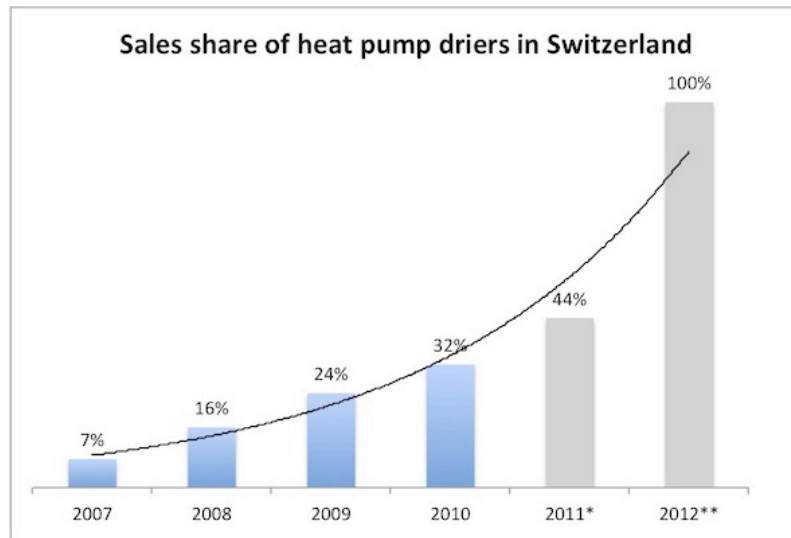


Heat pump driers: 50% energy saving potential

Switzerland: only heat pump driers on the market since January

The Swiss minimum energy performance standard (MEPS) for tumble driers was adopted in June 2009 and is in force since 1st January 2012: only heat pump (HP) driers are permitted on the market. Switzerland is realising a high electricity saving potential with this measure. The market is reacting in a positive way: the number of available models is increasing even more and the purchase prices continue to decrease.



Data source: FEA.

* the 2011 figure has been extrapolated

** 2012 forecast: based on the Swiss MEPS

50% energy savings at the same life cycle costs

Heat pump driers (class A) consume 50% less energy than conventional driers of class B. Over its life time of 15 years a HP drier saves electricity costs of EUR 600 – 800. This corresponds roughly to the difference in purchase price today. Already today high energy savings can be realised with HP driers at equal life cycle costs for consumers. There are more than 84 residential HP drier models from 18 different manufacturers on the European market. With their market share continuing to increase purchase prices will keep decreasing – especially if HP driers are announced to become the future standard.

EU: high energy savings are possible

Soon also in the EU Ecodesign measures will be voted on, which have the potential to realise considerable energy savings. A clear sign in favour of the heat pump technology should be made by announcing it now as the future MEPS: an EEI of 53 as tier 2 requirement would leave all but the least efficient heat pump driers on the market. Additionally a more ambitious condensation efficiency requirement would avoid damages in the laundry room, which can still occur at the proposed tier 2 condensation efficiency of 70%. Instead as tier 2 condensation efficiency requirement 85% is recommended.

More information

- Heat pump driers on the European and Swiss market: www.topten.eu , www.topten.ch
- Topten policy recommendations: http://www.topten.eu/recommendations/dryers_rg/
- Draft Ecodesign and labelling regulations: <http://env-ngo.eup-network.de/>
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