



Your monthly magazine for information on Energy Performance of Buildings Directive

Newsletter

[February 2008]

#020

:: Editorial



Following the success of the European Union Sustainable Energy Week events, there is major interest in the future direction of the EPBD and its implementation. In this edition we include a report by Eurima discussing the potential opportunities presented by the coming recasting of the EPBD as well as a review of EPBD implementation by the European Energy Network. We announce that the EN ISO 13790 standard has successfully passed the voting in CEN and ISO and will soon be published. We are also happy to welcome UIPI (International Union of Property Owners / Union Internationale de la Propriété Immobilière) as a new partner who has recently joined the Buildings Platform.

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:: Publications and downloads



The publications database has now over more than 500 documents with relevance to energy efficiency, energy performance, application of the Energy Performance in Buildings Directive, national transposition, etc...

By means of a search engine you can find documents on a particular country, theme of the Directive, topic or random keyword.

- > To have a look at the 10 latest submitted publications see [here](#)
- > To search the publications in the database click [here](#)
- > To submit publications onto the database click [here](#)

:: Recent information from the countries

:: Sweden's first passive house centre opens in Alingsås



Alingsås Passive House Centre is a joint initiative of Alingsås Municipality and Västra Götaland Regional Council. It is a direct result of the REBECEE (Renewable Energy and Building Exhibitions in Cities of the Enlarged Europe) project and the investments done by the municipal companies in Alingsås. The centre will be part of an international network of passive house centres and continue engaging in European projects and initiatives.



The Passive House Centre in Alingsås was officially opened on the 13th of December. The Centre is a resource for all politicians, urban planners, builders and consultants. It offers knowledge, contacts and functions as part of a national network that links the market to research. In addition to this, Alingsås Passive House Centre is also a resource for the individual consumer who wants to know more about energy efficient homes and construction of passive houses.

- > Further information is available in the Jan 08 edition of the REBECEE newsletter [here](#)

:: Europe and European funded projects

:: EN ISO 13790 ("Energy use for space heating and cooling") passed the voting in CEN and ISO and will now be published soon



EN ISO 13790, "Thermal performance of buildings - Calculation of energy use for space heating and cooling" is one of the key standards supporting the EPBD. It is the only standard explicitly mentioned in the EPBD: "The European Commission intends further to develop standards such as EN ISO 13790, also including consideration of air-conditioning systems and lighting...". This key standard already developed as a truly global standard, for use not only within Europe (CEN), but on a global scale (ISO), has just passed the parallel formal voting within CEN and ISO with flying colours: 27 CEN Member Bodies (national standardisation committees) approved the standard with no CEN Member Bodies opposed. Within ISO, 18 Member Bodies voted in favour and again with no opposition to its publication.

The published version of EN ISO 13790 will soon be available via your national CEN Member Body.

- > More information on this standard can be found in [Information Paper P040](#)
 - > Further information on the CEN procedures can be found in [Information Paper P02](#)
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:: EPBD implementation review by the European Energy Network



A review of how the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) has been implemented across Europe has been published by EⁿR, the European Energy Network. Potentially the directive could save 45 million tonnes of carbon dioxide by 2010. However, a survey of 21 national energy agencies has revealed implementation of all aspects of EPBD to be disappointingly slow. Whilst the majority of Member States have met articles 3, 5 and 6, only 20% have Energy Performance Certificates fully operational and even then only for new homes.

- > This report can be downloaded [here](#)

:: European associated organisations / partners

:: UIPI as new partner of the Buildings Platform



Mr Stratos Paradias, President of UIPI (International Union of Property Owners / Union Internationale de la Propriete Immobiliere), was asked about the challenges being faced in trying to implement the Directive and how he feels co-operation with the EPBD Buildings Platform is helping UIPI members.

UIPI is a non governmental organisation representing real estate property owners worldwide, founded in 1923. Its members are the national non-profit organisations of real estate property owners. Today UIPI is focusing its efforts towards the European Union and the European Parliament authorities, to influence current directives and legislation concerning real estate property. UIPI is also trying to influence authorities and public opinion in Europe through press conferences and congress declarations towards the deregulation and re-privatization of property.

- > Read the [full interview](#)

Disclaimer:

The Buildings Platform offers a forum to organisations who have a professional interest in the energy performance of buildings. Any views expressed in this interview are purely those of the organisation and may not in any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of the European Commission nor the EPBD Buildings Platform.

Nothing in this interview is intended to be interpreted as an endorsement of, or recommendation for, any supplier, service or product.

> For additional information about partnership with the EPBD Buildings Platform and details of our Associated Organisations click [here](#)

> To become a partner of the EPBD Buildings platform click [here](#)

:: Eurima report: Tapping the Potential with a renewed EPBD



This report by [Eurima](#) argues that the revision of the EPBD creates a unique opportunity to improve energy efficiency and CO2 emissions of the EU building stock. This is due to the fact that many Member States have yet to take major

steps to improve the level of performance of their buildings, either new or existing. The intervention at EU level is expected to accelerate the rate of improvement, broaden the scope of the EPBD and better tap the Energy Efficiency potential of the EU housing stock. Also, establishing EU minimum energy performance requirements will create a driver for an EU strategy towards very-low-energy buildings and for sustainable energy efficiency.

The revision of the EPBD is a unique opportunity because, when taking into account the average renovation cycle of dwellings (25-30 years) and the revision cycle (adoption and transposition) of a new framework for building legislation at EU level, every missed opportunity for improvement will be very costly until next renovation. It is now or never!

