

EPBD BUILDINGS
PLATFORM

Your monthly magazine for information on Energy
Performance of Buildings Directive

Newsletter

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:: Editorial



The latest news on the EU reduction of greenhouse gas emissions is encouraging and reflects the efforts that EU countries are making, but there is still much to be done! In this edition, we include information on new policy measures aimed at achieving major energy savings in buildings introduced by the Dutch government which provide an example of the way forward. Progress is also being promoted via simulation analyses of the impact of energy efficiency policies such as shown in pilot case studies from Hungary and the Czech Republic. And if you really would like to learn the history of efforts made, the recently published paper on the 50 years history behind the EPBD is well worth a read!

:: The Platform services

:: New Information Papers



Information Paper 39, [EPBD Buildings Platform: Overall context and activities](#), is now available and describes the actions supported by the European Commission for a successful implementation of the EPBD as well as the services that are provided by the EPBD Buildings Platform. This document supersedes Information Paper P0.



Information Paper 30 on [The Energy Performance of Buildings Directive Conference - 10-12 May 2006 - Budapest](#) is now available. This report has been written by András Zöld (Budapest University of Technology and Economics) and provides a summary of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive Conference held on 10-12 May, 2006 in Budapest.



An interesting analysis of [The 50 years history behind the EPBD: From to European Coal and Steel Community to the EPBD](#), written by Hubert David from [EURIMA](#), has been published as Information Paper 33. It reviews the background, the environment policy context, the current status and the future direction of the Directive.

:: Helpdesk enquiries



Due to some technical problems experienced by the website, the submission of enquiries via the Helpdesk did not work correctly and, for a period of time, may not have been received by the EPBD Buildings Platform team. We apologise for these difficulties but they have now been overcome and we are now receiving and answering questions and comments as usual.

> To access the Helpdesk click [here](#).

:: Recent information from the countries



Rubric held in collaboration with Concerted Action

:: The new Dutch government launches policy measures aiming at drastic energy savings in buildings



New buildings:

The Dutch Minister of Housing, Spatial planning and the Environment, Mrs Jacqueline Cramer, plans to reduce the maximum "Energy Performance Coefficient" (EPC) from currently 0.8 to 0.6 by 2011 and to 0.4 by 2015. For

non-residential buildings a similar tightening is proposed.

Existing buildings:

The Minister also adopted this month the energy savings plan "More with less", the result of a unique cooperation of government and the private sector, involving energy companies, housing corporations and building and installation sectors. The plan aims at 30% annual energy saving in 300,000 buildings annually by 2020. More detailed information is expected for the next issue of the newsletter.

> The plan can be found [here](#).

:: Presentations from the Lisbon workshop on Energy Performance of Buildings

Copies of presentations from the November 2006 Lisbon workshop on the Energy Performance of Buildings on the [Implementation of the Building directive in Denmark](#) by Henrik Poulsen from FEMSEK (the Danish

Technological Institute) and the [Energy Certification of Buildings in Spain](#) by Servando Alvarez from the University of Seville are available.

> Further information and downloads can be found [here](#).

:: Further news and activities from the countries

Information on further news and activities from the countries can be found in the latest edition of the [Concerted Action webzine](#). These include:

- the adoption of a new Walloon decree on energy performance of buildings in Belgium;
- the commencement of energy certificates in Portugal on 1st July 2007;
- implementation of a new decree on application of energy certificates for rental dwellings in France;
- and the publication of supporting material for policymakers and architects on existing and new buildings' technical, installation and energy data in the Netherlands.

:: Europe and European related activities

:: EU IEE SAVE project BESTFACADE reaches its final phase



Results from a comprehensive study of double skin façade buildings in Europe will be made available on the project website (www.bestfacade.com).

> A summary of the deliverables and a view of the BESTFACADE tool can be found [here](#).

:: Ecobuildings and the EU 7th Framework Programme



The four Ecobuildings projects (BRITA in PuBs, Demohouse, Eco-Culture and SARA) have produced a discussion document for use in the preparation of calls in the 7th Framework Programme (FP7). The document defines the current concept of 'Ecobuilding?', anticipating how this definition may change in the future, and offers observations from a brief SWOT-analysis of the demonstration project, as well as providing recommendations concerning the use of Eco-

buildings within FP7.

> For additional information click [here](#).

