

# 4<sup>th</sup> Generation District Heating

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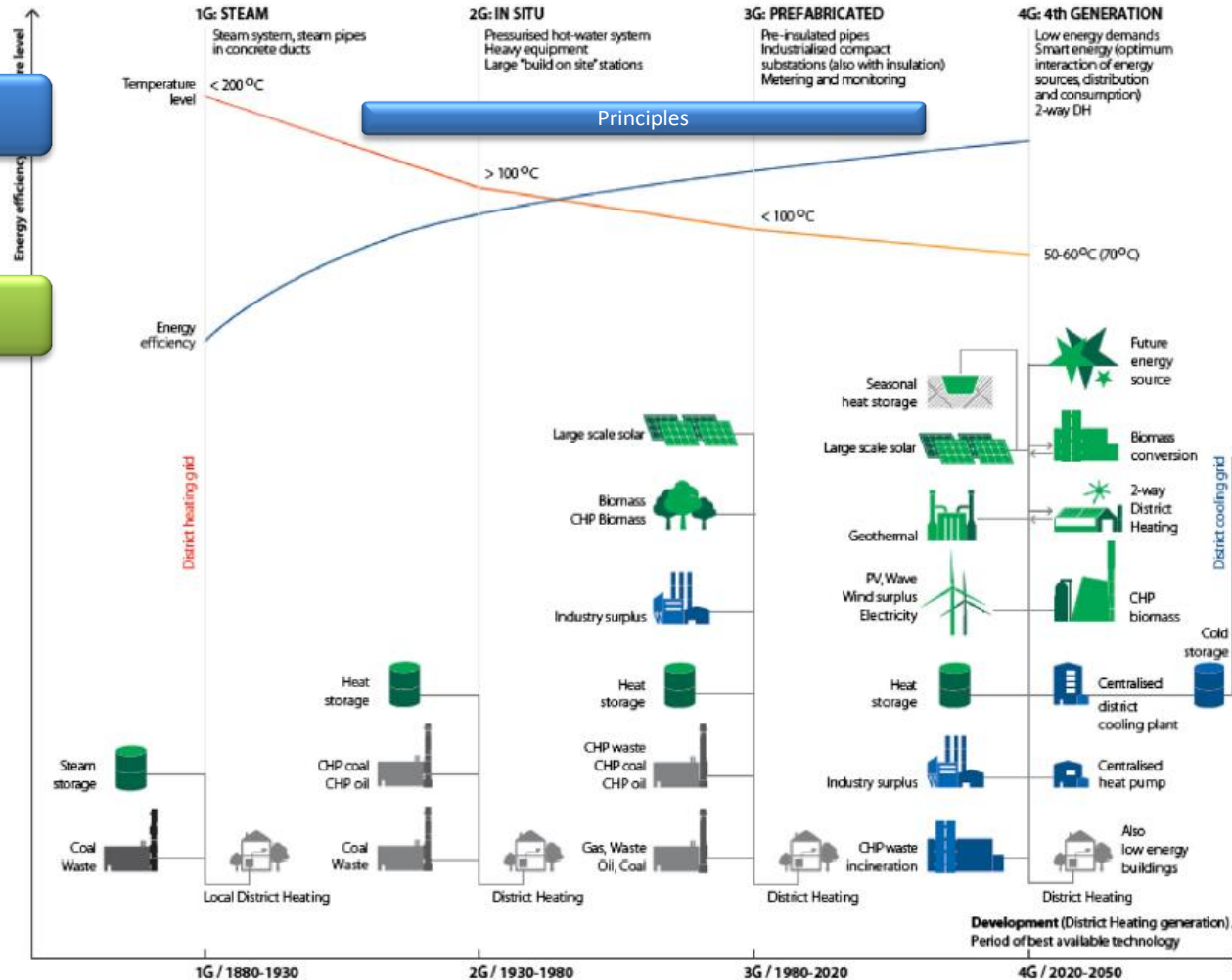
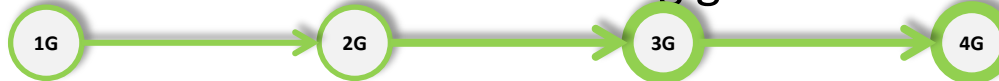
Director of Projects