> To download this report click [here](#)

:: Events

:: Outcomes from the European Union Sustainable Energy Week 2008



On the 31st of January 2008, the European Commission DG TREN with support of the EPBD Buildings Platform, has organized in Brussels a 1-day conference as part of the EU Sustainable Energy Week, titled "Energy Performance of Buildings Directive – Next Steps.". The interest in the conference was very large with some 360 registrations for participation. The conference and the discussions with representatives of Member States, and major EU stakeholders were recorded by ManagEnergy.

The topics of the conference were:

- EPBD: REAPING THE POTENTIAL IN THE BUILDINGS SECTOR
- LESSONS FROM THE CURRENT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EPBD
- CUTTING ON THE 1000m² THRESHOLD - CAN IT WORK IN PRACTICE?
- SETTING MINIMUM EU ENERGY PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS
- FISCAL AND FINANCIAL INCENTIVES

> The recorded videos are listed [here](#)

The Buildings Platform was also involved in the conference "*Energy performance certification for buildings conference*" that took place on the 30th of January 2008, organised by the Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation (EACI). Several new IEE SAVE projects were presented.

> The presentations are available [here](#)

> Other video recordings from the launch events, as well as other events discussing sustainable energy policy and local and regional actions during EUSEW 2008 are now available [here](#)

:: International workshop on Meeting Energy Efficiency Goals: Enhancing Compliance, Monitoring and Evaluation



This workshop seeks to bring together public and private sector stakeholders to share information on frameworks for compliance, monitoring and evaluation in relation to energy efficiency measures. In particular, the workshop will seek to:

- discuss the consequences of sub-optimal compliance with energy efficiency measures;
- consider the barriers to effective compliance, monitoring and evaluation; identify key features of effective compliance and evaluation frameworks; and

- provide a forum for sharing experiences and for considering future activities concerning compliance, monitoring and evaluation, such as a voluntary network for information-sharing.

The workshop takes place in **Paris**, France, on the **28th and 29th of February 2008**.

> Further information is available [here](#)

:: Ecobuild 2008



Ecobuild is the biggest showcase of sustainable construction products in the UK and will include over 500 exhibitors and thousands of products and services.

Choose from over 75 free seminars, all of which focus on giving practical advice and applied information on the most important issues affecting those working in design, construction and the built environment, from *Adapting design & planning for climate change* and *Anatomy of a zero carbon house* through to *Choosing & using low and zero carbon materials* and *Water efficiency in the built environment*.

Special events will include *The zero carbon house*, *Road to zero carbon*, *Solar city* and *SoH2O*. This event will take place in **London** from the **26th to the 28th February 2008**.

> For further information and to register click [here](#)

:: Trends in national building ventilation markets and drivers for change



The aims of this workshop are:

- to inform interested parties (industry, regulators,...) of the latest changes in national building ventilation markets, with an attention not only for IAQ and energy issues, but also on air tightness and assessment of innovative systems issues,
- to identify the drivers (including possible lack of drivers) for changes,
- to discuss them with industry representatives.

This workshop is an initiative of [AIVC](#), organised by [INIVE EEIG](#), in collaboration with [REHVA](#) and with the European SAVE ASIEPI and SAVE BUILDING ADVENT projects. It will take place in Gent, a historic Belgian city located 50 km away from **Brussels**, on the **18-19 of March 2008**.

> For further information click [here](#)

:: 4th Congress for South Eastern Europe on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Sources



The 4th Congress for South Eastern Europe on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Sources will take place in Sofia, Bulgaria, on the 7th to 9th April 2008. The Program Committee is currently accepting papers to be presented in oral or Poster Session providing innovative aspects and novelty. The Papers topics of interest are shown in the Draft Program, but are not limited to it.

> For further information on the call for papers click [here](#)

> To view the event's programme click [here](#)

:: 9th IEA Heat Pump Conference



The goal of the conference is to promote heat pumping technologies through discussions, networking, and information exchange. Technology, markets, policy and standards are issues to be dealt with in the light of environmental benefits and energy conservation. The conference will pay attention to heat pumps, air conditioning and refrigeration equipment and systems for residential, commercial and industrial applications. Also, heat pumping technologies for heating and cooling of low energy houses and systems for district heating and cooling, are included.

This conference is the eighth in a series of triennial conferences under the auspices of the International Energy Agency (IEA) Heat Pump Program. The conference will summarize the current technology and market status, progress, and trends. It takes place in **Zurich**, Switzerland, between the **20th and 22nd May 2008**.

> For further information and registration details go to www.hpc2008.org

:: 2nd Common Symposium of EU FP6 Ecobuildings Projects



The Ecobuildings concept is expected to be the meeting point of short term development and demonstration in order to support legislative and regulatory measures for energy efficiency and enhanced use of renewable energy solutions within the building sector, which go beyond the Directive on the Energy Performance of Buildings.

The projects aim at a new approach for the design, construction and operation of new and/or refurbished buildings, which is based on the best combination of the double approach: to reduce substantially, and, if possible, to avoid the demand for heating, cooling and lighting and to supply the necessary heating, cooling and lighting in the most efficient way and based as far as possible on renewable energy sources and polygeneration.

The symposium takes place in **Stuttgart**, Germany, on the **7th and 8th of April 2008**.

> The symposium's programme is available [here](#)

> The registration form can be downloaded [here](#)

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Directorate-General
for Energy
and Transport

The EPBD Buildings Platform has been launched by the European Commission in the frame of the Intelligent Energy – Europe, 2003-2006 programme. It is managed by INIVE EEIG (www.inive.org), on behalf of DG TREN.

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