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New projects for geothermal district heating and cooling systems in the Brescia Province (Northern Italy)

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Direct and indirect use of geothermal energy in the Brescia Province; an area with major superficial aquifers and geological irregularity which allow the exploitation, also direct, of a geothermal source.

Analysis of the results achieved by Cogeme SpA in the research of deep geothermal fluids and in the prototyping of "cold district heating" network systems allowing a rational use of groundwater for energy purposes.

"Cold District heating" allows the transfer of a geothermal resource from the area of pumping and storage, toward revamping thermal plants which supply existing buildings, thus solving the typical issues concerning the use of renewable energy sources in old town centres, in areas with few common spaces, in contexts subject to an environmental, historical and architectural constraint of protection or to strict acoustic zoning "Cold District Heating" can represent a simple, rapid, noninvasive and "renewable" way to revamp heat production plants.

It is a valid answer to the energy needs of those small urban centers which are interested in reaching the energy efficiency of their buildings but, which cannot find a valid solution in the conventional District Heating, because of the limited dimension of their catchment area.

F.C. MOLINARI



Figure 1: F.C. MOLINARI

Author: Dr MOLINARI, Fabio Carlo (Freelance Geologist)

Co-author: Dr TARANTINO, Paolo (Technical Director - Cogeme SpA)

Presenter: Dr MOLINARI, Fabio Carlo (Freelance Geologist)

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