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Dear reader

This edition of the BUILD UP newsletter highlights the topic of information activities and knowledge transfer products in several news items, but also informs on advanced developments in high performance houses, technologies and tools. As an example, one news item presents the results of the solar decathlon 2009 competition in Washington among 20 different international universities that has been won for the second time by a team of German students. Their self-designed and constructed energy-efficient solar-powered house includes future-proof design features, advanced building elements and highly efficient renewable energy systems.

Your BUILD UP team.

Discover the latest and most interesting items posted by the BUILD UP users this month:

Publications



Collecting Data from Energy Certification to Monitor Performance Indicators for New and Existing Buildings - DATAMINE Executive Summary

The Datamine Project has been driven by the need for concrete data on potential energy savings and CO2 reductions in the European building stock. Data will in turn help develop tailored, cost-efficient complementary measures to energy performance legislation, such as soft loans and tax incentives. DATAMINE aims to construct a knowledge base using the information on the energy performance certificates issued when buildings are constructed, sold or rented. The test data comes from buildings in 12 different countries and full allowance is made for the Europe-wide differences in certification schemes, since each country has a scheme tailored to its specific needs, building stock and climate. Test projects have been carried out on large samples of buildings in 12 countries, each with individual monitoring targets. This gives a clearer insight into the current state of refurbishment of the buildings in each country. Data from around 18 000 buildings have until now been collected in the common DATAMINE format. Cross-country analysis of the collected data is now underway and the project will lead to an evaluation of monitoring systems in each country. Dialogue is maintained with the national bodies implementing certification schemes across Europe.

Further information: [Click here](#)
More publications can be viewed here: [Click here](#)

Cases



Sweden's first passive house villa - a unique film production

This unique web-based film production shows the first passive house villa being built in Sweden. In three short videos you can follow the planning process, the construction and the result. Villa Malmberg in Lidköping was built in 2006-2007 and now we get to know how it went. Is the family happy with the indoor climate and the energy bills? The production includes extra material such as

all drawings and technical details.

Further information: [Click here](#)
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New Kindergarten and Daycare Centre, low-energy class 1

Kregme Syd Børnehus SITE together with HHM has won the first prize in a competition for a class 1 low-energy integrated kindergarten in Kregme. Class 1 means the building has to comply to the strictest demands on energy and heating consumption. The architecture and spaces are designed to emphasize and enhance the identity of the institution, as well as challenge the senses of the children. The conceptual layout is inspired by a "Hedebyhus", a dwelling from the Viking ages, of which there have been found remnants by the Church in Kregme. A flexible flow of group rooms are arranged around a central common area giving room to interactions between individuals, as well as between groups, under a double-high ceiling perforated by skylights. This allows great variation in experience throughout the day. The compact form is chosen in order to optimise the interior and reduce unnecessary corridors (unusable for anything but circulation), as well as to minimise energy consumption. Furthermore this design yields variation in daylight as one moves through the building due to the varying orientations of the different rooms.

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Communities



Certification schemes

The main aim of the Community is to share knowledge, initiate discussions, raise questions and search for solutions concerning new ways in which energy certification can be even better than today. This community will give focused information on various topics (e.g. news, publications, events, FAQ, relevant cases and tools) with specific attention to certification. Furthermore an active and dynamic interaction including discussion is foreseen.

In the Energy Performance Building Directive, EPBD, article 7 is stated that MS shall ensure that, when buildings are constructed, sold or rented out an energy certificate is made available to the owner or by the owner to the prospective buyer or tenant.

This means that all MS have a lot of experience now and the Community is an instrument to bring key players together and exchange results. The main target groups are authorities and building professionals.

In the proposal for the recast of the Directive the certification schemes still have an important role and some of the points are strengthened e.g. it recognizes the important leading role of public buildings by lowering down to 250 m² the size of buildings that need a certificate to be displayed. Furthermore the recast puts much emphasis on the availability of the certificates during property transaction

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Events



EU Sustainable Energy Week 2010

The theme of the sustainable energy week 2010 is "Intelligent energy in cities". The events during this week will be organised in many European cities with a link to the Convent of Mayors. The events include a 3-day conference in the Commission's Charlemagne and Borschette Buildings in Brussels during 23, 24 and 25th of March 2010. The Sustainable Energy Europe Award will be presented at the end of day 1 of the conference

Further information: [Click here](#)
Other events: [Click here](#)

Tools



Daylight123

Daylight 1-2-3 is a non-expert design analysis tool that supports daylighting-related design decisions in commercial buildings during the initial design and design development stages. The tool predicts the daylighting and energy performance of sidelit and/or toplit private offices, open plan offices, and classrooms. The tool's main objective is to help design professionals with interest in - but no expert knowledge of - daylighting to develop climate-responsive daylighting design concepts; to optimize façade/ roof layout and orientation with respect to daylight and energy use; and to quantify energy savings from occupancy sensors and/or photocell controlled dimming.

Further information on this tool: [Click here](#)
Read about other interesting tools: [Click here](#)

News from the EU



Citizens' Energy Forum: consumers, industry and regulators endorse recommendations for billing, complaint handling and smart metering

EU Consumer Commissioner Meglena Kuneva and the Energy Commissioner Andris Piebalgs gave their closing remarks at the 2nd Citizens' Energy Forum in London this week. The Forum has endorsed recommendations for good practice in billing, aiming to provide EU consumers with simple, clear and informative gas and electricity bills. The recommendations build on good billing practices in several EU countries. The European Commission expects that better billing will help EU consumers to save both on their energy use and on their bills.

