

Program

Introduction to the Best Practice Catalogue	Hanne Kortegaard Støchkel, DBDH
Case 9: Seed drying Coriance & Mistral Semences (France)	Blandine Roche, Coriance
Case 4: Cheese production TVIS & Arla (Denmark)	Lise Christiansen, Arla
Discussion	Moderator: Susanne Schmelcher, dena

PROCESS INDUSTRY & DISTRICT HEATING

A new type of collaboration across sectors can make the green transition in Europe more affordable



- Understanding its huge potential for Europe
- Challenges and recommendations
- Learning from best practices: 12 case studies across Europe lead the way

12 cases across Europe

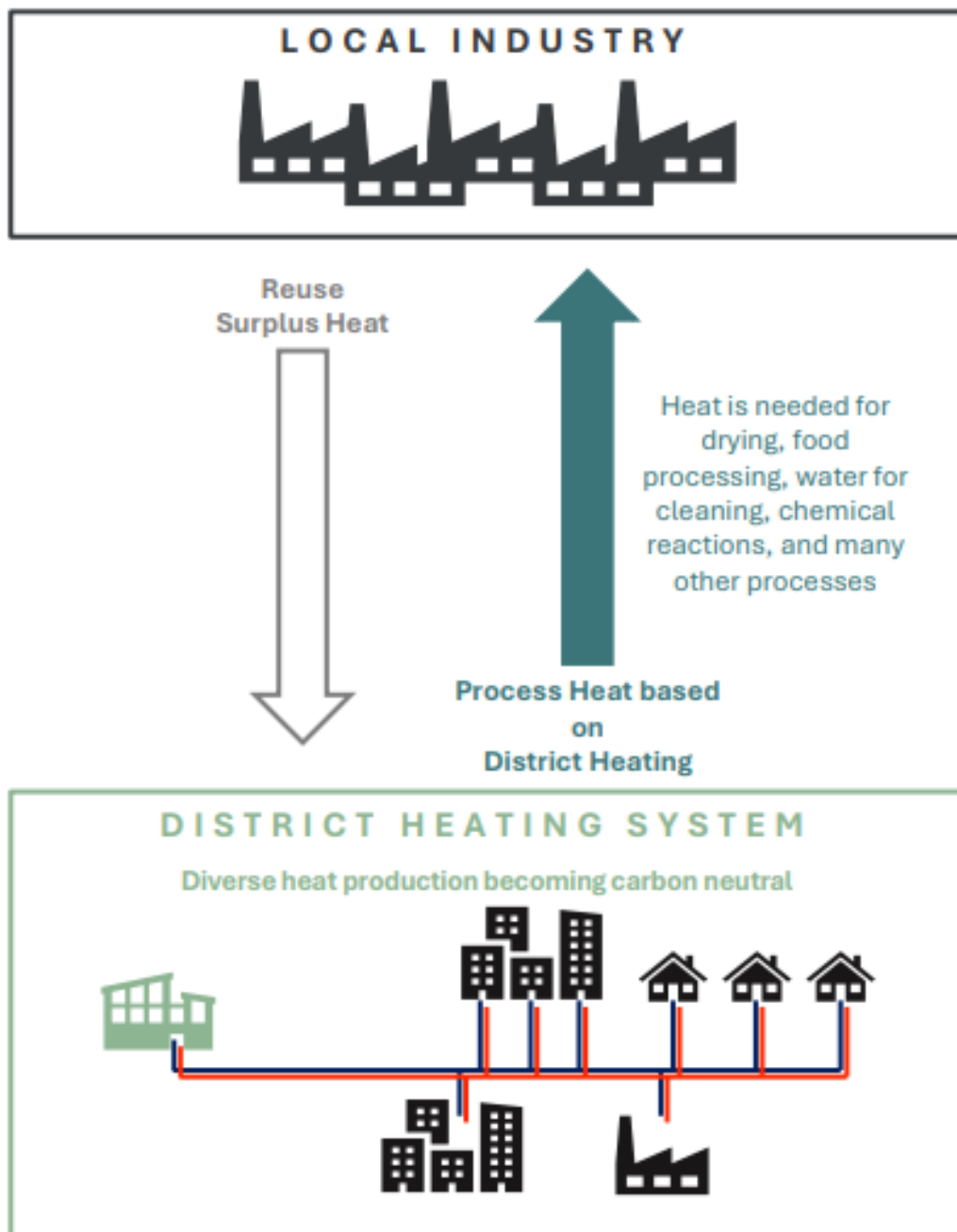


BEST PRACTICE CATALOGUE: PROCESS HEAT BASED ON DISTRICT HEATING

Join the webinar on Wednesday, 3rd of December, 10.00-10.55 CET

WELCOME





Industrial Process Heat & District Heating

WHAT IS IT?

