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Dear reader,

BUILD UP is a new environment for building professionals, local authorities and building occupants willing to share their experience on how to cut energy consumption in buildings. Diversity is a major strength of the EU and BUILD UP will promote the exchange of all the best practices, tools and technologies available across Europe for an effective implementation of energy-saving measures in buildings. When it comes to climate change and security of energy supply, there is no easy fix. It is only by working together that we will achieve a real impact.

Andris Piebalgs
European Energy Commissioner

Services



BUILD UP, the new European portal for energy efficiency in buildings

BUILD UP serves the needs of building professionals, public authorities and occupants alike. It will:

- Enable **home owners and tenants** interested in reducing the energy costs of their homes to find out where to obtain practical energy-saving information in their own country or region.
- Help **building professionals** to improve skills and learn more about the latest information on energy legislation. It will help them interact with others and access the latest news and events in the field, a database of resources, guidelines and tools, and a database of real examples.
- Provide **public authorities** staff who are responsible for energy issues with access to many resources on the legislation, toolkits and guidelines produced by other cities, regions or countries, and a way to share expertise with their peers.
- Involve **umbrella organisations** such as energy agencies, industrial associations or non-governmental organisations with an interest in energy saving in buildings and enable them to tell others about their activities and share their successes. Not only will these organisations be able to increase visibility and share resources such as guidelines and best practices, but they will also be able to launch thematic virtual communities through the web portal.

Further information: [Click here](#)

From Buildings Platform to BUILD UP interactive web portal - the information service is continued and extended

The BUILD UP portal replaces since June, 16 the EPBD Buildings Platform. The new portal offers new services and information while providing specific solutions to specific audiences. The portal has now a wider scope, it will continue keeping you updated about EU energy policy for buildings but moreover, it will give you the opportunity to improve your skills about energy efficiency in buildings by notably enabling you to interact with others. The information which was provided by the EPBD Buildings Platform is also available in BUILD UP. In particular, it means that all the Information Papers and EPBD related publications can now be accessed on BUILD UP. The "Frequently Asked Questions" section is also maintained.

Further information: [Click here](#)

Publications



Many new resources offered in the publications database

More than 1000 interesting resources (publications, reports, guides, articles, etc.) from all over Europe on energy efficiency and legislation are now available on the BUILD UP publications database. Among them are many new publications and reports on the status of the EPBD implementation in Member States, as well as the final reports of the EPBD Concerted Action. Are you aware of an interesting report on energy efficiency in buildings or on relevant legislations that you would like to share? Submit it directly on the BUILD UP portal.

Further information: [Click here](#)

Cases



A new feature of the BUILD UP web portal: Cases

A major activity of the BUILD UP portal will be the collection of cases. Cases are concrete, realised good practice energy saving examples. They could be demonstration projects, reports, energy saving campaigns, activities such as new certificates, etc. Cases can be submitted on different topics including energy saving technologies, financial schemes, energy management in buildings, design and labels for low-energy buildings, training and education and monitoring. The first case collected is describing the results from the EU HOPE project which aimed to demonstrate that energy efficient buildings can be both healthy and comfortable for their occupants.

Please provide your own case(s) directly on the BUILD UP portal and get the news spread world wide.

Further information: [Click here](#)

Communities



An opportunity for you to interact with your peers: the Communities

The concept of communities is an essential feature of the new BUILD UP portal. A thematic virtual community gathers users with a common interest, allowing them to:

- share and exchange information on a particular energy efficiency in buildings and/or legislation related topic;
- initiate specific newsletters;
- start discussions on a certain theme;
- send messages, set up blogs and share calendars;

Do you want to become a member of a community or are you interested in launching a new community, please follow the link: [Click here](#)

Events

Do you search for information on conferences or workshops? Go to the events database on BUILD UP!

An important section of the BUILD UP portal is the events database. The database consists of events in all European countries related to energy efficiency and energy policy for buildings. Of course, the most important international events outside Europe such as Green Buildings, Clima2010, ASHRAE congresses, IEA HP, IEA ECBCS, IEA solar congresses, etc. will also be there. The events promoted in this database are all open events either free of charge or with registration fee. Currently, the database has information from 36 events all taking place in 2009 and 2010.

Several major events are coming up soon including:

- The 11th International Building Performance Simulation Association Conference and Exhibition (26-29 June 2009)
- Healthy Buildings Conference 2009 (12-16 September 2009)
- 30th AIVC Conference "Trends in high performance buildings and the role of ventilation" (30 September-10 October 2009)
- The 6th International Symposium on Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (5-8 November 2009)

The BUILD UP project team invites the readers to submit information on related events to the event database by clicking [here](#)

Further information: [Click here](#)

Tools

BUILD UP offers information on tools for authorities/facilitators and building professionals

One of the new sections of the BUILD UP portal is the Tools database. The objective is to collect, organise and present tools that can support energy savings in buildings especially for public authorities, facilitator organisations and building professionals. Tools are instruments used to pave the way towards implementation of energy saving measures in buildings like for example software applications (for energy performance certificates, regulation calculations, economic or environment calculations or multidisciplinary applications), guidelines or checklists for practitioners.