Application Center

Danfoss Heating Segment



# What are the district heating generations?

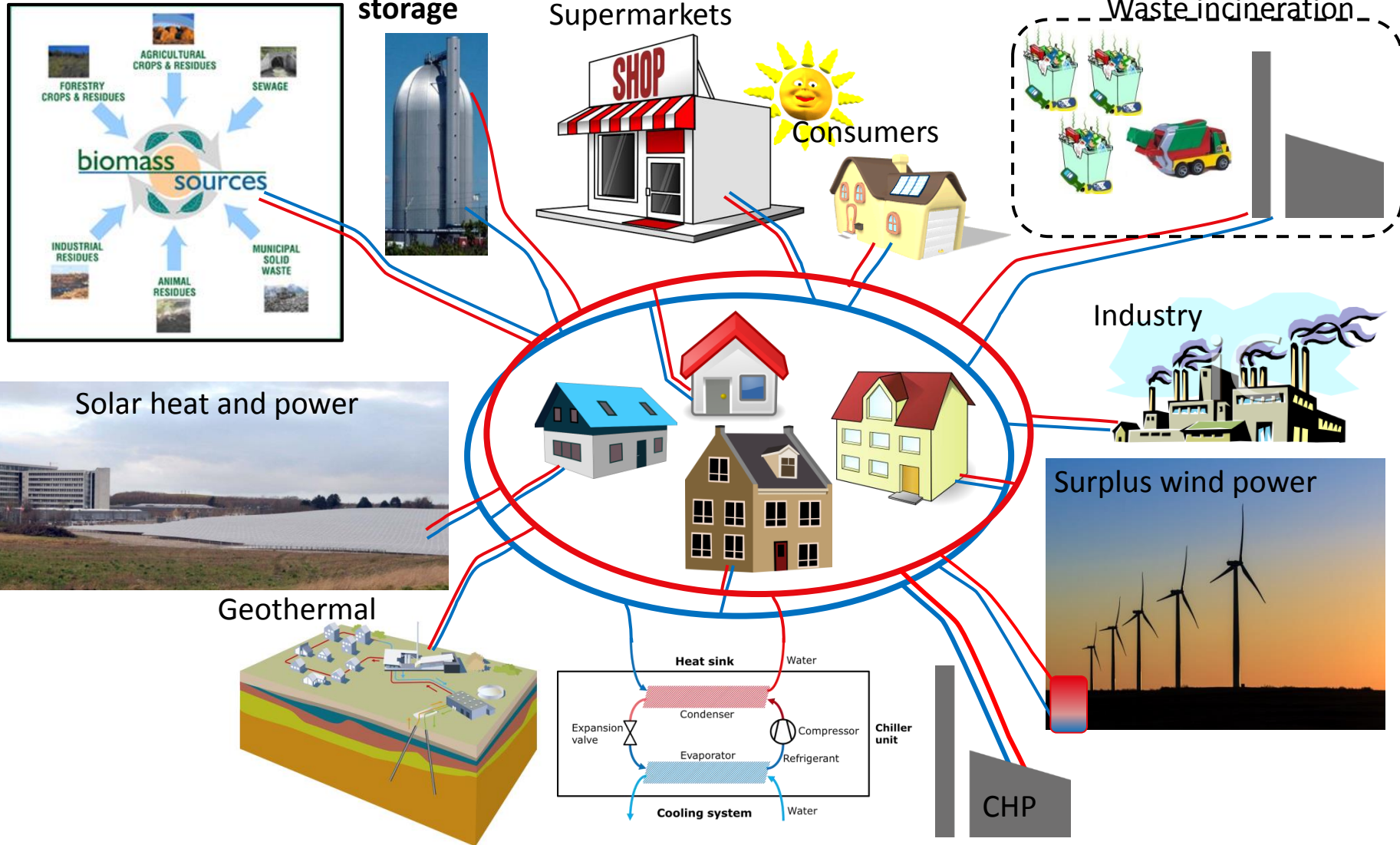


Same service but lower temperature and higher efficiency

Heat sources

# 4GDH benefits towards the heat source

- Possibilities of renewable and surplus heat utilization





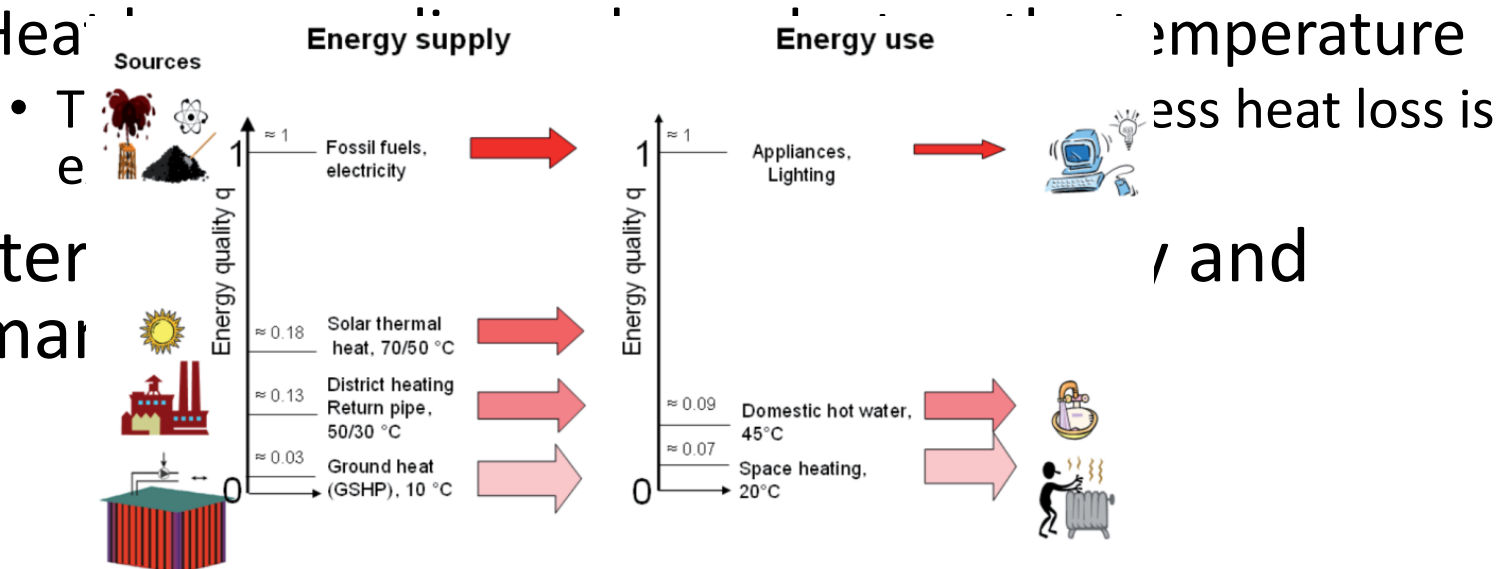
## Other benefits of 4GDH systems to the energy infrastructure

- Increased CHP efficiency
  - Lower supply temperatures increase power generation efficiency
  - Lower return temperatures increase flue gas condensation

## • Reduced distribution losses

- Heat source temperature less heat loss is

## • Better demand



# What impact has the 4GDH concept on currently applied technologies?

## • Distribution network

- Pipe dimensions optimized in relation to heat loss as well as pumping power consumption
- The low supply temperature opens up for increased application of flexible pre-insulated plastic pi,
- Fast installation
- Cost efficient

*Pictures from Thermaflex pipe manufacturer*



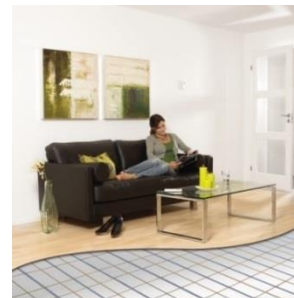
Figure 2: Hengelo, NL: 10 houses connected to the heating grid (2 lines) in 1,5 hrs



Figure 3: Alkmaar, NL: 6 houses connected to District Heating in 1,5 hrs

## • Space heating

- Heat emitters:
  - *Radiators*: need to be dimensioned for 55°C supply, 25°C return for 20°C indoor air temperature (55/25/20°C)
  - *Floor heating*: No impact as floor heating is generally designed for 45/25/20°C
- Control equipment:
  - High focus on smart controllers



What impact has the 4GDH on currently applied technologies?

