

Panasonic Partners With British Gas In High Efficiency Heat Pump Solution For BASF Eco Home

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Panasonic has partnered with Cool Planet, the renewable energy design and installation arm of British Gas, to deliver an industry-leading, eco heating solution for the BASF House, part of the ground-breaking Creative Energy Homes

Project at the University of Nottingham.

Cool Planet has retrofitted Panasonic's pioneering Aquarea air-to-water heat pump technology at this showcase home for housing innovation and energy efficient design.

The aim of the Creative Homes Project is to demonstrate compliance with the Code for Sustainable Homes using low energy principles from the PassivHaus standard. As one of seven homes constructed on Green Close, near Nottingham University's Department of the Built Environment, the BASF House allows assessment of various low carbon and renewable energy technologies, providing the University with invaluable performance data. With its eco-efficient house, BASF demonstrates its competencies as

one of the leading providers of products, systems and solutions for sustainable construction.

Following the completion of testing on a biomass boiler, Cool Planet installed a 9 kW Aquarea monobloc unit in the BASF House in spring 2011. The installation was completed quickly and efficiently, without Cool Planet even having to change the property's hot water cylinder.

"I've really enjoyed working with the partnership of Panasonic and Cool Planet on this retrofit project" says Gill Kelleher, Project Manager for the BASF House. "From day one they've got to grips with the unique technical challenges and installed a simple to understand and operate ASHP (Air Source Heat Pump) solution whilst not forgetting to give outstanding customer service that everyone expects from a company like British Gas".

The Aquarea unit is proving itself an efficient performer. It serves the 2-storey dwelling's wet radiator system and is capable of raising the water temperature within the hot water cylinder from 27°C (typical overnight standing temperature) up to 43°C (typical acceptable hot water temperature) within 1 hour.

Because it uses air as the energy source, Aquarea also sets the standard for air-to-water heat pump energy efficiency. It can provide fuel bill savings of up to 78% compared to direct electric heating. The system generates a COP of 4.74 which means that for every kW of electricity consumed, it returns 4.74 kW of energy, i.e. 3.74 kW more than a conventional electric heating system which has a maximum COP of 1.

Post graduate students living in the BASF House are able to monitor and control the operation of the Aquarea system through a special touch-panel Web-brick display interface.

Xiaofeng Zheng, Nottingham PhD student, adds “We’re very impressed with Panasonic’s Aquarea air-to-water heat pump. We were surprised at both its intelligence and ability to make our life as tenants easier. I can’t believe how quiet and easy it is to control.”

Panasonic’s Aquarea is the most comprehensive, versatile and cost-effective range of air-to-water heat pumps on the market. It features heat pumps from 7 to 16 kW, single and three-phase alongside stand-alone and split-units. These high-efficiency heat pumps are designed to operate at outside temperatures as low as -20°C , and also provide cooling in summer.

Three versions are available. The **Standard Heat Pump**, as installed at the BASF House, the **High Temperature Heat Pump** (water output temperature of 65°C) and the **Aquarea T-CAP (T-CAP for Total capacity)** which is able to provide heating and hot water, whilst keeping the same nominal capacity, even at -15°C .

Editor’s notes

About Cool Planet

Cool Planet supply and provide renewable energy that's guaranteed to save you money. What's more, they take away potential problems by handling everything from the initial consultation through to the delivery of a system that's backed up by a full warranty and the option of ongoing maintenance.

Our expert team, from consultant engineers to drilling contractors will ensure that your decision to invest in a renewable energy solution is delivered with the minimal amount of disruption and complete confidence backed by a full warranty. Cool Planet will make sure that your decision to help the environment, and establish the green credentials of your business will also make sound economic sense.

About Panasonic Heating and Cooling Systems

With more than 30 years of experience, exports to more than 120 countries around the world, and 100 million compressors already produced, Panasonic is one of the leaders in the air conditioning sector.

Panasonic proposes four ranges of innovative solutions in heating and air conditioning for the house, the office, companies and industrial sites.

Panasonic attaches special importance to the quality of its solutions, which testify to a well-thought out design and the guarantee of healthy air, whilst complying with the strictest standards in terms of energy consumption, respect for the environment and noise emissions.

For more information, log on to the website www.panasonic.eu.

About Panasonic

Panasonic Corporation is a worldwide leader in the development and manufacture of electronic products in three business fields, consumer, components & devices, and solutions. Based in Osaka, Japan, the company recorded consolidated net sales of about 72 billion Euros for the year ended March 31, 2012. Panasonic's stock is listed on the Tokyo, Osaka, Nagoya and New York (NYSE:PC) Stock Exchanges. The company has the vision of becoming the No. 1 Green Innovation Company in the Electronics Industry by the 100th year of its founding in 2018. For more information on Panasonic, its brand and commitment to sustainability, visit the company's website at <http://panasonic.net/>.

About BASF

BASF is the world's leading chemical company: The Chemical Company. Its portfolio ranges from chemicals, plastics and performance products to agricultural products, fine chemicals and oil and gas. As a reliable partner BASF creates chemistry to help its customers in virtually all industries to be more successful. With its high-value products and intelligent solutions, BASF plays an important role in finding answers to global challenges such as climate protection, energy efficiency, nutrition and mobility. BASF posted sales of about €63.9 billion in 2010 and had approximately 109,000 employees as of the end of the year. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchanges in Frankfurt (BAS), London (BFA) and Zurich (AN). Further information on BASF is available on the Internet at www.basf.com or in its Social Media Newsroom at newsroom.basf.com