Best Practice Examples Heat Pumps in Multi Family Buildings

St-Julien, Geneva, Switzerland

Geneva, Switzerland

1972

retrofit radiators

This project concerns the replacement of an existing oil heating system by a HP only solution in a multifamily building. With the goal of having the total heat production from HP origin, two air/water heat pumps were implemented on the rooftop. One of the previous fuel oil boilers was kept for back up.

Key facts

Building Location

First Construction

Project type Heat distribution Heated area Level of insulation

Heat pump

Number of Heat source Installed power 2 ambient air 2 x 125 kW (A-7/W65)

HP only

 4049 m^2 living

low (1972 standard)

Heating system

Operation mode Existing oil boiler

Heat demand

ongoing monitoring Heating temperature 65 °C (@ -7° ext) Type of system Max. temperature Circulation system

centralized 60 °C ves

300 kW (back-up)

Other information

Consumption

PV installation

ongoing monitoring no

Lessons learned

Ongoing monitoring, but so far:

- Major air HP constraints encountered: noise emissions, vibrations, safety... These implied important costs and planning work.
- Building's electrical connection had • to be reinforced due to HPs massive absorbed power
- Adjustment of rooftop infrastructure, including insulation, in order to withstand the compression forces of larger HP chassis.





This existing MFH (multi-family building), built in 1972 in Geneva, contains 53 apartments over eight floors. It suffered no major envelope retrofit before this project and the total oil consumption amounted to 700 MWh/yr (for space heating and domestic hot water of its 4'049m² of heated area). (Photo credit SIG, CSD Ingénieurs SA)

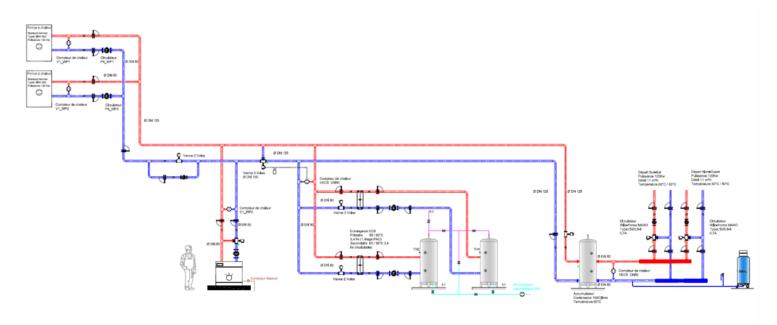






St-Julien, Geneva, Switzerland, Technical Details

Hydraulic scheme of the system



Description of the technical concept

This project, part of a Geneva pilot program to replace fossil fuel boilers by heat pumps (HP) in MFH, concerns the replacement of a oil heating system by HP only heating system. For this purpose two 125 kW air/water heat pumps were implemented on the rooftop. As a back up, 300 kW oil boiler was maintained.

It should be mentioned that:

- The building rooftop was retrofitted before the HPs were installed. No other retrofit action was undertaken.
- The heat and DHW distribution system was not modified.

The two HPs work in turns, except when both are needed simultaneously. They provide the total heat for both space heating and domestic hot water.