Simultaneous Challenges

Competitiveness of
European Industry

Additional drivers for
DH development –
both new and existing
systems

Energy efficiency – in
industry and in DH

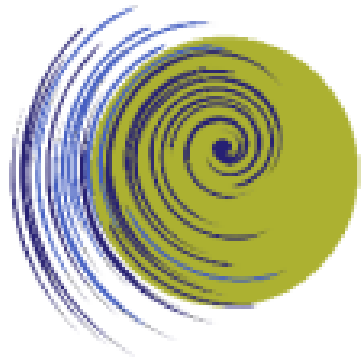
New pathway for
transition of
European industry

Holistic energy
planning – across
sectors and with long-
term perspective

Use existing building
blocks smarter

Industrial Process Heat & District Heating

WHY?



INTREPIDH



- Establish strong project team and network
 - Publications and dissemination
 - Best practice catalogue – [Published](#) Oct 2025
 - Webinar series – [8 webinars](#) during Dec-2025 to Sept-2026
 - Spreading the word through networking and events
 - Recommendations and gaps (at end of project). Focus of role of facilitators such as municipalities and energy agencies
- **Raise awareness – This solution is overlooked. We encourage everyone to help!**
- **Demonstrate that this is possible and attractive for Europe**

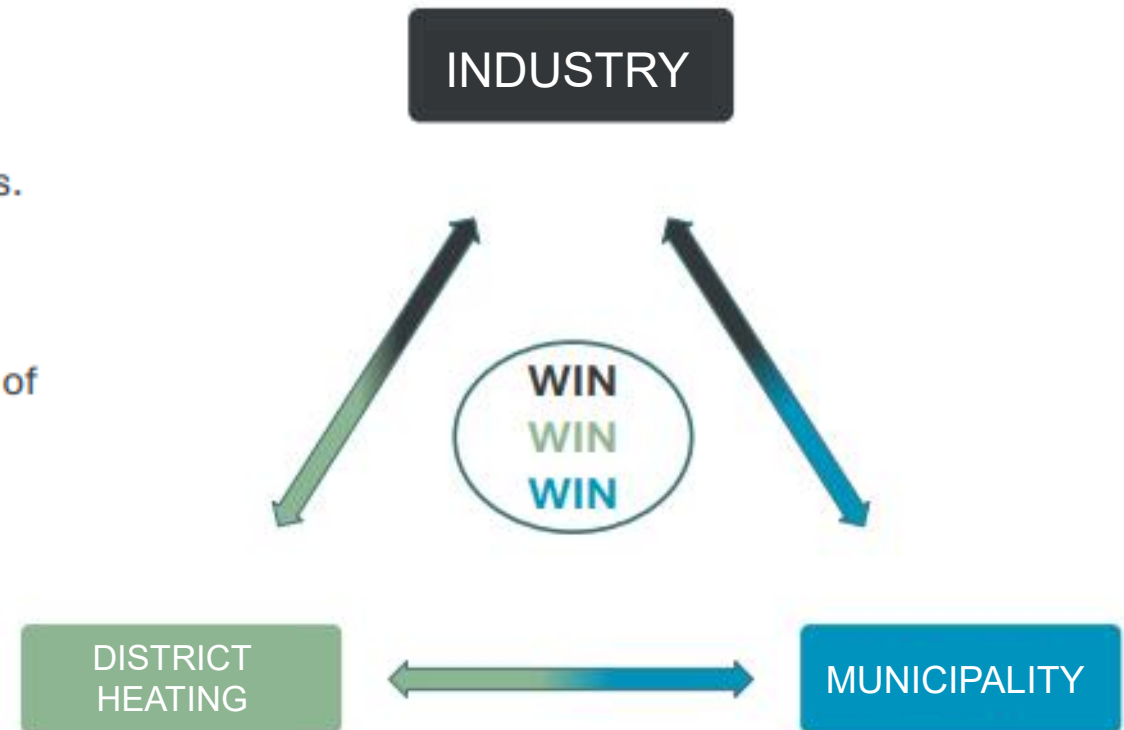


PROCESS INDUSTRY & DISTRICT HEATING ARE MADE FOR EACH OTHER

Approximately **half of the energy demand in the European industry** is used for process heating and most of it is supplied by fossil fuels, mainly natural gas.

