



## PRESS RELEASE

# European associations launch “HVACR Week”, a joint industry initiative

**Brussels/Milan, 30 April 2019:** [AREA](#), the [Associazione Tecnici del Freddo](#), [EPEE](#) and [EVIA](#) are joining efforts to emphasise the importance of the Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration sector during the first ever “HVACR Week”, which will take place from 6 to 12 June 2019.

The associations will be hosting two showpiece events, namely the [18<sup>th</sup> European Conference](#) in Milan on 6-7 June, and [EUREKA 2019](#) in Bruges on 11-12 June. “We want the HVACR Week to be a highlight of our sector’s calendar for years to come,” said Marco Buoni, President of AREA. “Six months after the entry into force of the Kigali Amendment, two weeks following the European elections, and at a time when climate change is a major concern for worldwide citizens, this will be the perfect time for our sector to gather, stop and think about how it can help make the world a better place.”

The [European Conference](#), which is held biennially in cooperation with the Centro Studi Galileo (CSG), UN Environment (UNEP), and the International Institute of Refrigeration (IIR), will be held in the prestigious venue of the Polytechnic University of Milan under the aegis of the Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea Protection.

Participants will have the chance to hear updates about the latest technology available on the market through a set of scientific presentations by the Presidents of major global associations and various industry representatives. The debate will focus on climate change and technologies developed to counter its effects.

A few days after the European Conference, EPEE and EVIA will host the third edition of [EUREKA](#) which is all about the crucial role of cooling and ventilation for health, productivity, and well-being. “Cooling and ventilation are not a luxury but a necessity”, said EPEE’s Director General Andrea Voigt. “Our sector contributes significantly to a number of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) but is far from getting the attention it deserves. Technologies and solutions are readily available but still not sufficiently deployed. This is even more worrying as current trends such as urbanisation, an ageing population and a warming climate will fuel market growth as well as energy demand.”

That’s why this year’s EUREKA will focus on the role of cooling and ventilation in view of the SDGs. The event will explore opportunities for sustainable cooling and ventilation technologies and their role as part of the transition towards smart and sustainable cities and regions, as well as the wider challenges the sector is facing such as skills, employment and gender participation.

Participants who want to attend the HVACR Week can benefit from a 20% discount on their registration to the two events. Don’t wait to register! Please contact [info@eureka-hvacr.eu](mailto:info@eureka-hvacr.eu) and [conference@centrogalileo.it](mailto:conference@centrogalileo.it) for more information.



## **ABOUT AREA:**

The Voice of European Refrigeration, Air Conditioning and Heat Pump Contractors

AREA, the European association of refrigeration, air conditioning and heat pump (RACHP) contractors, was established in 1989, voices the interests of 25 national associations from 22 countries representing 13,000 companies employing 110,000 people and with an annual turnover approaching € 23 billion. The average company thus employs 8 people and generates € 1.8 million turnover. Contractors are the essential link between end users and manufacturers. They design, install and maintain RACHP equipment using every available solution with complete neutrality towards equipment and refrigerants, in the sole aim of ensuring the highest level of reliability, energy efficiency and cost-effectiveness. Check our website: <http://area-eur.be/>

## **ABOUT ATF:**

The Association of Italian Refrigeration Technicians (ATF, [www.associazioneATF.org](http://www.associazioneATF.org)) groups together more than 1000 companies of installation, maintenance and repair in the HVAC&R sector in Italy. The association represents in the peninsula about 9000 technicians, contractors and companies with a total turnover of Euros 950 mln. ATF is active in Europe with the European Commission, with United Nations and with all major global industry associations (e.g. IIR, EPEE, AHRI, ASHRAE etc.), with which it organizes the renowned biennial #EUConfRAC in Milan, and counts since 2018 on the Presidency of the Air conditioning and Refrigeration European Association – AREA. ATF cooperates with United Nation Environment, the International Institute of Refrigeration (Paris) and the leading International Association of refrigeration and air conditioning (AREA) periodically organizes conferences on the latest technology in the air conditioning and refrigeration industry.

## **ABOUT EPEE:**

The European Partnership for Energy and the Environment (EPEE) represents the refrigeration, air-conditioning and heat pump industry in Europe. Founded in the year 2000, EPEE's membership is composed of 48 member companies, national and international associations. EPEE member companies realize a turnover of over 30 billion Euros, employ more than 200,000 people in Europe and also create indirect employment through a vast network of small and medium-sized enterprises such as contractors who install, service and maintain equipment. EPEE member companies have manufacturing sites and research and development facilities across the EU, which innovate for the global market. As an expert association, EPEE is supporting safe, environmentally and economically viable technologies with the objective of promoting a better understanding of the sector in the EU and contributing to the development of effective European policies.

Please see our website ([www.epeeglobal.org](http://www.epeeglobal.org)) for further information.

## **About EVIA:**

The European Ventilation Industry Association (EVIA) was established in Brussels in July 2010. EVIA's mission is to represent the views and interests of the ventilation industry and serve as platform between all the relevant European stakeholders involved in the ventilation sector, such as decision-makers at the EU level as well as our partners in EU Member States. Our membership is composed of more than 41 member companies and 6 national associations across Europe realising an annual turnover of over 7 Billion Euros and employing more than 45,000 people in Europe. EVIA aims to promote highly energy efficient ventilation applications across Europe, with high consideration for health and comfort aspects. Fresh and good indoor air quality is a critical element of comfort and contributes to keeping people healthy in buildings. Check our website: <http://www.evia.eu/en/>