

## Case Studies

<https://heatpumpingtechnologies.org/annex57/>

ANNEX

57

Flexibility by  
implementation of heat  
pumps in multi-vector  
energy systems and  
thermal networks

### Large-scale power plant Mannheim, Mannheim-Neckarau, Germany

“Large-scale heat pumps in district heating networks – installation, operation, monitoring and system integration”

#### KEY FACTS

**Type of heat pump:**  
river heat pump

**Energy distribution System:**  
1.958 MW<sub>el</sub>, 1.500 MW<sub>th</sub>,  
20,5 MW<sub>th</sub> heat pump

**Energy Storage:**  
district heating storage  
(43.000 m<sup>3</sup>, 1.500 MWh<sub>th</sub>)

**Control for the flexible heat  
pump operation:**  
Heuristic control: optimization  
for minute reserve on the  
electricity market

**General description:**  
20,5 MW<sub>th</sub> heat pump

**Heat Source:**  
river water, electricity, hard  
coal

**Project:**  
Place: Mannheim / Germany  
Time Frame: 4/2021 - 3/2026  
Owner/leader: MVV Energie  
AG  
R&D-project partners:  
AGFW; Fraunhofer ISE; IER  
Stuttgart

**Funding:**  
Federal Ministry for Economic  
Affairs and Climate Protection  
(BMWK) due to an enactment  
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#### Summary of the project:

In the large-scale power plant Mannheim about 1,6 TWh heat are generated each year and distributed through a nearly 600 km long network around the city. The heat is provided by the burning of hard coal in 4 power plant blocks. Additionally, the heat is stored in a storage with a thermal capacity of 250 MW<sub>th</sub>. The network reaches supply temperatures up to 130°C and provides for about 60 % of Mannheim's households.

The newly installed heat pump is a first step towards climate neutrality. The river heat pump uses about 5°C warm water from river Rhein to provide district heating water up to a temperature of 99°C. The LHP has a nominal thermal power output of 20,5 MW<sub>th</sub>, uses a two-stage compressor with a flash tank and operates with the refrigerant R-1234ze(E).

In the Real-World Laboratory the integration of the LHP in den district heating network and the optimal application regarding grid friendliness and economic efficiency is being investigated.

#### Contact Information/Links

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<https://www.ise.fraunhofer.de/de/forschungsprojekte/reallabor-grosswaermepumpen.html>



IEA Technology Collaboration Programme on  
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