



Newsletter

#022
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:: Editorial

The Buildings Platform is increasing its emphasis on knowledge dissemination with the addition of Information Papers on the IEE SAVE projects ASIEPI and EcoBuildings. Also a new Paper is launched on the CEN standards supporting the implementation of the EPBD and the Paper of the conference European Energy Efficiency in Wels, Austria, of March 2008 is now available. Keeping up to date with the progress and work carried out by Member States, organisations and co-operation programmes, new and additional translations of National Energy Efficiency Action Plans are incorporated into the Publications Database. This newsletter reports on 2 new partner organisations, UEPC and BING, and on communications from other Platform partners, which are increasingly turning their attention to the future recast of the EPBD.



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Windsor 2008

Eurosun 2008 – 1st international conference on solar heating, cooling and buildings

25th Passive and Low Energy Architecture International Conference

:: The Platform services

:: Information Paper P063 “Assessment of innovative systems in the context of EPBD regulations” published



ASIEPI is an IEE SAVE project that aims at supporting the EPBD implementation. ASIEPI intends to disseminate its results in various ways, including EPBD Buildings Platform Information Papers. One of the issues analysed by ASIEPI (WP6) is related to the assessment of innovative systems, which are defined as systems that can improve the energy performance of buildings but that are not included in the standard EPBD regulations. A first ASIEPI Information Paper P063 “Assessment of innovative systems in the context of EPBD regulations”, discussing the overall context and describing the approach used in several countries, is now available.

> P063 is available [here](#)

:: Ecobuildings - an EU demonstration initiative for building concepts that go beyond national energy performance requirements



Demonstration of the successful realisation of building concepts that go beyond the national energy performance requirements is an important instrument to set the path for enforced regulations. Besides many programmes and projects that exist in the different EU Member States, the European Commission has created their own programme for demonstrating new and retrofitted buildings with very low energy consumptions: The Ecobuildings Programme. A new Information Paper 58 is now available describing the different Ecobuildings projects.

> P058 is available [here](#)

:: More information on the set of CEN standards for the EPBD



A new Information Paper is now available providing additional information on the set of CEN standards related to the implementation of the EPBD. This report is a follow up to Information Papers [P02](#) and [P040](#) on CEN standards developed to support the implementation of the EPBD in the EU Member States. It contains additional details and an update of the status of the standards.

> P060 is available [here](#)

:: Conference Paper on the event 'European Energy Efficiency' during the World Sustainable Energy Days 2008



The international conference World Sustainable Energy Days was held between the 4th and 7th March 2008 in Wels, Austria, and has been hailed a great success with over 950 participants from 61 countries. The World Sustainable Energy Days 2008 showcased the globe's most outstanding sustainable energy projects and initiatives and provided information on major European and international policy developments. The international conference provided a key forum for presenting sustainable energy solutions, planning political initiatives, and for launching projects and starting partnerships. It aimed at presenting new impulses to the participating experts and decision makers as they meet the challenge of transforming the world's energy systems towards sustainability.

> A detailed full review of the event can be found [here](#)

> The Conference Paper can be read [here](#)

:: Additional National Energy Efficiency Action Plans have been added to the Buildings Platform database

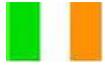


Additional NEEAPS (National Energy Efficiency Action Plans) submitted by Member States are now available in the Buildings Platform database as well as more translations of existing ones. The following can now be found in the Publications database:

- > [Bulgarian NEEAP](#) now available in English
- > [Estonian NEEAP](#) in Estonian and English
- > [Finnish NEEAP](#) now available in English
- > [French NEEAP](#) in French
- > [German NEEAP](#) in German and English
- > [Hungarian NEEAP](#) now available in English
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- > [Romanian NEEAP](#) now available in English
- > [Slovakian NEEAP](#) in English
- > [Slovenian NEEAP](#) in Slovenian
- > [Spanish NEEAP](#) now available in English