- **Domestic hot water (DHW) preparation**

- Due to the low supply temperature instantaneous DHW preparation using **high efficiency heat exchangers** and **high quality controls** are required

Improved heat exchanger technology



to ensure good cooling

temperatures

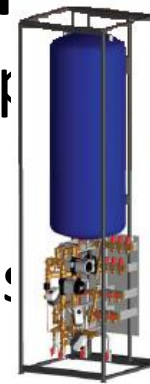
Instantaneous DHW preparation unit

pipings volume should be less

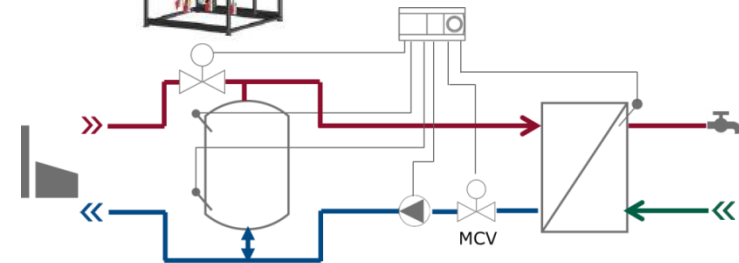
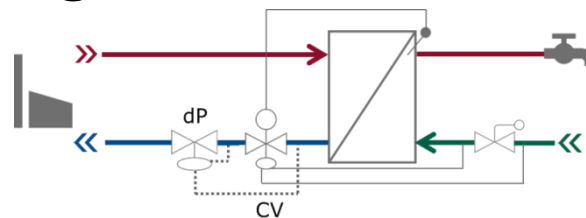
than 3 liters to minimize legionella issues



the supply

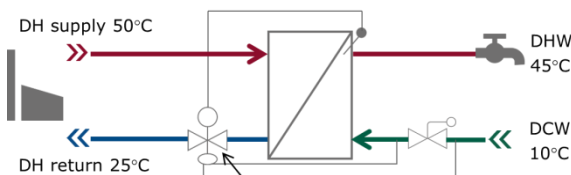
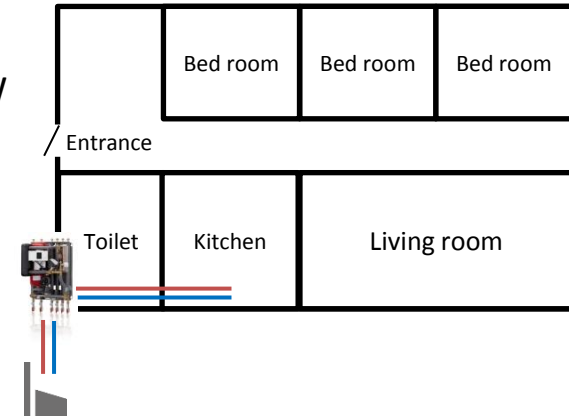
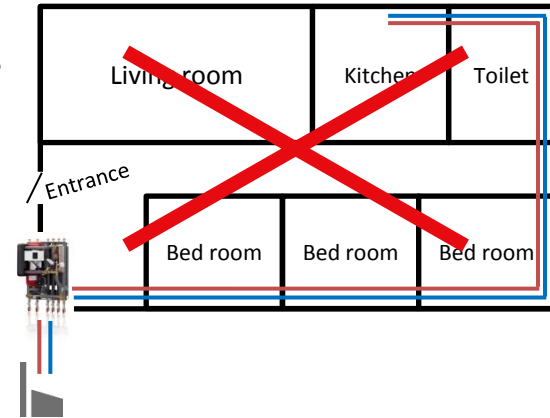


