

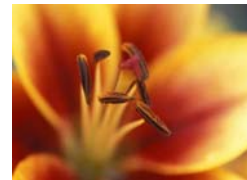
Newsletter

#021
[March 2008]

pdf version: [Deutsch](#) - [English](#) - [Español](#) - [Français](#) - [Italiano](#) - [Nederlands](#) - [Português](#)

:: Editorial

The Buildings Platform is increasing its efforts towards achieving a greater coverage and accessibility to information on the EPBD implementation across the European Union. To this effect, the monthly newsletter is from now on available in an additional six languages. A new Information Paper on the implementation of Article 8 is released as well as four new Conference Papers. Also, further translations of Information Papers are now available. The Buildings Platform reports on the court proceedings taken by the Commission and the launch of the Covenant of Mayors and the Action Plan for Energy Efficiency. The Energy Performance and Interior Climate Demands for the Brussels Region has been recently published as well as new mandatory ratings for homes in England.



:: Summary

> The Platform services

[NEW! Newsletter translations](#)

[Information Paper on Article 8 of the EPBD](#)

[New Conference Information Papers](#)

[Further translations of Information Papers now available](#)

> Recent information from the countries

[Energy Performance and Interior Climate Demands published for the Brussels Region](#)

[Mandatory rating against the Code for Sustainable Homes to be implemented in England from 1st of May 2008](#)

[New release of iSBEM_v3.0.b for Energy Performance Certificates](#)

> Europe and European funded projects

[Launch of the Covenant of Mayors on the 29th January 2008](#)

[Energy Performance of Buildings: Commission launches Court proceedings against Belgium and the UK](#)

[European Parliament resolution of 31 January 2008 on an Action Plan for Energy Efficiency: Realising the Potential](#)

> European associated organisations/partners

[Interview with ECCREDI, the European Council for Construction Research, Development and Innovation](#)

[Working Paper No.29: Gain without pain: towards a more rational use of energy](#)

> Events

1st Nordic Passive House Conference

European Climate Conference - Climate Protection and Renewable Energy

ESCO 2008: call for papers

Fifth international conference on Improving Energy Efficiency in Commercial Buildings (IEECB'08)

European Conference: Sustainable Energy and Social Housing - Social Housing Operators' commitment to tackling energy poverty

RENEXPO® Central and South-East Europe: International Trade Fair and Congress for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficient Construction and Renovation

National Energy Management Exhibition

3rd European BlowerDoor Symposium

:: The Platform services

:: NEW! Newsletter translations



The Buildings Platform Newsletter is from now on also available in six additional languages. Follow the links above the Editorial section or select here for your PDF copy of the newsletter in [Deutsch](#), [English](#), [Español](#), [Français](#), [Italiano](#), [Nederlands](#), or [Português](#).

:: Information Paper on Article 8 of the EPBD



Article 8 of the EPBD requires either inspection of boilers or provision of advice to users which achieves an equivalent result as that of inspection. This paper discusses the relative merits of these two approaches, by analysing the experience and the choices in different Member States. This paper has been provided by Marcello Antinucci ([RENAEL](#), Italy)

> P057 is available [here](#)

:: New Conference Information Papers

The Buildings Platform has now four additional Conference Information Papers available as follows:



P042 - **European EPBD at EPIC 2006 AIVC Conference**, Lyon, 20-22 November 2006: the conference provided a platform for scientists and industry to inform and to exchange knowledge and experience on technology and sustainable principles to be applied in the built environment in order to decrease energy consumption.

> P042 is available [here](#)

P052 - **Airtight building envelope, thermography and dwelling-ventilation. Report of 2nd European BlowerDoor Symposium**, Kassel, 16-17 March 2007: 150 participants from 13 European nations, and 20 companies took part in the symposium and the trade fair. The contributions came from Belgium, Germany, Finland, Greece, Austria, Switzerland and the Czech Republic.> P052 is available [here](#)

P053 - **Summary of selected EPBD related papers presented at 9th REHVA World Congress Clima 2007 Wellbeing Indoors**, Helsinki, 10-14 June 2007: focusing on the health, indoor

environment, energy efficiency of buildings and control of the indoor air quality, and assembled the top researchers and companies of this field from over 60 countries in six continents. Some 1000 participants attended the congress with 480 papers in 30 sessions during the week. > P053 is available [here](#)

P054 - **Summary of EPBD and energy related Workshops at REHVA world congress Clima 2007**, Helsinki, June 2007: the purpose of the workshops was to offer a forum for experts to discuss and change ideas on selected issues in the area of building services engineering. The objective was also to collect the state-of-the-art information on the topic, and to get feedback from the participants for the future work. 10 workshops were directly focused on energy efficiency of buildings and the EPBD. The summaries below highlight the results of the workshops. Full summaries of the workshops are available at www.rehva.eu

> P054 is available [here](#)

:: Further translations of Information Papers now available



The Buildings Platform is continuously widening the availability of translations of Information Papers in different languages. The latest papers now available in additional languages are:

>P02 - *The set of CEN standards developed to support the implementation of the EPBD in the EU Member States* in [German](#)

>P025 - *Energy performance calculation procedures for the EPBD (1). Introduction* in [Slovenian](#), [German](#), and [Hungarian](#)

>P026 - *Energy calculation procedures for the EPBD (2)* in [Slovenian](#), [Spanish](#), and [Hungarian](#)

>P027 - *Energy performance certification, status in December 2006* in [German](#) and [Spanish](#)

>P029 - *Five new SAVE projects supporting the implementation of the EPBD* in [Spanish](#)

>P039 - *EPBD Buildings Platform: Overall context and activities* in [Spanish](#), [Hungarian](#), and [French](#)

>P040 - *More information on the set of CEN standards for the EPBD* in [Spanish](#) and [German](#)

:: Recent information from the countries

:: Energy Performance and Interior Climate Demands published for the Brussels Region



The official decree announcing the Energy Performance and Interior Climate Demands has been published.



> The main text of the decree and Annex I to VIII are available in [French](#) and [Dutch](#)

:: Mandatory rating against the Code for Sustainable Homes to be implemented in England from 1st of May 2008



As a result of the positive response to consultation, the UK Government has introduced mandatory ratings against the Code for Sustainable Homes in England from May 2008.

This means that while it remains voluntary to design and build a home to meet the standards set out in the Code, from May 2008 those selling new homes will be required to provide information to any prospective purchaser on the sustainability of the home.



Where a home is designed and built to the Code and assessed against it, a Code certificate will be provided. Otherwise, a statement of non assessment (a nil-rated certificate) will be provided.

The Code does not apply in Scotland. The National Assembly for Wales recently announced that they would be adopting the Code in the near future, and Northern Ireland will be requiring Code Level 3 for all public sector housing from April 2008.

> For further information visit to the Communities and Local Government website [here](#)

:: New release of iSBEM_v3.0.b for Energy Performance Certificates



A new release of the calculation software SBEM and its interface iSBEM, has been made available which now includes production of Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) for buildings other than dwellings, in addition to evaluation of compliance with Building Regulations, in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

From 6 April 2008 those buildings with a total useful floor area greater than 10,000m² (see glossary of terms for a definition) will require an Energy Performance Certificate on construction, sale or let.

> For further information visit the National Calculation Method (NCM) website [here](#)

> For information on Energy Performance Certificates for non-dwellings click [here](#)

:: Europe and European funded projects

:: Launch of the Covenant of Mayors on the 29th January 2008



The Covenant of Mayors is a new, ambitious initiative of the European Commission that will bring together the mayors of Europe's most pioneering cities in a permanent network to exchange and apply good practices across these cities and beyond to significantly improve energy efficiency in the urban environment. The Covenant of Mayors is the response of the most active cities to global warming: a formal commitment by the cities to reduce their CO₂ emissions even beyond the EU 20% objectives. Almost 100 cities throughout Europe, including 15 capitals, have expressed their willingness to join.

> Full details are available [here](#)

:: Energy Performance of Buildings: Commission launches Court proceedings against Belgium and the UK



The European Commission has launched court proceedings against Belgium and the United Kingdom for failure to notify adequate national implementing measures as required by the 2002 Energy Performance of Buildings Directive. The goal of the Directive is to reduce energy consumption in buildings and it thus forms an important part of EU legislation aimed at improving overall energy efficiency.

> Full details are available [here](#)

:: European Parliament resolution of 31 January 2008 on an Action Plan for Energy Efficiency: Realising the Potential



The European Parliament adopted a resolution based on the own-initiative report drafted by Fiona HALL (ALDE, UK) and welcomed the Commission Communication entitled 'Action Plan for Energy Efficiency: Realising the Potential'. Parliament considered that a target of improving energy efficiency by over 20% by 2020, in addition to any improvements due to autonomous structural or price effects, was entirely feasible technically and economically.

However, Members noted with grave concern that implementation by Member States of existing legislation on energy efficiency was incomplete and behind schedule. Directive 2002/91/EC on the energy performance of buildings had been properly transposed by only five Member States. Members censured the failure to put in place the number of Commission officials needed in order to ensure that both the Action Plan and the energy efficiency legislation on which it builds were implemented fully and promptly. They went on to deplore the fact that, of 21 Commission actions scheduled in the Action Plan for completion in 2007, only three had been fully implemented by 1 September 2007. They also deplored the severe slippage in the timetable for the adoption of minimum energy performance standards for priority product groups.

> Full details are available [here](#)

:: European associated organisations / partners

:: Interview with ECCREDI



Mr. Carlo De Pauw, Secretary-General of [ECCREDI](#) (European Council for Construction Research, Development and Innovation), 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 ECCREDI members.