A wide range of temperatures are required in the industrial processes. Some sectors are well-suited for **supplying surplus** heat and other sectors are well-suited for **receiving process heat**.

District heating is the **infrastructure** that can connect different types of industry and supply residential areas and other buildings with space heating.



12 CASE STORIES ACROSS EUROPE

The cases in this catalogue display 12 success stories of how process heat based on district heat works. The cases are coming from five different countries and display a variety of possibilities.



NORWAY

1. High-temperature heat pump uses district heating to produce steam

DENMARK

2. Fifteen years of smooth daily operation
3. Meat producer helps to bring district heating to three villages
4. District heating utility reaches out to local industries
5. Partnership exchanges both waste and process heat

GERMANY

6. Heat infrastructure connects steel to beer
7. Transitioning steam production for the adjacent industry

FRANCE

8. Strasbourg port supplies industry with recovered heat
9. Seasonal seed drying with district heating in Pierrelatte
10. Farmea's pharma production site balances Angers' summer heat load
11. Industrial heat that revolutionised urban heating in Grenoble

CROATIA

12. District heating delivers 260°C steam to brewery in the heart of Zagreb

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CASE FRANCE: Coriance & Mistral Semences

SEASONAL SEED DRYING WITH DISTRICT HEATING IN PIERRELATTE

The project in Pierrelatte demonstrates how a nearby district heating network can decarbonize industrial seed drying by replacing natural gas with biomass-based heat. Through a simple and cost-effective connection, the company benefits from lower energy costs while contributing to local climate goals and job creation.

Case Story

At its Pierrelatte site, Mistral Semences dries corn and sunflower seeds each year from late August to early November. Traditionally, this seasonal process was powered by natural gas, but the proximity of the district heating network opened a new opportunity. The industrial agri-food company's drying process is now powered by the district heating managed by Coriance. The long-term public service delegation contract is in effect since 2012. This collaboration made it possible to replace the gas boiler with process heat based on district heating.

The heat produced is low-carbon as it is generated from local biomass at a current rate of 80%, with a future target of 88%. By connecting to the network, Mistral Semences was able to replace its gas supply with renewable district heating, reducing emissions and ensuring stable energy costs. The use of local energy and the creation of local jobs made this project a success: while initially only planned for a period of 10 years, the contract has been renewed until the end of the public service delegation in 2032.

Collaboration

The collaboration began when Coriance identified the potential of supplying Mistral Semences. The first contact was initiated by Coriance directly, as the industry site was near the heating network. Though the volumes delivered represent only 2% of the network's annual supply, the partnership illustrates how even small industrial demands can be integrated efficiently.



This case demonstrates that it can often be useful to look out for synergies to optimize the energy vector for industrial processes (e.g. hot water can be used for preheating rather than steam). Moreover, the proactive approach of Coriance can be a good example of how utilities can identify potential industrial customers and connect them to their grid.

Name of industry site	Mistral Semence
Name of district heating Site	Pierrelatte heating network
Type of industry	Agri-food (seeds drying)
Project status	Operational
In operation by	July 2014
CO ₂ reduction	875t / year

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CASE DENMARK: TVIS & Arla

DISTRICT HEATING UTILITY REACHES OUT TO LOCAL INDUSTRIES

It started with the heat transmission company reaching out to industrial companies in the area. The dairy company Arla quickly saw an opportunity to reduce carbon emissions from their cheese production and engaged to investigate further. The project was completed within 2.5 years from initial contact to commissioning, with strong collaboration throughout.

Case Story

Reusing surplus heat is part of the DNA of the heat transmission company TVIS, and they made the strategic decision to expand their collaboration with local industry and offer them process heat. This would support the industrial partners to phase out natural gas and meet their climate goals. The availability of gas consumption data from the Danish gas distribution operator Evida enabled TVIS to identify large gas consumers near their transmission grid and to reach out to them for a partnership.