Instantaneous DHW preparation unit with primary side storage

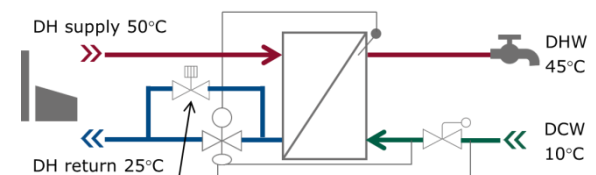
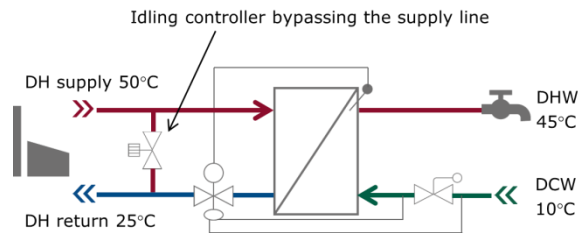


# Domestic hot water idling functions

- With the elimination of domestic hot water circulation a new (old) issue emerged:
  - **People are in general impatient**
- To limit the waiting time for domestic hot water some aspects need to be considered:
  - a) Minimize the pipe distances and dimensions from the DHW unit to the taps and
  - b) To keep the supply pipe and/or the domestic hot water heat exchanger warm during non-tapping periods by using by-passes, on the primary side



Control valve with reduced temperature during idling



Idling controller bypassing the control valve

## Why does 4GDH fit with future low energy buildings?

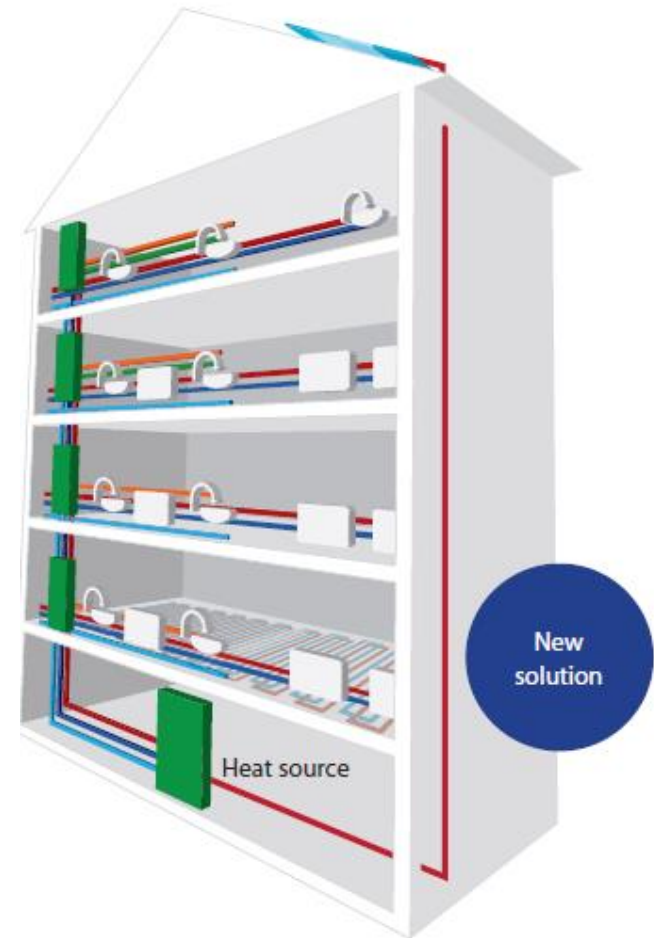
- **Low energy buildings:**
  - To maximize energy efficiency low energy buildings are generally designed with low temperature heating installation
    - Floor heating
    - Low temperature radiators
  - Domestic Hot Water installation is designed to minimize energy consumption
    - Instantaneous DHW preparation
    - Minimum DHW pipe distances
    - No DHW circulation
- Those points fit exactly with 4GDH!



