooperation”**

Coordination action

Area 6.3.3.3

Environmental technologies verification and testing

**D 2.3.1 Conclusions and findings of the WP5 organised
conference to support mutual recognition-
to support cooperation with International ETV Forum**

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PP	Restricted to other programme participants (including Commission Services)	
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including Commission Services)	
CO	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	

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1 Introduction



**Accelerating eco-innovation
through environmental
technologies verification**

12-13 October 2009

Conference and Parliamentarian Evening

at the Representation of the State of Baden-Württemberg to the European Union Brussels/Belgium

   

www.airtv.eu www.eu-etv-strategy.eu

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Figure 1: Front page of the proceedings of the conference

The ETV conference "Accelerating eco-innovation through environmental technologies verification" was organised by AdvanceETV in cooperation with the FP6 project AIRTV that aims to develop and give recommendation concerning an ETV system for air emission abatement technologies.

The AdvanceETV related part of the conference was held on 13th October 2009 with the following presentations:

- **Introduction to AdvanceETV** (Thomas Track, DECHEMA e.V./DE)
- **The role of CWA's and standardisation** (Richard Gould, EA/UK and Dennis Kraemer, DECHEMA e.V./DE)
- **Organisation of ETV, national, regional, and international Aspects** (Christian Grøn, DHI/DK)
- **Perspectives of the International working group (IWG) on ETV** (Ray Klicius, Environment Canada/CDN)
- **Co- and joint Verification** (John Neate, ETV Canada/CDN)
- **ETV lessons learned from practice** (Bert Lemmens, VITO/BE)
- **Recommendations for a EU verification system & conclusions** (Thomas Track, DECHEMA e.V./DE)
- **Final remarks & Closure**

2 Conclusions

During the discussions at the event the following issues were mentioned as being important for the stakeholders:

2.1 Summary of the Parliamentarian Evening

As the feedback received during the Parliamentarian Evening on 12th October 2009 provides also important input for AdvanceETV the conclusions are listed here:

- ETV should help bringing technologies ready to the market faster into the market
- There is a critical view on the proposed ETV scheme from industry, especially SMEs, that has to be addressed in the development
- ETV should not double labels, but it should be flexible, complimentary and not causing delays in time to market
- ETV is suitable for specific sectors, e.g. process technologies, but it is not the only promising tool, it is only one tool to support eco-innovation.
- Practicability compared to purchase behaviour has to be considered, which shows that an ETV system should be demand driven.
- The structures, i.e. institutions needed for ETV (such as test labs etc.) already exist and should be used.
- A decentralised approach is preferred instead of a centralised programme.
- ETV is not a pass or fail procedure, but should strengthen competition due to comparability of similar technologies.
- Verification provides demonstrations/reference applications with higher credibility.

- It is important that Europe takes an active role in the harmonization of the international ETV systems as Europe cannot leave the international development purely to non European countries.
- ETV is valuable not mainly for the home market but for the EU and international markets
- International cooperation strengthens the global market acceptance
- ETV is valuable from a global perspective and mutual recognition is important for that.

2.2 Issues addressed during the Conference

Some questions and issues already mentioned during the Parliamentarian Evening came up again in the course of the conference:

- The main interest of the stakeholders is in international cooperation and harmonisation of the ETV systems.
- Standardisation can be helpful for verification in two ways. Within the verification standards can be helpful in the setup of test plans. On an international level standardisation can support mutual recognition at an advanced stage of cooperation.
- A big issue is how quality can be ensured in a decentralised approach. In order to find a solution to this problem one will find out how do other areas, e.g. accreditation, handle this issue.
- One thing that became clear was that there is a need for information regarding ETV in Europe. Still many stakeholders are not aware of ETV, its contents, targets and achievements so far. This means that great efforts are necessary to change this.
- An important point in this regard is the lack of information concerning the position of ETV in relation to other labels such as eco-labels, EMAS, and others. This needs to be addressed and to be emphasized for the implementation of the EU ETV system.
- The stakeholders are very interested in the internationalisation of the European ETV system, which is focused in AdvanceETV. This would offer advantages for the entrance to market, as the slogan “verified once – accepted everywhere” would be extended from Europe to the whole world.