One year of EXQUISHEAT: building momentum for industrial heat pumps in the food & beverage sector

Almost one year after its launch in October 2025, EXQUISHEAT continues to build momentum towards accelerating the deployment of industrial heat pumps in Europe's food and beverage industry.

Over the past months, the project has laid the foundations for identifying where industrial heat pumps can deliver the greatest impact. Through the analysis of industrial processes, engagement with food companies and technology providers, and participation in key European events, the consortium has strengthened its understanding of the sector's needs while fostering collaboration across the industrial heat pump value chain.

As the project enters its second year, the focus will increasingly shift towards translating these insights into practical solutions. Standardised and replicable heat pump concepts will be developed for key food processing applications, while stakeholder engagement activities and knowledge exchange will continue to support their future uptake across Europe.

In this edition, you will discover highlights from our recent activities, opportunities to engage with the project, and a preview of what is coming next!

EXQUISHEAT main activities and news

Discover EXQUISHEAT in our new animated video!

Our new EXQUISHEAT promotional video is now live!
Discover how industrial heat pumps can support more efficient and sustainable food & beverage production, and how EXQUISHEAT is working to accelerate their uptake by bringing industrial needs and technological solutions closer together.
Whether you are a food & beverage company or a heat pump technology provider, watch the video to discover the project and the opportunities ahead.

Watch the video!

EXQUISHEAT Project Presented at SET Plan IWG-Industry 2026 Event

Veolia, as project coordinator, presented EXQUISHEAT at the SET Plan IWG-Industry 2026 Annual Event on 27 May in Brussels. Organised as part of the European Sustainable Energy Week, the event brought together technology developers, industrial stakeholders, research organisations, and policy representatives to discuss industrial decarbonisation and electrification.
The presentation highlighted the still largely untapped potential of heat pumps to decarbonise the energy-intensive food and beverage sector, and how EXQUISHEAT is working to accelerate their deployment through practical, replicable solutions.

Find out more!

EXQUISHEAT joins 2cool2waste webinar during EUSEW

On 19 June, EXQUISHEAT joined the **2cool2waste cluster** webinar, organised in the context of European Sustainable Energy Week to explore sustainable heating and cooling solutions for industrial and societal needs.
Represented by Dr. Jakob Energy Research, EXQUISHEAT contributed to the panel *"Sustainable heating and cooling solutions for industrial and societal needs"*, sharing how industrial heat pumps can support the decarbonisation of the food and beverage sector by improving energy efficiency and recovering and upgrading waste heat.
The webinar brought together the eight Horizon Europe and LIFE projects of the 2cool2waste cluster, providing an opportunity to exchange knowledge, showcase complementary approaches and strengthen cooperation around clean heating and cooling solutions in Europe.

Watch the recording!

EXQUISHEAT presented at the SEEP conference 2026

In July, EHPA represented EXQUISHEAT at the 18th International Conference on Sustainable Energy & Environmental Protection (SEEP 2026) in Rome, presenting the project during a dedicated symposium on industrial heat pumps.
The session explored the latest developments supporting the wider deployment of industrial heat pumps in Europe and provided an opportunity to showcase EXQUISHEAT's work in the food and beverage sector to the research and industrial community.

Find out more!

Listening to industry: EXQUISHEAT consultations continue

Over the past months, EXQUISHEAT partners have been engaging directly with **food and beverage end-users and heat pump technology providers** through a series of targeted consultations. These exchanges are helping the project gather first-hand insights into industrial processes, available technologies, market challenges, customer needs and the main barriers to wider heat pump deployment.

With several consultations already completed, partners are now starting to analyse the results and identify key findings that will feed into the next project activities.

The consultation is still ongoing!

If you are a food and beverage company or heat pump technology provider and would like to contribute your experience, **get in touch with the EXQUISHEAT team and take part in the consultation.**

Get in touch

Interesting upcoming events

Hear from industry: real-life heat pump applications in food & beverage

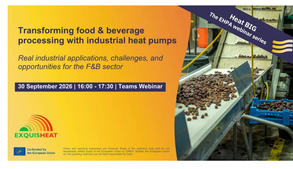
On **30 September**, the next **EXQUISHEAT online workshop** will bring the experience of industrial end-users directly into the discussion.

Through **real-life case studies from the food and beverage sector**, participants will hear first-hand about heat pump applications, the benefits achieved, and the practical challenges encountered along the way.

Alongside these experiences, experts will provide **insights into heat pump technologies and the conditions needed to support their wider deployment,** while EXQUISHEAT partners will share **first findings from consultations with food and beverage end-users**.

📅 **30 September | 16:00–17:30 CEST | Online**

This event is part of **EHPA's HEAT BIG webinar series**.



Find out more!

- Chillventa, 13-15 October 2026, in Nuremberg
- Heat Pump Day, 21 October 2026, across Europe
- Heat Pump Forum & Awards, 1-2 December 2026, in Brussels

Stay tuned to know more about the next project activities, share the newsletter with your network and follow EXQUISHEAT online!

Project partners

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