
:: Editorial



We commence 2008 with a major significant event, the EU Sustainable Energy Week, supported by the Buildings Platform. A number of conferences, workshops and debates on key issues affecting energy efficiency in buildings and the implementation of the EPBD are planned in what is thought to be one of the major events in this field in 2008.

:: Summary

> The Platform services

[New Information Paper on Software Tools](#)

> Recent information from the countries

[Greece found guilty for not implementing the EPBD](#)

[Micro-CHP can deliver significant carbon savings if used in the right applications](#)

> Europe and European funded projects

[HARMONAC Factsheet](#)

> European associated organisations/partners

[Links to engineering portals in Latvia and Lithuania](#)

> Events

[Trends in national building ventilation markets and drivers for change](#)

[The Certification Of Buildings: French Display® Cities Showing The Way](#)

[Latest updates on events at the European Sustainable Energy Week 2008](#)

[ECO-BUILD: Call for Papers](#)

:: The Platform services

:: New Information Paper on Software Tools



A new Information Paper on software to support the implementation of the EPBD is now available. This report, written by Roger Hitchin (BRE), summarises the results of a survey carried out in the Core Theme Procedures of the EPBD Concerted Action project in mid-2006 on the proposed (or actual) use of software to support the implementation of the EPBD.

- > To access Information Paper 51 click [here](#)
- > To search the publications in the database click [here](#)
- > To submit publications onto the database click [here](#)

:: Recent information from the countries

:: Greece found guilty for not implementing the EPBD



The European Court of Justice (ECJ) has condemned Greece for failing to transpose the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive into national legislation. This is the first country to be found guilty by the ECJ for not implementing the EPBD on time although other Member States also face legal action.

- > For further information on the judgement click [here](#)

:: Micro-CHP can deliver significant carbon savings if used in the right applications



Findings from the most in-depth field trial to date on Micro-CHP (combined heat and power) carried out by the Carbon Trust were released today by the Carbon Trust, showing that Micro-CHP technology has significant potential to deliver CO₂ savings in small commercial environments and certain types of homes.

The results show that the current generation of Micro-CHP systems is best suited to larger homes with three or more bedrooms, or older houses where it is not currently cost effective to improve insulation, such as housing with solid brick walls. In such homes, Micro-CHP can potentially deliver carbon savings of between five and ten per cent – with typical reductions between 200kg and 800kg of CO₂ each year. However, the currently available systems appear to offer limited benefits for smaller and newer houses.

- > For further information visit to the Carbon Trust website [here](#)

:: Europe and European funded projects

:: HARMONAC Factsheet



HARMONAC, the three year action tackling the harmonisation of air-conditioning inspection and audit procedures in the tertiary building sector, aims to provide key information on the actual energy savings to be achieved from various air conditioning inspection and maintenance procedures. This information is currently missing from the body of knowledge in this area and is one of the findings from the IEE AUDITAC project on which this project builds.

This information and data will then enable Member States to make informed decisions about the depth and detail needed for their own A/C Inspection procedures based on the extent of use of air conditioning in their country, and the types of A/C systems used.

The project will also enable economic considerations to be used to weigh up the potential energy and carbon savings to be achieved against the cost to each country's economy of undertaking the Inspections to varying degrees of detail.

> For further details, download the HARMONAC Factsheet [here](#)

:: European associated organisations / partners

:: Links to engineering portals in Latvia and Lithuania



On the "Information & Technology Platforms" Links page the Buildings Platform introduces 2 Latvian and 1 Lithuanian engineering portals:

- Latinzenieris.lv. is a portal on HVAC, energy engineering and energy performance of buildings. It was established in 2007 as a professional branch of Building.lv (owned and managed by SIA "1.sabiedrība").
- Building.lv is the oldest and most prominent professional portal on building thematic in Latvia and one of the three biggest in the Baltics.
- Build.It is the sister portal of Building.lv in Lithuania

Building.lv and Latinzenieris.lv are partners in several local and regional research and development projects in the sphere of energy efficiency and energy policy priority reviews.

> Visit the Information and Technologies Platform Links page [here](#)

> The Buildings Platform interview with Latinzenieris.lv is available [here](#)

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](#)

:: Events

:: 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. The identification of the drivers for changes and discussion of the status with industry representatives are parts of the targets of this workshop. It takes place in Gent, Belgium, on the 18th/19th March 2008.

> For further information click [here](#)

:: The Certification Of Buildings: French Display® Cities Showing The Way



On the 29th January 2008, as a side event of the 9th "Assises de l'énergie", Energie-Cités is organising in co-operation with the French Ministry of Ecology (MEDAD) and the French Energy Agency (ADEME) a conference called "The Certification Of Buildings: French Display® Cities Showing The Way". This event marks the official "wedding" between the DPE (Diagnostic de la performance énergétique), the French transposition of the EPBD and the Display® Campaign.

The DPE was introduced on the 2nd January 2008 for all public buildings in France making certification and public display of the certificates mandatory. Since the start of the project in 2003 French cities participating in the Display® Campaign have already been voluntarily displaying their energy consumption.

Recently the Display calculation tool has been adapted to the French regulation. The Dunkirk event will launch the wide implementation of the national law, supported by the excellent Display communication tools that are attractive for building users and the greater public therefore, contributing to the improvement of public buildings' energy performances.

> For further information click [here](#) or email Peter Schilken at peter.schilken@energie-cites.eu

:: Latest updates on events at the European Sustainable Energy Week 2008



The conference "Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD): Next Steps" on Thursday 31st of January 08 in Brussels is fully booked. Also other EPBD related events during the European Sustainable Energy Week are very successful. For those who did not get confirmation of participation, the EPBD Conference will be video broadcasted by ManagEnergy and available 7 days after the conference. Please take in account the conference starts at 9 am instead of 9:15, and go to room S4 at least 15 minutes before, so the conference can start on time.

- > The last update of the programme of the EPBD Conference can be downloaded [here](#)
 - > For further details about the events at the European Sustainable Energy Week click [here](#)
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:: ECO-BUILD: Call for Papers



The ECOBUILD project was launched in 2007 with the support of the Sixth RTD Framework Programme of the European Communities. The project aims to provide policy makers and stakeholders with an overview of the internationally most advanced concepts and technologies to achieve a very high energy-efficiency level (Eco-building level), best practice solutions for implementing these concepts and an assessment of the potential of and problems faced by different sets of policy measures adopted at the European and national levels.

The first ECOBUILD workshop addresses the most relevant international concepts and technologies currently available for improving the overall energy performance in the building sector. Contributions are invited that address systems that are innovative and have a tested record for working effectively in practice. This includes concepts and technologies for heating; cooling; lighting; insulation; and ventilation. The role of integrated systems combining any number of the above areas is of particular interest for the project.

The deadline for the submission of abstracts is February 15th, 2008.

>For further inquiries and/or the submission of abstracts, please contact Michael Schmidt at workshop@ecobuild-project.org

> Further details are available at the ECO-BUILD web-site: www.ecobuild-project.org

:: You too can submit an event!

The Buildings Platform website has an online submission form allowing organisers to upload flyers and enter details of their events. Events will then be publicised in the events database or in future Buildings Platform newsletters according to their relevance.

> [Insert your event](#)

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Directorate-General
for Energy
and Transport

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