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Nordic Pellets Conference 2026 – Navigating a Changing Market

The Nordic Pellets Conference 2026, held on 3–4 February in Gothenburg, once again confirmed its role as one of the most important meeting places for the Nordic and north European pellet sector. Organised by Svebio – the Swedish Bioenergy Association, in close cooperation with the Swedish Pellets Association and partners, the conference gathered nearly 115 participants from around 10 countries and representing the whole value chain for two intensive and highly engaging days.

With the backdrop of a rapidly changing geopolitical landscape, evolving EU regulation and increasing pressure on energy systems due to changes in production, this year's conference focused strongly on how the pellet and bioenergy sectors can navigate uncertainty while strengthening energy security, resilience and long-term sustainability.

A programme reflecting today's challenges

The conference programme combined policy discussions, market outlooks and concrete technical insights, offering participants a broad and well-balanced perspective on the sector's development. Discussions throughout the conference highlighted how the market has been and are changing rapidly due to geopolitical tensions, new sustainability requirements and short-term political decisions, both on national and EU level.

This has increased uncertainty for investors and market actors alike. At the same time, a clear shift in argumentation could be observed: while climate and sustainability remain fundamental drivers, energy security, resilience and domestic supply are increasingly moving to the forefront of the debate.

Pellets and bioenergy were repeatedly highlighted as key contributors to secure, dispatchable and locally anchored energy solutions, capable of complementing electrification and supporting robust energy systems. They further offer the advantage of reducing dependence on imported energy.

A timely video greeting from Latvia's Minister for Economics, Mr Viktors Valainis, was also given, emphasising the importance of forestry and wood-based industries for stability, sustainability and international cooperation – themes that strongly resonated throughout the conference.

Market developments, policy and trade

The first day opened with a strong focus on market situation and policy development, including an overview of pellet market developments in Sweden, global pellet market outlooks and perspectives from the construction and timber sector. Presentations showed how demand for wood-based products and bioenergy is closely linked to developments in housing, industrial activity and policy stability.





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Austria's position as a leading pellet market provided valuable insights into how long-term policy design, consumer confidence and market maturity can drive growth. EU policy developments were another central theme, with in-depth discussions on RED III, Ecodesign, EUDR and future energy and climate policy, highlighting both risks and opportunities for the pellet sector.

Trade, sourcing and sustainability were addressed through perspectives on certification systems, global pellet trade patterns and sourcing of wood fuels in the Baltic region. These sessions illustrated how companies are adapting to disrupted supply chains, stricter sustainability requirements and heightened scrutiny on security of supply.

Pellets in industry, heating and hybrid solutions

The second day focused on pellets use for industry and heating, including policy drivers and emerging solutions. Several presentations underlined how hybrid systems, combining pellets with electricity, can reduce risk, improve flexibility and support industrial defossilisation.

Topics included large-scale bioenergy and the potential for negative emissions, combined fuel operation in urban environments, and how pellets can complement electrification by offering dispatchable renewable energy and reducing peak power demand.

A recurring message was the importance of spreading risk through diversification, new collaborations and integrated system solutions.

Production, safety and technology development

A strong technical focus was seen particularly in sessions on pellet production, drying, fuel handling, storage and safety. Presentations highlighted how rapid technological development is improving efficiency, reliability and sustainability across the value chain – from advanced production technologies and drying solutions to fire prevention, explosion protection and safe storage of solid biofuels.

These sessions demonstrated that innovation, automation and increasingly data-driven solutions are becoming central to maintaining competitiveness in a demanding and evolving market.

Site visits, exhibition and networking

Many participants also took part in site visits to the Power Central at Chalmers University of Technology and Solör Bioenergi AB district heating plant in Landvetter, providing valuable real-world insights into research, innovation and practical bioenergy solutions.

A lively exhibition area and extensive networking opportunities were highly appreciated, reinforcing the value of meeting face to face in times of change. Many participants highlighted networking, informal discussions and the social programme – including the conference dinner – as some of the most valuable elements of the event.





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Strong engagement and positive feedback

The overall feedback from participants was very positive. The conference received an average evaluation score of 8.4, reflecting a high level of satisfaction with the programme, speakers, organisation and overall atmosphere. Participants particularly appreciated the breadth of topics, the mix of policy, market and technical perspectives, and the opportunity to engage directly with colleagues from across the sector.

Speakers, sponsors and partners

The conference featured a strong line-up of speakers from industry, research, policy organisations and authorities, representing the full breadth of the pellet and bioenergy sector. Contributions from market analysts, technology providers, producers, traders, policymakers and researchers ensured a rich and well-rounded discussion.

Svebio would like to extend its sincere thanks to the conference sponsors [Amandus Kahl](#) (Silver Sponsor) and [Mühlböck Holzrocknungsanlagen GmbH](#) (Bronze Sponsor), as well as all partners and exhibitors, including Green Pellets, [PRODESA Group](#), [Hekotek](#), [CPM](#), [Mared SustainTech](#) and [PetroBio](#), for their valuable support and engagement.

Looking ahead

The discussions in Gothenburg made one thing very clear: pellets and bioenergy will continue to play a crucial role in Europe's energy transition, not least in strengthening energy security and system resilience in an increasingly uncertain world. At the same time, the sector must continue to adapt to new market conditions, policy frameworks and technological developments.

The Nordic Pellets Conference 2026 demonstrated the strength, innovation and commitment within the sector – and the importance of continued dialogue, collaboration and knowledge sharing. Svebio looks forward to building on these discussions and welcoming participants back to the next Nordic Pellets Conference in the beginning of 2027.