## 4GDH and multifamily buildings?

- **Flat stations**

- Suitable for low-temperature DH
- Flat station in each flat
- Overall DHW system volume <3 L
- Individual control over space heating
- Simple energy metering
  - 😊 One heat meter for all heat consumption
- No DHW circulation
  - 😊 Reduced heat loss
- No vertical risers in flats
  - 😊 Reduced noise
  - 😊 Reduced heat loss

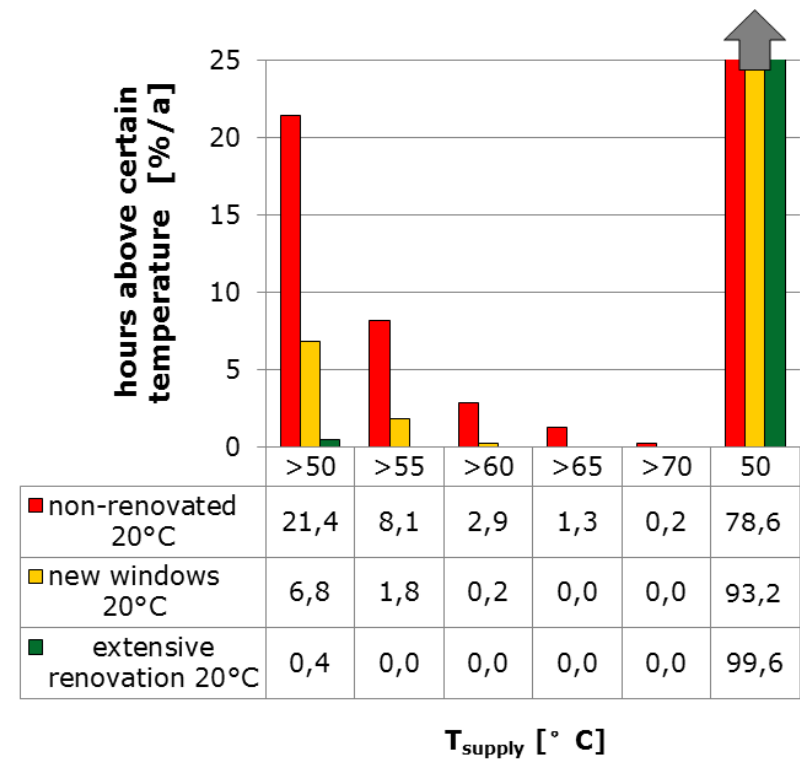


# Experience I – Danish single-family houses from 1970

## - Simulation results

- The simulations showed:
  - Even for non-renovated buildings 50°C supply temperature is sufficiently high for 79% of the year
  - With moderate renovations, new windows, low-temperature supply can be used for 93% of the time
- This implies that already today low-temperature district heating could be achieved with a temperature boosting during the coldest periods

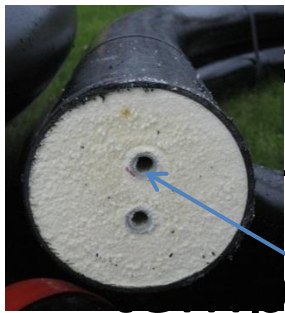
**Duration of  $T_{\text{supply}}$  over certain temperature**



Source: Brand. M, Svendsen. S, *Renewable-based low-temperature district heating for existing buildings in various stages of refurbishment*. Energy, 2013.