Further information: [Click here](#)

Solar energy use in outdoor swimming pools

Outdoor swimming pools are big energy consumers. Pool owners and/or operators in EU - mostly municipalities - spend millions of Euros annually to heat their pools, mostly by using fossil fuels. The use of solar energy for heating swimming pools is a cost-efficient alternative to fossil fuels. The solpool project demonstrates owners, operators and also installers the economical and ecological advantages of the proposed systems and the positive image effect associated to their use. The project is supported by the European Union in order to push solar thermal energy and take environmental objectives seriously. As final product the project has developed an Impact Adviser concerning the possible use for solar heating of swimming pools.

Further information: [Click here](#)

New EU brochure on photovoltaic solar energy available

The Directorate-General Energy and Transport of the European Commission published a brochure on photovoltaic solar energy. It also presents ongoing projects of Intelligent Energy - Europe in that area. The brochure called "Photovoltaic solar energy - Development and current research" is available at http://ec.europa.eu/energy/publications/index_en.htm.

Further information: [Click here](#)

Recast of the EPBD: Observations and Recommendations regarding Impact, Compliance and Control issues.

The report from a workshop organised by the IEE ASIEPI project on September 1-2, 2009 in Brussels summarises some observations and recommendations regarding Impact, Compliance and Control issues of EPBD. These observations and recommendations deal with the general implementation of the EPBD and specifically: - Cost-optimal requirements (articles 4 and 5 in the EPBD recast) - Independent control system (article 17 and Annex II) , and - Penalties (article 22). One of the general conclusions was: "The various expert presentations show a significant variation in EPBD implementation, with big differences in impact, compliance and control. Some variation can be justified because of diversity between the Member States. However, emphasis on consistent and sound implementation can/could release the large potential for further savings. The proposed recast may accelerate this process."

Further information: [Click here](#)

News from the countries



Long-term climate and energy policy adopted in Finland

The Finnish Government adopted on 15 October, 2009 the Foresight Report on Long-term Climate and Energy Policy. Setting a target to reduce Finland's greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80 per cent from the 1990 level by 2050 as part of an international effort, the report marks out the road to a low-carbon Finland in 2050. Climate protection offers opportunities for efficiency, technology and jobs. Low-carbon products and services may become the new cornerstone of Finland's economy and exports, and a number of solutions that reduce emissions may also increase people's personal well-being.

Further information: [Click here](#)

Innovative ventilation and high performance buildings: International experts present new findings at the 30th AIVC conference in Berlin

More than 190 experts from 22 countries participated in the 30th AIVC conference "Trends in High Performance Buildings and the Role of Ventilation" in Berlin at the beginning of October 2009. About 60 presentations split up into two tracks were held. The first track focused on future-oriented energy concepts for buildings whereas the second track dealt mainly with ventilation and indoor air quality. Experts presented studies and investigations of net zero energy buildings, energy efficient communities and optimised ventilation strategies for specific buildings like parliament buildings, dining halls and low-income dwellings. Trends in ventilation included hybrid ventilation for residential buildings, adaptive comfort models, efficient mechanical ventilation systems and the reduction of ventilation losses.

Further information: [Click here](#)

Team Germany wins Solar Decathlon 2009

The Solar Decathlon title defender Technical University of Darmstadt under the lead of Prof. Hegger has won the international competition Solar Decathlon 2009 for the second time after 2007. The Solar Decathlon joins 20 college and university teams in a competition to design, build, and operate the most attractive and energy-efficient solar-powered house. It is organised by the US Department of Energy on the National Mall in Washington D.C. Photos, scores and standings are presented on the website of the competition.

Further information: [Click here](#)

Interest free loans for Scottish householders for improving home energy efficiency

The Scottish Government will offer interest free loans to householders to help them cut their fuel bills and reduce emissions. A sum of 2 million pounds is available this year for a pilot loans scheme to help people improve insulation, replace inefficient boilers or install small scale renewables. This measure is part of the package of existing support and ideas on how energy can be saved to cut emissions and boost the economy and was published as "A Consultation on the Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Scotland".

Further information: [Click here](#)

UK housebuilder offers homes for sale that meet all different levels of Government's Code for Sustainable Homes incl. carbon zero house

Miller Homes, a UK housebuilder has designed and built five homes in Merton Rise, Basingstoke, that comply with the Government's Code for Sustainable Homes, a national standard to reduce carbon emissions from dwellings. Each of the five homes has been built to meet a different level of the Code, with Code 6 being a carbon zero building. The incorporated technologies and techniques will reduce water consumption, energy use, CO2 emissions, waste and pollution. Key features are: - triple glazed windows - underfloor heating - rain water harvesting - biomass boiler - photovoltaic solar panels - ground source heat pump The UK Government plans to make Code 6 mandatory for all new build properties by 2016.

Further information: [Click here](#)

Interact with BUILD UP



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Submit your items to extend the content and knowledge on BUILD UP

If you are aware of other publications, events, tools or best practice cases in the field of energy efficiency in buildings, join the portal and submit the information. Other users will benefit from the extended available knowledge.

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