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Dear reader

The Copenhagen summit ended without the expected global agreement on climate change, but Europe has still the ambition to be the leading continent regarding energy efficiency in buildings. At the start of a new decade the goal is to have "nearly zero energy buildings" as building practice by 2020. To achieve this the knowledge on potentials for improvements is substantial. The BUILD UP newsletter highlights several strategies to increase building's energy efficiency.

We wish you a successful 2010.
Your BUILD UP team.

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

Publications



Airtightness testing of large and multi-family buildings in an Energy Performance regulation context

In many European countries, the Energy Performance regulations defined or revised with the implementation of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD), take into account envelope airtightness in their calculation method. This paper illustrates that the measurement of airtightness is possible in practice for large buildings. The paper also discusses subsequent practical issues for large and... [more](#)

Towards additional policies to improve the environmental performance of buildings

This report supports EU policymaking on sustainable consumption and production (SCP) in the area of buildings, which were identified as being particularly relevant for environmental improvements. While the objective of SCP policies is to address all the different types of environmental impacts in a balanced way, previous research has shown that the energy consumption during the use phase of the buildings... [more](#)

Cases



Editor's choice of the month: An efficient naturally ventilated office building (Rijkswaterstaat building in The Netherlands)

The design objectives of this 1750 m² office building were to develop a sustainable and ecological building, integrated with its surroundings and providing a high level of individual control and comfort for occupants. Sustainable materials, principally wood, were used in the construction and a high level of insulation was provided. In the absence of a supply of natural gas to the site, the adjacent... [more](#)

Largest Passive House project in Europe has been opened in Tirol (Austria)

The largest Passive House project in Europe has been opened in October 2009 in Innsbruck, the capital city of Tirol (Austria). About 35.000 m² (brutto) for 354 flats have been build by the building owner Neue Heimat Tirol, a social housing company providing affordable flats for the citizens. The heat energy demand is to be 15 kWh/m²year. Solar collectors, ground water and wood pellets are covering... [more](#)

Communities



Software for Building Energy Performance

This community deals with the development of pan-European software for building energy performance linked to the Energy Performance of Building Directive (EPBD). Reliable calculation tools are needed to predict with a reasonable accuracy the performances of buildings to both satisfy minimum performance requirements and to provide energy rating certificate. Despite of the availability of European Standards... [more](#)

Events



Light+Building

The world's leading trade fair for Architecture and Technology related to energy efficient lighting and use of energy in buildings. It is used by manufacturers from over 50 countries, including all market leaders, to launch trends and innovations from the fields of lighting, electrical engineering and building automation. Within this unique framework, over 2,000 exhibitors present their latest products... [more](#)

EU Sustainable Energy Week 2010

The theme of the sustainable energy week 2010 is "Intelligent energy in cities". The events during the week will be organised in many European cities with a link to the Covenant of Mayors. The events include also a 3-day conference in the Commission's Charlemagne and Borschette Buildings in Brussels during 23-25.3.2010. The Sustainable Energy Europe Award will be presented at the end of the first... [more](#)

Tools



Boiler info

This internet tool aims at setting up an information system around domestic boilers to be used by consumers, installers and energy consultants and other branches that are involved in the choice of the boilers. It is of utmost importance to give to the consumer a higher decision potential in the process of the choice of a boiler. Informing the consumer in a proper way will create a situation where the... [more](#)

News from the EU



Link and comments to the Copenhagen Accord

The text of the Copenhagen declaration by the Heads of State, Heads of Government, Ministers, and other heads of delegation present at the United Nations Climate Change Conference 2009 in Copenhagen can be found at the url presented below. The comments by several politicians can be viewed by following the links in the list below... [more](#)

Registration for the IEE European Info Day (Brussels, 3 February) is open

Your next chance to have your project supported by the EU's Intelligent Energy - Europe programme is close: The next call for proposals will be published in spring 2010. Applying for IEE funding is a competitive process, and the contracts will be awarded only to the best project proposals. Attending the European IEE Info Day 2010 will help you develop a good proposal and increase your chances to apply... [more](#)

Country reports on impact, compliance and control of EPBD

As a part of the ASIEPI project funded by the Community's Intelligent Energy Europe programme, a survey was done on the impact of EPBD on national approaches of 12 Member States regarding regulations, compliance and control on energy performance requirements and certification systems. The national approaches are described in the attached information papers. The country reports are available at the... [more](#)

News from the countries



New tariffs in France for electricity produced from renewable energy sources

The French Government published on 13 January 2010 new guaranteed tariffs for the purchase of electricity produced from biomass, geothermal and solar by the public electricity grid management companies. For electricity from solar photovoltaic, the tariff is kept at 0.58€/kWh for systems integrated to the building frame in residential, education and health care buildings. For other buildings (offices... [more](#)

A boiler replacement plan launched in England

The UK Government announced on 5 January 2010 the start of a national plan, the Boiler Scrappage Scheme, to upgrade household heating systems. Up to 125,000 households in England with working "G-rated"

boilers can apply through the Energy Saving Trust for a voucher which will entitle them to £400 off the price of a new, modern "A-rated" boiler or a renewable heating system like a biomass boiler or... [more](#)

The Greek "Regulation on Energy Efficiency of Buildings" in public consultation

The final draft Joint Ministerial Decision on "Regulation for the Energy Efficiency of Buildings" and the final draft Presidential Decree on "Energy Inspectors of buildings, boilers & heating installations and air-conditioning installations" will be in public electronic consultation until the 31st of January 2010. The proposed arrangements allow for the implementation of Law 3661/08 "Measures to reduce... [more](#)

German cities introduce tighter energy performance requirements for buildings than fixed in the German energy decree

The German energy decree was tightened by about 30% in the middle of 2009. Yet, several German cities, like Nürnberg and Düsseldorf, are fixing even tighter energy performance requirements for new buildings and major renovations for existing buildings owned by the city, or to be built on the city's ground. Thus, they are following an approach that has been realised by the city of Stuttgart for several...[more](#)

INTERACT WITH BUILD UP



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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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