Experience II – Low energy houses (2011)  
- Lystrup, Denmark

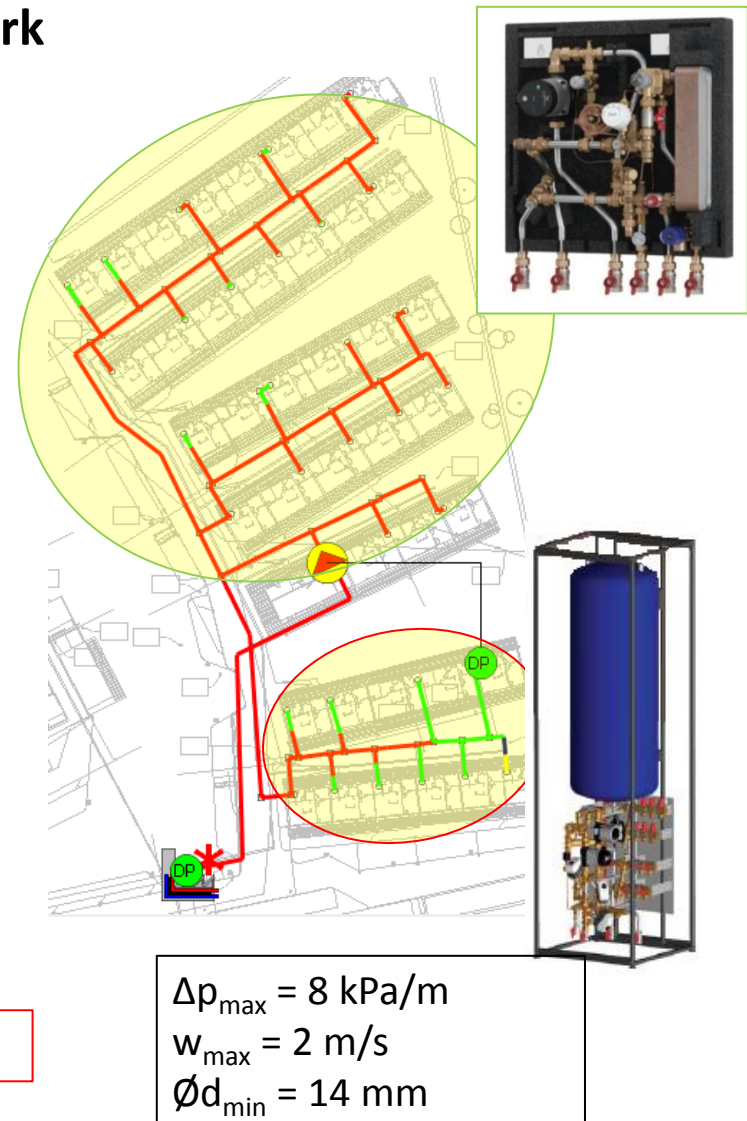
- Project supported by the Danish government
- 40 low-energy single-family houses
- New DH design: Higher DH water speed, higher pressure drop



ing of developed low-  
substations

Inner Diameter 14 mm!

- Only 14% heat loss from DHN



## Low-temperature experience III - Sønderby, Denmark

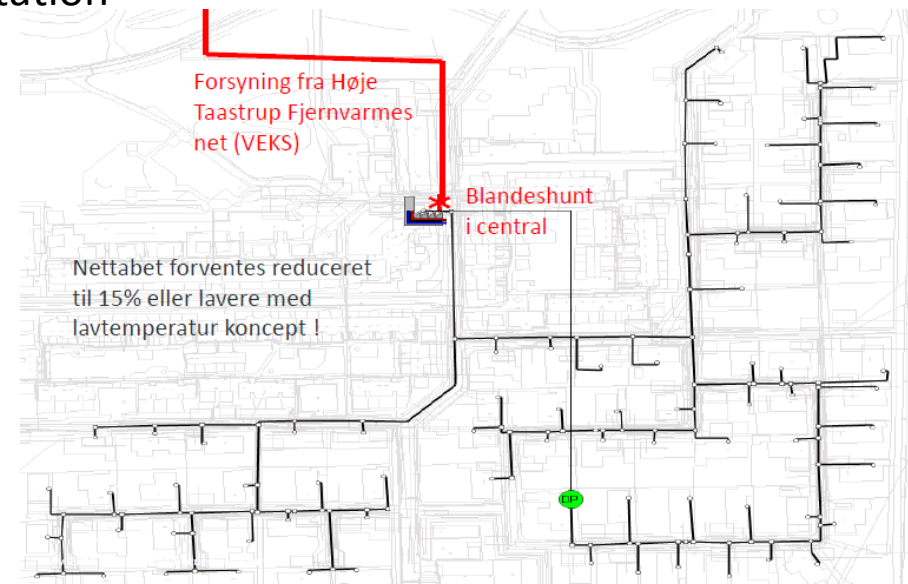
### Low-temperature DH for existing buildings

- Project supported by the Danish government
- 75 single-family buildings from 1997
- **Floor heating**