> 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](#)

:: Working Paper No.29: Gain without pain: towards a more rational use of energy



As EU leaders prepare to discuss the European Commission's climate change package at their 13-14 March Summit, this European Policy Centre Working Paper by Marie-Hélène Fandel and Fabian Zuleeg argues that policy-makers risk overlooking an obvious way to make progress in the short term. It argues that much can be achieved by using energy more rationally, identifies five policy tools to foster this, analyses four key sectors and considers how these tools can be applied to deliver win-win solutions.

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

:: Events

:: 1st Nordic Passive House conference



The themes for the conference include Passive Houses; zero emission; energy scenarios; architecture, solar- and bio energy, standardization; certification; technology; components; economy; occupant focus; indoor climate; exemplary projects; marketing; and innovation. The conference takes place in **Trondheim**, Norway, on the **2nd and 3rd of April 2008**.

> For further information click [here](#)

:: European Climate Conference - Climate Protection and Renewable Energy



ICLEI, Local Governments for Sustainability invite you to the conference "Climate protection and renewable energy" in **Rovigo**, Italy, between the **2nd and 4th of April 2008**. Advanced cities and towns will share with committed municipalities their capacity and experiences about energy efficiency and renewable energy, district heating and co-generation, adaptation and other burning issues related to climate protection.

> For further information click [here](#)

:: ESCO 2008: call for papers



ESCO Europe 2008 aims at gathering the numerous and different Energy Service Companies (ESCOs) operating in the enlarged Europe and to discuss together with policy makers, experts, clients and members of the financial community the opportunities and strategy to further promote the ESCO industry in Europe.

Papers or abstracts can be submitted for one of the following subject groups: Policy & Regulation; Recent ESCO Market Developments; Innovative Technologies & Solutions for ESCO's; Successful ESCO Projects in Commercial Buildings and Industrial Facilities; Access to Finance and Successful Financing Mechanisms; Monitoring and Verification (M&V); Carbon Market Developments; Energy Management Solutions; Energy Audits; Energy Performance Contracting; and Benchmarking. The deadline for submitting abstracts is **5th of April 2008**.

> For further information click [here](#)

:: Fifth international conference on Improving Energy Efficiency in Commercial Buildings (IEECB'08)



The fifth International Conference on Improving Energy Efficiency in Commercial Buildings (IEECB'08) jointly organised by Messe Frankfurt and the European Commission DG JRC in conjunction with the Building Performance Congress. The IEECB conference seeks to bring together all the key players from this sector, including commercial buildings' investors and property managers, energy efficiency experts, equipment manufacturers, service providers (ESCOs, utilities, facilities management companies) and policy makers, with a view to exchange information, to learn from each other and to network. The IEECB'08 conference will take place on the 10-11 April 2008 in Frankfurt, Germany, during Light+Building, the International Trade Fair for Architecture and Technology.

> Further information is available [here](#)

:: European Conference: Sustainable Energy and Social Housing - Social Housing Operators' commitment to tackling energy poverty



This seminar, organised by CECODHAS in collaboration with ERAP, the regional public housing agency of Ancona and Cecodhas Italy, is the follow-up conference on the theme of environmental sustainability, after the seminar held on 6 November 2006 in Thessaloniki.

The aim of the conference is to deepen the debate on two aspects related to the issue of energy efficiency in the European Union: on the one hand, the energy needs, climate change, EU policies promoting energy saving and the use of renewables, and, on the other hand, the impact of the market liberalization process on both production and distribution to end-users.

The conference takes place in **Ancona**, Italy, on the **21st and 22nd of April 2008**.

> The conference's programme can be downloaded [here](#)

> A registration form is also available [here](#)

:: RENEXPO® Central and South-East Europe: International Trade Fair and Congress for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficient Construction and Renovation



RENEXPO® Central & South-East Europe unites international key players from the industry in the context of a trade fair and a congress – making it the leading event for communication, knowledge transfer, and networking in the region. The entire spectrum of renewable energies and energy efficient construction and renovation will be presented. This event takes place in **Budapest**, Hungary, between the **24th and 26th of April 2008**.

> For further information click [here](#)

:: National Energy Management Exhibition



Part of Sustainabilitylive!, NEMEX is the UK's longest running and largest exhibition and networking event for the energy and renewables industries.

The exhibition covers all aspects of energy efficiency, management and renewable solutions bringing together key suppliers and buyers at the UK's largest national forum for sustainable business. NEMEX is an event for purchasers and specifiers of energy efficiency products, renewable technologies, metering controls, wind power and building management systems. This event takes place in **Birmingham**, United Kingdom, between the **20th and 22nd of May 2008**.

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

:: 3rd European BlowerDoor Symposium



The 3rd European BlowerDoor Symposium dedicates specific attention to the planning of the airtight building envelope and the airtightness of ventilation systems. As a matter of course there will be up-to-date information from standards committees and about legal pitfalls in the jungle of regulations. Some lectures deal with the effects of insufficient airtightness and how resulting problems can be prevented. Last but not least, the experiences from the European countries will be presented. the Symposium will take place in **Kassel**, Germany, on the **30th and 31st of May 2008**.

> For further information click [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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