One of the first and most significant partnerships was with Arla's dairy in Taulov, which had a strong internal ambition to reduce CO₂ emissions. At the time, the dairy relied entirely on natural gas for its production, primarily for pasteurisation and cheese processing. The proximity of TVIS's transmission line—running just 500 meters from the site—reduced the need for infrastructure investments. On the other hand, there were initial concerns about the temperature requirements of 105 °C.



The following dialogue and analysis phase resulted in a positive business case and investment decision on both sides. Since then, other companies have been connected to the district heating grid, including European Protein, Moveero, and a local greenhouse. Across all partnerships, district heating has replaced gas—either partially or fully—contributing to climate goals and lowering prices for the heat customers. When reaching out to local industry, TVIS uses a model based on strategic analyses, proactive dialogue, flexibility in the contracts, and keeping a close eye on the risk assessments.

Collaboration

The collaboration with industry is driven by TVIS, and not by municipal mandates or political initiatives. With access to gas consumption data, TVIS identified relevant companies and contacted them directly. In the case of Arla, the initial outreach went through headquarters. From there, a local project team took over and worked closely with TVIS to explore technical feasibility and business potential. Arla's need for process heat is temperature-specific and constant throughout the year. As TVIS could not guarantee 105 °C at all times, a hybrid solution was developed: TVIS supplies heat when possible, and Arla boosts the temperature with an electric boiler, if the temperature is below 105 °C.



Name of industry site	Arla
Name of district heating Site	TVIS
Type of industry	Food & beverages (cheese production)
Project status	Operational
In operation since	2023
CO ₂ reduction	75% reduction in natural gas consumption

Webinar series

**03.12.2025
10.00 CET** **1. Highlights from the best practice catalogue** [SIGN UP HERE](#)

We explain what process heat based on district heating is, examine its potential in Europe, and explore the stories behind some of the cases in the catalogue. [Read more](#)

**13.01.2025
10.00 CET** **2. The technology behind process heat based on district heating** [SIGN UP HERE](#)

In this webinar, we zoom in on the technical concerns and aspects of suitable temperatures, combinations with high-temperature heat pumps, and grid connections.

**27.01.2025
14.00 CET** **3. What the history of district heating tells us about industry and infrastructure** [SIGN UP HERE](#)

Why has society invested in district heating in the past? What is the impact of having a city-wide infrastructure for heat? Join us as we learn from the past and look toward a future with tight integration between industry and district heating.

**MARCH
2026** **4. Municipalities as the catalyst that brings industry and DH together** [SIGN UP HERE](#)

In this webinar, we explore the role of municipalities. They already play an essential role in heat planning and business development, so can they take that a step further and combine the two through strategic energy planning?

**APRIL
2026** **5. Looking from the industrial perspective – what are the main points?** [SIGN UP HERE](#)

Balancing competitiveness, climate goals, and public image is not an easy task for the European industrial sector. We dive into the concerns and opportunities to investigate what is needed to motivate and support the industrial sector to collaborate with DH utilities and municipalities.

**JUNE
2026** **6. DH utilities reaching out** [SIGN UP HERE](#)

It is the DH infrastructure that can provide local businesses with both space heating and the reuse of surplus heat, and the supply of process heat. Learn from experience and get recommendations for how utilities can succeed in reaching out to nearby industrial companies.

**JULY
2026** **7. Quantify the benefits with techno-economic analyses** [SIGN UP HERE](#)

It is possible to model and quantify the economic and environmental impact of different technical solutions. Guests from the RAPIDH project explain how modelling supports investment decisions in both industry and DH companies, and how to get far even when the available data is limited.

**SEPT.
2026** **8. Highlights and final recommendations from INTREPIDH** [SIGN UP HERE](#)

We take stock and invite stakeholders to discuss the next steps needed in Germany, France, Denmark, and the rest of Europe.

The public webinars are organised by the INTREPIDH project funded by the Danish Energy Agency. Each webinar is scheduled for 55 minutes, allowing for both presentations and discussions.

<https://dbdh.org/webinar-series-industrial-process-heat-and-district-heating/>