

# About the EWEA 2013 Annual Event

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**Monday 4 - Thursday 7 February 2013 | Messe Wien, Vienna, Austria**

EWEA 2013 Annual Event is Europe's premier wind energy industrial event comprising an extensive exhibition and comprehensive conference. The event is held every year and attracts over 10,000 attendees.

## **EWEA 2013: Exploring new frontiers**

Taking place for the very first time in Vienna at Messe Wien Congress Center on 4 – 7 February 2013, EWEA 2013 Annual Event will unite the wind industry once again and return with a new theme that fosters progress and industry growth. EWEA 2013 will focus on significant opportunities for the industry.

EWEA – The European Wind Energy Association – has been organising events for over 25 years. During that time, EWEA Annual Events have grown into a leading European exhibition and conference for the wind energy industry. International competition in the wind energy industry has intensified and, as well as mature markets, there are a growing number of emerging markets seeking to establish their own wind energy capabilities.

Vienna - ideally situated between the east and west, will bring together Europe's mature and emerging wind energy markets; such a gathering provides exciting collaborative opportunities for business growth and jobs.

Emerging markets, a topic of the utmost interest to all in the wind industry, will be given a special focus at EWEA 2013. Keynote speakers include the Irish and Turkish energy ministers, as well as the economic minister from host country Austria. Ireland will hold the Presidency of the EU in 2013, Turkey is the epitome of an "emerging market" for wind energy and Austria hopes to get 71% of its electricity from renewable energy by 2020.

The conference programme includes several sessions housing practical case studies from companies active in central and eastern Europe, second wave and mature markets and there is also a focused emerging markets workshop which will look at the opportunities and challenges for wind energy in the eastern European and emerging markets on Tuesday 5 and Wednesday 6 February 2013.

## **Wind Energy and Finance**

As well as some additional activities focusing on emerging markets, conference delegates at EWEA 2013 will be well catered for with six tracks focusing on providing panel debates with industry experts on key issues, technical presentations on the latest technology developments and many learning opportunities.

Tom Murley, Director and Head of Renewable Energy at HgCapital has been nominated as Finance Track Chair for EWEA 2013. In these five sessions featuring experts from the finance

sector, he aims to examine current and evolving structures to finance wind in these turbulent times.

These days, when the issue of energy comes up in the media, the question of cost is usually not far behind. Comparing the price tag of the various available energy sources is important for both financiers making investment decisions and governments developing energy policies, particularly given the current shortage of capital in the market.

Tom Murley of HgCapital feels that a lack of understanding of wind is not the main reason that the finance community is reluctant to provide capital to the wind sector. "If anything, we have a better understanding of the regulatory context and resource availability than ever before. It basically comes down to the law of supply and demand" he asserts, "with a global capital shortage invariably leading to higher capital prices."

As well as discussing some key challenges facing the industry over these sessions, experts will discuss the emerging sources of finance (pension funds, insurance companies, debt funds) and how to bridge the growing funding gap.

### **Business and networking opportunities**

As well as over 40 conference sessions (over 400 international presenters) and an exhibition housing more than 400 exhibitors, the event provides a range of additional activities and networking events to facilitate business networking at the event.

The opening reception will be held in the City Hall. One of the most splendid of Vienna's numerous monumental buildings. EWEA 2013 participants will be able to meet in this beautiful gothic building and enjoy some regional specialties.

A matchmaking event provides participants with a way to network efficiently. This 20 minute speed dating meeting allows participants to plan in advance with a business partner who is interested in their business profile.

The Austrian Wind Energy Association is offering the opportunity for EWEA 2013 participants to experience Austrian solutions in the field of renewable energy during the event. Participants will be able to experience some premier projects in the field of renewable energy of Austrian companies. There are three business tours taking place during the 4-day event.