:: Recent information from the countries

:: New report *Energy in Ireland Key Statistics*



Sustainable Energy Ireland has recently published a report, "*Energy in Ireland Key Statistics*", which presents a summary of the main findings from a number of Sustainable Energy Ireland/ Energy Policy Statistical Support Unit reports. It is intended to provide a snapshot of key energy and energy related facts and figures for the period 1990 to 2006 with a particular focus on 2006 and includes Odyssee indicators. This report continues SEI's annual review of energy trends, issues and indicators prepared by SEI's Energy Policy Statistical Support Unit (EPSSU). Source: [Odyssee and MURE e-letter n°2](#)

> The report can be accessed [here](#)

:: New advice on improving the energy efficiency of homes and buildings: energy certificates and air-conditioning inspections for buildings



Communities and Local Government has published a booklet which gives advice on the range of initiatives being introduced by January 2009 in England and Wales to help improve the energy efficiency of buildings and meet the UK's carbon emissions. It covers:

- o Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) for homes and buildings
- o Display Certificates for public buildings
- o Inspections for air conditioning systems.

> For further information and to download the guidance click [here](#)

:: Europe and European funded projects

:: Intelligent Energy - Europe 2008 Call for Proposals



This year's work programme will be supporting strategic studies on the basis of shared analysis and regular monitoring of market developments and energy trends; creation, enlargement or reorganisation of structures and instruments for sustainable energy development; promotion of sustainable energy systems and equipment in order to further accelerate their penetration of the market and stimulate investment; development of information, education and training structures, promotion and dissemination of best practices and cooperation with the Member States through operational networks; monitoring of the implementation and the impact of Community legislative and support measures.

> Full information is available [here](#)

:: European associated organisations / partners

:: Interview with UEPC



Mr Laurent Wille, Managing Director In charge of UEPC (European Union of Developers and House Builders), 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 UEPC members.

> Read the [full interview](#)

:: Interview with BING



Mr Malcolm Rochefort, President of BING (Federation of European Rigid Polyurethane Foam Associations), 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 BING 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](#)

:: FIEC meeting with Energy Commissioner Andris Piebalgs



At the end of March 2008, the President of the European Construction and Industry Federation FIEC, Prof. Daniel Tardy, accompanied by Director General Ulrich Paetzold, met with Energy Commissioner Andris Piebalgs to discuss the *Action Plan for Energy Efficiency: Realising the Potential* and the planned recasting of the EPBD.



The meeting addressed in particular the difficulties encountered in the implementation of energy saving measures despite widespread agreement on their usefulness and necessity, as well as the threshold of 1.000 m² established by the EPBD and whether this should be reduced or even eliminated. In the area of privately owned buildings, the potential application of the lowest VAT rate for services was also discussed, as FIEC believes this measure could ensure quick and efficient results in energy saving. In the discussions, Mr. Tardy pointed out that for buildings owned commercially a reduced level of VAT would serve no useful purpose, as for VAT registered businesses the tax is deductible in any case. Therefore in this area, it is proposed that other incentives are needed.

The Commissioner suggested that FIEC could analyse Annex [IV] of the proposed directive on renewable energy which addresses the required qualifications for installers in order to ascertain whether this would be helpful in defining the qualifications necessary for energy efficiency work.

> For further information about FIEC please visit their website at www.fiec.org

:: BING presents its recommendations for the recast of the EPBD



BING, the Federation of European Rigid Polyurethane Foam Associations, has presented its recommendations for the recast of the EPBD.

The recast of the directive is perceived to be a unique opportunity to expand the savings potential of the EU's building stock outside the directive's current scope.

The recommendations proposed include, amongst others, the development of a European minimum energy performance standards as proposed in the EU Energy Efficiency Action Plan; mandatory minimum energy performance requirements for all new buildings; development of minimum efficiency requirements for the building as a whole and for components / systems; changes to energy performance indicators used in the energy performance certificate and ranking recommendations on the cost-effective improvement of the energy performance according to the estimated savings potential.

