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Dear reader

In time for the European Sustainable Energy Week, the BUILD UP portal has been updated and is now a multi-language information and discussion platform on energy efficiency in buildings. Besides a focus on the new community on the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive, our March newsletter offers interesting publications such as a summary report of the Concerted Action on the EPBD, some best practice cases, interesting tools and actual events. In addition the selected news will keep you updated about what is currently going on in the energy efficient building sector. We invite you to explore the updated BUILD UP website and especially the information highlighted in this newsletter.

Your BUILD UP team.

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

Publications



Executive summary report on the interim conclusions of the Concerted Action supporting transposition and implementation of the Directive 2002/91/EC - CA – EPBD (2007 – 2010)

To support EU countries in the implementation of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) in their national legislation, the Concerted Action (CA) EPBD was launched by the European Commission to promote dialogue and exchange of best practice between them. This intensely active forum of national authorities from 29 countries focused on finding common approaches to the most effective implementation ... [more](#)

Summer comfort and cooling: calculation methods and requirements

Summer comfort and the energy consumption for cooling are a growing point of attention, not only in Mediterranean climates, but also in the more moderate summer climates of Central and Northern Europe. This paper summarizes the results of a survey of a dozen European countries with respect to the handling of these aspects in the national/regional EPB-regulations. ...[more](#)

Thermal comfort and productivity

This document from the European Project ThermCo provides a synthesis about indoor thermal comfort and its links with productivity of occupants. ...[more](#)

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

Cases



Highlighted Case March 2010: Ulm-Böfingen: Retrofitting of Catholic Community Centre using Vacuum Insulation Panels

Over 90% of all building projects of the diocese Rottenburg-Stuttgart with an annual investment from about 40 million Euros are for renovating existing buildings. With the retrofitting of the community centre “Zum Guten Hirten” they would like to show what the church can do to help protect the environment. One of the targets set was to at least halve the energy consumption. The project had to be financially ... [more](#)

A zero-carbon store in the UK

Tesco, the world's third-largest retailer, opened a new store (december 2009) in Ramsey, Cambridgeshire, United Kingdom, that is the first zero-carbon store of this company. It uses a biofuel combined heat and power (CHP) plant producing more than the building needs and selling the excess back to the grid. The store also incorporates a number of environmentally friendly design features and technologies. ... [more](#)

Discover other cases and rate them: [Click here](#)

Communities



Energy Performance of Buildings Directive Community

In this community, you will find information about the Directive on energy performance of buildings (2002/91/EC) which is the main legislative instrument at EU level to achieve energy performance in buildings. This community aims to gather and highlight the most relevant publications, events, news or cases submitted by BUILD UP users on this specific legislation. Let's share our knowledge and discuss ... [more](#)

To visit and join other communities: [Click here](#)

Events



ManagEnergy Annual Conference

The theme of this year's conference is: "Delivering Sustainable Energy Commitments" for Public Authorities and Energy Agencies working with local and regional communities. Through this event, the European Commission's

Directorate-General for Energy, the Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation (EACI) and the ManagEnergy team aim to offer local and regional energy actors the opportunity ... [more](#)

IEECB'10 - Improving Energy Efficiency in Commercial Buildings

International Conference on Improving Energy Efficiency in Commercial Buildings (IEECB'10) jointly organised by Messe Frankfurt and the European Commission DG JRC in conjunction with the Building Performance Congress. ... [more](#)

Other events: [Click here](#)

Tools

SketchNBDM

NBDM plug-in for Google SketchUp is an optional module for the free version of Google's SketchUp design tool, allowing to create NBDM files from a 3D Google SketchUp drawing. This plug-in is based on the existing plug-in for EnergyPlus. Thanks to a new function, "Export to NBDM", the plug-in can be used by all tools compatible with NBDM (<http://nbdm.org>), such as ClimaWin, CODYBA, COMFIE, PlanCal, TRNSYS, ... [more](#)

Building modelling software for solar shading in different European countries

The solar shading industry has developed software tools to illustrate how the use of appropriate solar shading reduces the use of energy (and therefore cuts CO2 emissions) and also saves money. ... [more](#)

Read about other interesting tools: [Click here](#)

News from the EU

New EU-funded project targets 'home-made energy'

EU-funded researchers have embarked on a project to develop mini solar power systems that will allow homes and workplaces alike to generate their own electricity and meet their heating and cooling requirements. Called DIGESPO ('Distributed CHP [combined heat and power] generation from small size concentrated solar power'), the 3-year project has been allocated EUR 3.2 million in funding under the ... [more](#)

One European standard to measure space in buildings

The EN15221-6 is expected to be voted this summer. Implementation in the EU27 will start November 1st, 2010.

At the www.efmc2010.com in Madrid an executive briefing will be organised. Be informed about this standard. It will help create transparency in energy benchmarking per (rentable) m² [more](#)

EU Commission adopts biomass sustainability report

The Commission adopted a report on sustainability requirements for the use of solid biomass and biogas in electricity, heating and cooling on 25 February 2010. The report makes recommendations on sustainability criteria to be used by those Member States that wish to introduce a scheme at national level, in order to avoid obstacles for the functioning of the internal market for biomass. ... [more](#)

News from the countries



Goethegymnasium, a grammar school in Weimar, gets award for climate protection in schools

The Federal German Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety has handed over the awards to the winners of the climate protection competition "Klima & Co" (climate & co): 50,000 Euro for the Goethegymnasium in Weimar, that has developed the best climate protection ideas for the school, 30,000 Euro for the Nelly Pütz Berufskolleg from Düren and 20,000 Euro for the Uhland-Gymnasium. ... [more](#)

Spain: Government launches a plan to reduce by 20% the energy used in 330 public buildings

The actions of saving and improving energy efficiency in these buildings will be made through contracts with energy service companies (ESCOs). The investment associated with the plan will amount to 2,350 million euros, will create 50,000 jobs directly and indirectly and will be reducing CO₂ emissions by 254,000 tons per year. This will result in creation of a stable market for ESCOs and will create ... [more](#)

UK: Green overhaul for planning system to cut emissions and bills

UK Housing and Planning Minister John Healey has on 9 March 2010 announced a triple boost for councils tackling climate change by updating planning rules, granting nearly £10m to improve green skills and backing further progress by the "second wave" of eco-towns. Three planning policies have been overhauled so that councils have the very latest targets and guidance to address climate change, putting ... [more](#)

National winners of GreenBuilding programme in Croatia

The national GreenBuilding Award in Croatia was held on December 2, 2009 in Zagreb in the premises of the national contact point for Croatia - Energy institute Hrvoje Požar. Efforts of each GB Partner and Endorser were graded according to quantitative criteria and awarded for their specific quality in six categories. ... [more](#)

INTERACT WITH BUILD UP



You can also 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.

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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