You can find the first tools [here](#)

You can submit interesting tools at: [Click here](#)

News from the EU



European Parliament legislative resolution on the EPBD recast proposal of the EU Commission

On April 23, 2009 the European Parliament published a legislative resolution on the proposal for the recast of the directive on the energy performance of buildings (EPBD). The Parliament summarised in a report, available in various European languages, amendments to the text proposed by the Commission. The 93 amendment requests include a tightening of the proposed time schedules and a focus on primary energy. Net zero energy buildings shall be the goal within an action plan for new buildings. All amendment requests can be read on the website of the European Parliament.

Further information: [Click here](#)

EU Green Week Conference 2009

The Green Week Conference 2009 will start on June, 23 in Brussels. It is the biggest annual conference on European environment policy and offers a unique opportunity for exchanges of experiences and good practice. Green Week 2009 is structured on four themes:

1. EU climate policies
2. The international dimension
3. Living with climate change
4. 2050 Vision: a carbon free society

There will be eight sessions on each theme. During the conference all sessions will be streamed live on the conference homepage. The conference will include a series of side events and side sessions such as the Climate Migrants Photographs Exhibition. For the regularly updated and detailed conference programme go to

<http://greenweek2009.alligence.com/sources/file/programme.pdf>.

Further information: [Click here](#)

Internet information sessions and workshops on thermal bridges, innovative technologies and summer comfort/cooling issues

A group of EU experts has been working on issues such as a methodology for comparing energy performance requirements between countries, national approaches in legislation and practice concerning thermal bridges, building and ductwork airtightness, summer comfort and energy for cooling and innovative technologies. First outputs of their work are now available on the BUILD UP web portal as well as on the ASIEPI project website (www.asiepi.eu). The project is funded under the Intelligent Energy Europe Programme.

Further information: [Click here](#)

A quality assurance system for the energy efficient renovation of multi-family houses

A general quality assurance (QA) system to ensure energy efficient renovation of multi-family housing with good indoor environment has been developed in the frame of the SQUARE project. The aim of this QA system is to ascertain that all predefined requirements on indoor environment and energy performance are achieved. It is based on a policy for retrofit actions defined by the organisation and includes all the steps in the renovation process, i.e. planning, design, construction and management phases. The report of the QA system and documentation of applications in pilot projects are now available for download.

Further information: [Click here](#)

News from the countries



New legislative measures for buildings in Greece

The new Greek energy code for buildings requires to carry out an energy study for every eligible building. The study has to calculate the energy consumption for heating, cooling, lighting and hot water using the specific algorithms proposed by the CEN standards or any other validated simulation tool. Performance based criteria have been set. All buildings should present lower energy consumption than a threshold set for the different climatic zones of the country. The reference building approach is used. In parallel, all buildings should satisfy specific requirements regarding the quality of the envelope and the HVAC systems used.

Most of the relevant EPBD CEN standards have been integrated to the national legislative system. As far as public buildings are concerned, specific measures have been undertaken. Buildings should use cool roofs and cool paints, ceiling fans, efficient lighting, night ventilation and natural gas supply systems. Also, for non air-conditioned buildings the adaptive comfort approach is going to be used.

ENEA presents a study about the impact of refurbishment of Italian public building stock plan

Improving the energy efficiency of 35% of the Italian public building stock (offices and schools) could lead to a saving of 20% of the present energy bill, but can produce a positive effect on the Italian economy as well, evaluated in an increase of 0.6% of GNP. This is the outcome of a study about the energy consumption of Italian public buildings and about the potential of a set of energy refurbishment measures, recently presented by ENEA, the Italian National Agency for New technologies, the Energy and the Environment.

Further information: [Click here](#)

Tightening of energy performance requirements for buildings in Germany

From presumably 1 October 2009, the energy performance requirements for buildings in Germany will be tightened by approx. 30%. In mid March 2009, the Federal Government accepted several changes to the proposed amended energy saving ordinance, which were required by the Federal Council of Germany. The amended ordinance will immediately be published in the Federal Law Gazette and will go into

force in autumn 2009.

The essential modifications of the ordinance are:

- The maximum allowed primary energy demand for new buildings will be reduced by 30% on average.
- The requirements on the thermal insulation of new buildings will be tightened by 15% on average.
- The requirements for renewed building elements in retrofitted buildings with major renovations will be tightened by 30% on average.
- Accessible top floor ceilings in existing buildings have to be insulated before the end of 2011.
- Off-peak electrical storage heating systems, older than 30 years, in larger buildings have to be replaced with efficient heating systems by 2020.

The German Government plans to have the next revision of the ordinance in 2012. It will include another tightening of the energy performance requirements by about 30%.

Further information: [Click here](#)

Updated collection of 31 country reports on EPBD implementation status now available on BUILD UP

Country status reports about the EPBD implementation in the respective EU Member States have been prepared by the national representatives of the Concerted Action (CA) EPBD. The Concerted Action is a forum launched jointly by the European Commission and the Member States to promote dialogue and exchange practice. The reports detail the major elements of the national implementation strategy, whilst the reader is guided to additional information by use of hyperlinks. The reports are released regularly and this volume presents a compilation of 31 reports released during the second half of 2008.

Further information: [Click here](#)

Also you can provide news for the BUILD UP Newsletter

Have you found some interesting news in the newsletter? Much more news is available in the [news section of BUILD UP](#). Also you can provide news for this portal. All you have to do is use the news upload template ([click here](#)) and your information will be spread Europe-wide to interested readers.

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