:: BRITA in PuBs presents new project results



The Ecobuildings project BRITA in PuBs is showing numerous results including the achievement of an energy efficient retrofit of the building envelope and the building systems for all 8 demonstration projects. Details are available in a building diary on the project website. Additional project results include the beta-version of the BRITA in PuBs information tool (BIT), development of retrofit design guidelines for different technologies and blackboard information sheets for improving energy saving user behaviour.

> Further details and links are available [here](#).

:: Seminar to present the results of the EEE-NMC project



ECS, The Energy Charter Secretariat, organised a half-day seminar to present the preliminary results of its project to expand the ODYSSEE energy efficiency indicators and the MURE database to EU New Member Countries (NMCs). The project will be concluded with two syntheses, one on energy efficiency trends and another on policy measures. It also includes a pilot case study on Hungary and the Czech Republic to simulate the impact of energy efficiency policy measures in terms of energy savings using the MURE model. During the workshop, each country made a short presentation on energy efficiency trends and policies in a given sector.

> For further information visit <http://www.odyssee-indicators.org>

:: Commissioner Dimas welcomes 2005 reduction in EU greenhouse gas emissions and calls for further action



On 14th June, European Environment Commissioner Stavros Dimas welcomed news that the EU's greenhouse gas emissions fell by 0.7% in 2005 and urged Member States to accelerate structural economic changes to ensure deeper, lasting emission cuts. The emissions fall in 2005 took EU-27 emissions to 11% below their levels in the Kyoto Protocol's base year (1990 for most countries and gases) and EU-15 emissions to 2% below. The EU-15 is committed under Kyoto to ensure that its emissions between 2008 and 2012 average at least 8% below base year levels.

> To find out more click [here](#).

:: Enper-Exist Workshop



A workshop entitled *Towards a low energy building stock...how to achieve a major decrease in energy consumption* took place in Brussels on 27th June organised by ENPER-EXIST with the support of EURIMA.

> Full details on the workshop can be found on the Enper-Exist website at <http://www.enper-exist.com/wshops.html>

:: Associated organisations

:: Impressions of a European organisation heavily involved in the energy performance of buildings

EUROGYPSUM Dr. Markus Schroepf, Chairman of the Marketing and Communication Committee of [Eurogypsum](#), 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 Eurogypsum members.

> Read the [full interview](#).

:: Events

:: Annual Eurogypsum Workshop

EUROGYPSUM Eurogypsum's annual workshop will take place in Brussels on 25th October 2007 and this year focuses on *Creating a Healthy Place in the Built Environment*. The workshop deals with indoor air quality as well as energy efficiency in buildings.

> You can view the [workshop's programme](#) and further information about Eurogypsum in their association's [brochure](#).

:: RESPOND Workshop - Increasing the contribution of variable energy resources

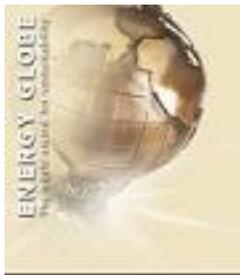


The first RESPOND project workshop on the theme ***Increasing the contribution of variable energy resources such as wind, photovoltaic and micro-CHP*** will take place on Wednesday 4th July 2007 in Berlin. It aims to evaluate the consequences for the electricity system and the role of market based instruments and regulation in

Europe.

> Further information is provided in the EPBD Platform's website [Events](#) section.

:: Energy Globe Award: Worldwide Call for Participation



The Energy Globe Award distinguishes projects that promote sustainable use of resources such as water, earth, energy and air or use renewable energy forms.

Projects can be submitted via this website up to 31 July 2007: www.energyglobe.info.

> For further information please contact contact@energyglobe.info.

:: Sustainable City Development 2007 Conference



The [2007 Sustainable City Development](#) conference will be a good opportunity to share experiences about building a green future and taking the discussion on sustainability one step further. The programme includes a wide range of different issues related to city development. A number of workshops will focus more on issues related to construction and buildings.

The results from these workshops will be reported to the Sustainable

Building Conference in Melbourne 2008. It takes place in Malmo, Sweden, on the 12th September 2007.

:: Innova Energy 2007



On 22-25 November 2007 in Brussels, Belgium, the Innova Energy 2007 forum takes place.

Innova + Energy is a unique platform where industry and service providers, researchers, marketing professionals, inventors, energy professionals, investors and lawyers propose and exhibit concrete and profitable solutions. This is an event dedicated to innovation, positive in terms of image and impact. It is recognised and supported by an intensive publicity campaign. The EPBD Buildings Platform will be represented at the fair.

> More information can be found on: www.innova-energy.com

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