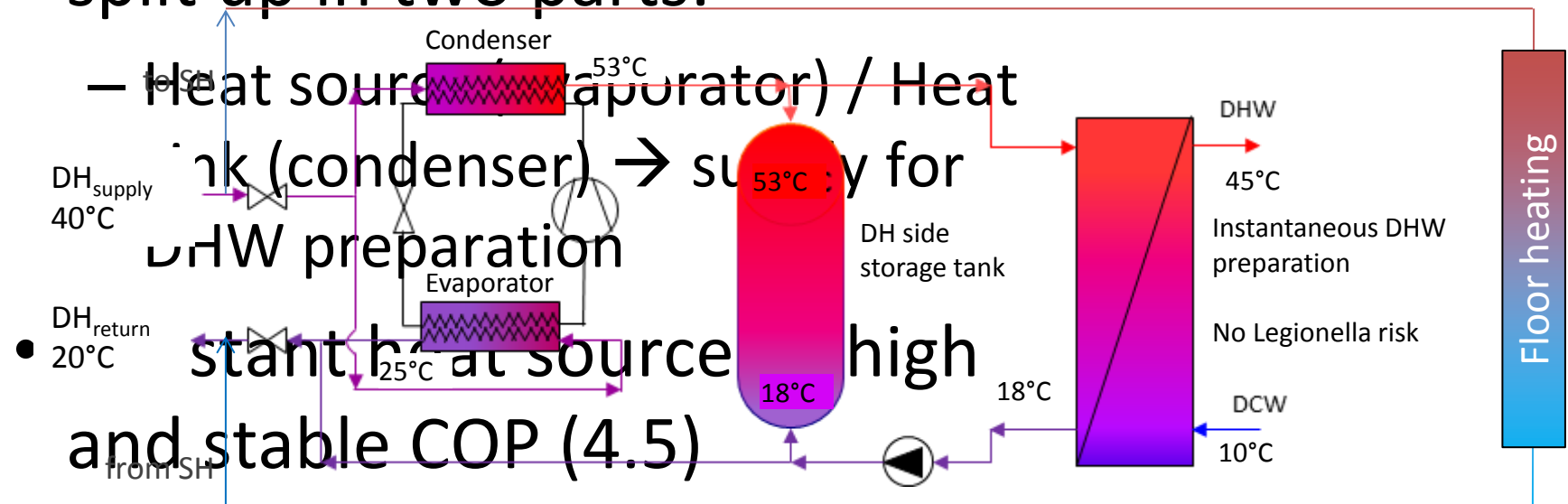
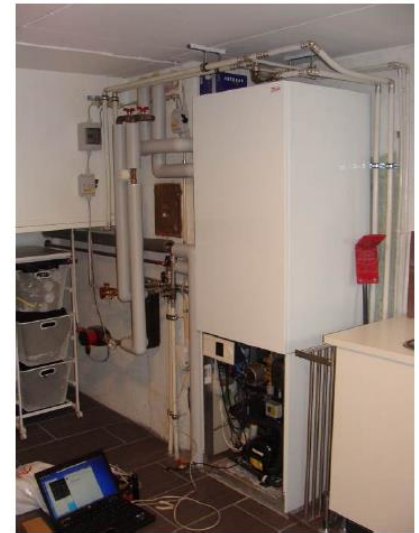
### Realization

- New low-temperature DH in-house substation
- New DH network
- Heat loss reduced from 40% -> 14%
- 80% of heat demand supplied from main **DH return line**
- Average  $T_{\text{sup}} = 55^{\circ}\text{C}$
- No complaints



# Experience IV - Heat pump supplied by Ultra-LTDH (2014) - Copenhagen, Denmark

- DH supply temperature is 40°C
- Space heating part is not “boosted”  
=> floor heating
- DH supply flow part for DHW is split up in two parts:





Experience V – Electrical heater to boost the DHW (2016)  
- Copenhagen, Denmark

- **DH designed for 40/25°C**
- Electric heater added at the c
  - DHW instantaneously heated to
  - Electrical heater boosts the tem up to 60°C by electric heater
- Expected heat loss reduction
  - 17% compared to 50/25°C
  - 40-55% compared to 80/40
- Prototypes installed in 5 houses
  - First results are promising



## Experience VI - Surplus heat from supermarket cooling system - SuperBrugsen in Høruphav, Denmark



### Supermarket

- Area: 1000 m<sup>2</sup>, built in 2010
- Cooling Capacity: 160 kW
  - Waste heat: 60-100°C
- Partnership model:
  - SuperBrugsen – earns money on the waste heat and increases its green profile
  - Danfoss – DH application and technology provider
  - DH utility – more “green energy”

Thank you for your attention

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