> The full text with the recommendations from BING can be downloaded [here](#)

:: EPBD recast "golden opportunity" to promote very low energy housing



The results of a survey initiated by the European Alliance of Companies for Energy Efficiency in Buildings (EuroACE) demonstrate that the time is ripe for the European Commission to introduce mandatory requirements for EU Member States to establish a political timetable to make very low energy homes the default standard. EuroACE believes that the recasting of the EPBD provides an excellent opportunity for the European Commission to require that every Member State establish a plan to deliver very low energy homes. In order to do this effectively, the recast should request that Member States define very low energy housing at national level, draw up a national strategy towards this level of energy performance, and start to focus on upgrading the energy performance of the existing building stock.

> The full report can be downloaded [here](#)

:: EuroACE: top ten measures for inclusion in the proposal for the recast of the EPBD



EuroACE presents its top ten measures for inclusion in the proposal to recast and strengthen the existing rules covered under the EPBD, which would contribute greatly towards the EU's stated goal to improve energy efficiency by 20% by 2020.

> The recommendations can be downloaded [here](#)

:: Display: a successful past and a promising future



"Five 'display'ful years - A Campaign Review" is now available online [here](#). This report will be of interest to new and old Display users, as it provides an overview of the history of the Campaign and the current services that are on offer. And more good news: even though the campaign "Towards Class A" ends now, the Display campaign will keep on going to communicate and reduce the energy demand of Europe's buildings all over Europe.

> Further information on the Display campaign is available [here](#)



:: ES-SO launches new website



ES-SO, the European Solar-Shading Organization, the umbrella organization of the EU's solar shading industry, has recently launched a new website, accessible under www.es-so.eu and www.es-so.com. The website contains a wealth of information on the positive influence of solar shading on the energy efficiency of the built environment.

:: Events

:: Build Green CEE



Build Green CEE will bring together visionary investors, real estate developers, construction companies, architects, engineers, technology and service providers, building management companies, real estate agencies, students and professors, NGOs, and public authorities eager to explore and benefit from the opportunities of building green. Within a context of rising energy prices, more stringent building codes, new technology and innovative financing, now is an opportune time for top companies to participate in the spectacular construction growth of the region and a mounting desire for better construction and energy efficiency. This event will take place in **Bucharest**, Romania, on the **23rd and 24th April 2008**.

> For further information click [here](#)

:: First International Conference and Workshop on Micro-Cogeneration Technologies and Applications

The First International Conference and Workshop on Micro-Cogeneration Technologies and Applications "Micro-Cogen 2008" will be held at the National Arts Centre in **Ottawa**, Canada from April **29th April – 1st May 2008**. It is a forum for presenting the latest research, development and demonstration results in a broad range of small cogeneration technologies including technical and policy analyses, deployment strategies, comparative analysis, and studies on sustainability and societal and environmental impacts. The conference will also act as a close-out of Annex 42 of the International Energy Agency's Energy Conservation in Buildings and Community Systems Programme aimed to develop, validate, and implement models of variety of cogeneration devices for whole-building simulation programs.

> For further information click [here](#)

:: Information Exchange and Collaboration on Basic Science Research for Energy Applications



The International Energy Agency (IEA), through its Ad-Hoc Group on Science and Technology (AHGSET), brings together scientists and energy technologists to facilitate breakthroughs in energy technology. The AHGSET works closely with the IEA Implementing Agreements and other technology research and deployment bodies to call attention to the need to bridge the gap between breakthrough basic science research and applied energy research and development. The target audience for this event are the IEA network, including its Implementing Agreements, as well as research scientists in the basic science and applied energy areas. Industry,

government and academic institutions are encouraged to attend to share experiences and provide input to the IEA's AHGSET effort. Participation is free of charge. This event will take place in **Paris**, France, on the **6th-7th May 2008**.

> For further information click [here](#)

:: Eco-innovation European Info Day



Eco-Innovation funding is a competitive process, and only the best project proposals will be selected for funding. The European Info Day 2008 will provide essential information and advice on how to develop a good project proposal and apply successfully. It also offers the chance to find project partners from across Europe, exchange views and share expertise. Some EUR 28 million worth of funding is available for eco-innovation. This year the funding priorities are material recycling, buildings, food & drink, greening business, and smart purchasing. The European Info Day will take place in **Brussels** on the **8th May 2008**.

