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# **Renewable Energy Report**

## **Tracking system proposed for EU electricity generation**

A project supported by the European Commission has proposed integrating renewable energy guarantees of origin into a European tracking system for electricity, project leader Cristof Timpe told the 5th European conference on green power marketing in Lausanne, Switzerland on September 14.

The initiative, dubbed E-TRACK, was launched to certify and account for electricity production across the EU. "All electricity consumers have a right to know where their electricity comes from" under EC regulations, he said. "Green power can only be successful in the market if consumers can trust in the accounting system behind it."

But the EU has a variety of electricity tracking systems, Timpe said, including the European Energy Certificate System. This array of tracking systems produce problems with multiple counting – for example, when a biomass combined heat and power plant receives one certificate for the renewable energy it produces and another for the heat it generates.

"The design of a tracking standard for electricity is a delicate issue for market participants and should be developed carefully in order to produce useful results, eg for electricity disclosure, but at the same time not create negative impacts on the liquidity of electricity markets," he said.

E-TRACK is designed to bring a standard accounting system for power production and use, Timpe said. Under the E-TRACK standard, a certificate system based on current national registries would be created. The system using the EECS system plus additional regulations would enable tracking statistics to be created. EU countries could use the E-TRACK standard "and coordinate their tracking systems and policies with it," Timpe said.

The report is available at [www.e-track-project.org](http://www.e-track-project.org).