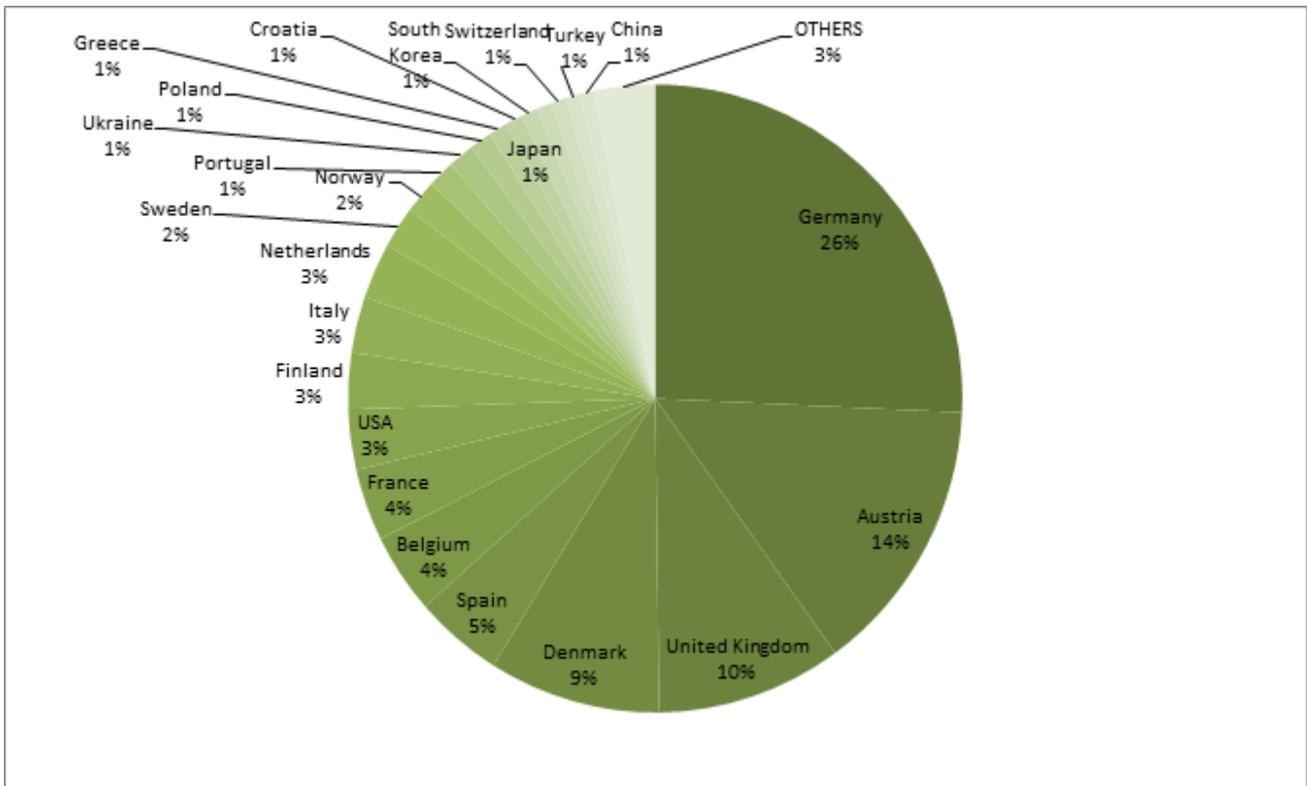
This year's conference dinner will be held in the historic Hofburg. Built as part of the city's medieval fortifications, the Hofburg is the Habsburg's former imperial residence.

In collaboration with Greenfish recruitment agency, EWEA will organise a Careers Day on the final day of the event. Featuring the results from the 10 most wanted profiles survey, presentations addressing recruitment issues and solutions and a matchmaking event, employers, recruiters and job seekers alike will be able to benefit from the comprehensive programme.

**For more information and to register: [www.ewea.org/annual2013](http://www.ewea.org/annual2013)**

EWEA 2013 participants' statistics:

- **By countries:**



Usually, at EWEA annual events, over 80% of the participants come from abroad.

- **By profile**

