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Daikin Signs Memorandum of Understanding for Decarbonization Collaboration with Greater Manchester, UK

Teams up to promote decarbonization of residences and public buildings through heat pump heating and energy-saving control by remote monitoring

Daikin Europe N.V., a subsidiary of Daikin Industries, Ltd., has recently joined forces and signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for a collaborative partnership with the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA), which consists of 10 wards and cities located in the northwest region of England. In signing the MOU, the two parties agreed to cooperate in the promotion of decarbonization, investment, and job creation.

The UK is a global leader in environmental policies aimed at achieving carbon neutrality, and the GMCA, one of the UK's largest metropolitan areas, is particularly attracting great attention for setting the challenging goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2038, which significantly brings forward the national target year of 2050. To achieve the goals of the GMCA, the MOU calls for the cooperation and collaboration between the two parties over a five-year period until 2027 and aims for the large-scale introduction of heat pump heating along with education and skill development to train HVAC technicians.

Daikin is planning to propose various demonstration themes that utilize its unique environmental technologies. These themes include replacing existing gas boilers in approximately 1,000 homes with heat pump heating systems, introducing commercial heating and cooling systems that use the low-GWP refrigerant R32 to public buildings, connecting those systems to sophisticated controllers and the cloud to provide optimal control for energy savings through remote monitoring. Additionally, Daikin, in cooperation with schools and re-employment centers in the GMCA, will provide training programs for developing HVAC technicians and establish an official qualification system with the aim of creating jobs and revitalizing the economy. The company is also considering the introduction of wearable devices for workers that utilize AI and will work to improve the efficiency of on-site operations and service quality.

From 2013 to 2017, the GMCA and Daikin collaborated on a project led by Japan's New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO). The project demonstrated the effectiveness of both heat pump heating to save energy and aggregation systems to regulate electricity demand. The GMCA and Daikin worked together on Europe's largest heat pump heating project which included the installation of more than 500 heat pump systems in public housing.

In agreeing to this MOU, Daikin hopes to make a significant contribution to the decarbonization of the GMCA as the company aims to promote its environmental technologies such as heat pump heating through collaborative creation with the public and private sectors throughout the UK and Europe.



Signing ceremony held on February 3 ©2023 GMCA