> Further information is available [here](#)

:: IEA-ECBCS Annex 44: Responsive Building Elements Symposium and Integrated Building Concepts



An international research program about Responsive building elements and Integrated building concepts is being carried out under auspices of the International Energy Agency "IEA-ECBCS Annex 44: Integrating Environmentally Responsive Elements in Buildings". Within the framework of the 8th meeting of IEA Annex 44 this one-day forum will be held at the Technical University of **Delft**, the Netherlands, on the **14th of May 2008**.

> Further information is available [here](#)

> A registration form for this event is available [here](#)

:: Energy Technology Roadmap Workshop



Technology roadmaps can help industry, academic and research groups, civil society, and governments to identify and prioritise strategic R&D and investment needed to achieve technology development goals. The IEA developed roadmaps for key technologies as part of its analysis of scenarios and strategies to achieve a sustainable energy by 2050. Results are presented in Energy Technologies Perspectives 2008 which will be released in June at the G8 Energy Ministers meeting in Japan. The IEA plans to further develop technology roadmaps as a mean to identify where international collaboration can accelerate energy technology development. To inform this effort it is timely to take stock of different approaches and lessons learned from technology roadmap exercises. This event will take place in **Paris**, France, on the **15th-16th May 2008**.

> Further information is available [here](#)

:: Asian Energy Week: call for papers



The 3rd edition of the Asian Energy Week 2008 will be held in **Kuala Lumpur**, Malaysia, from **26th to 29th May 2008**. With over 80 high level speakers, an international audience of more than 700 and an exhibition with world's leading suppliers, the Asian Energy Week aims to be the meeting place for the utility industry in the region. The international conference will focus on the challenges and opportunities facing the Asian Utilities in the (near) future.

> Further information is available [here](#)

:: Euroheat & Power Annual Conference - heating without global warming: low carbon buildings with DHC



This year's Euroheat & Power conference will focus on the relation between buildings and district heating and cooling infrastructures under the theme Heating without global warming: low carbon buildings with DHC. The conference will take place in **Brussels** on the **5th of June 2008**.

> Further details on the programme and registration are available [here](#)

:: Windsor 2008 - air-conditioning and the low carbon cooling



The Network for Comfort and Energy Use in Buildings is organising an international conference on Air-Conditioning and the low carbon cooling challenge in **Windsor**, UK, during the **27th-29th July 2008**. The Windsor conferences have been held periodically since 1994 and aim to offer opportunities for thorough scientific discussion on specific comfort-related themes. The Windsor 2008 conference is also a Buildings Platform supported event.

> Further information on the conference and details for the submission of papers are available [here](#)

> The brochure is available [here](#)

:: Eurosun 2008 – First international conference on solar heating, cooling and buildings



Renewable Energies and Solar Energy in particular are now clearly an important part of the Global Political Agenda. The need to induce a larger solar energy footprint is a very real one, transforming an enormous potential into a practical reality, in particular in the area of Heating and Cooling of Buildings.

The recently declared interest of the European Commission for the topic 'heating and cooling' in the EU is the official recognition that much more can be and shall be done to address the needs for comfort by better matching those needs and the potential of energy resources at the urban and local levels. To respond to these challenges, the Board of Directors of ISES Europe has decided to join forces with IEA Solar Heating and Cooling Programme to create Eurosun 2008, the 1st international conference on solar heating, cooling and buildings, which will take place in **Lisbon**, between the **7th and 10th of October 2008**. In parallel to the Conference, there will be an International Exhibition on Solar Energy Applications on Buildings.

> Further details on this conference are available [here](#)

:: 25th Passive and Low Energy Architecture International Conference



Passive and Low Energy Architecture (PLEA) is a global community engaged in a continuing discourse on sustainable architecture and urban design. It actively exchanges ideas and information through annual international conferences, workshops and publications. 2008 represents PLEA's 25th anniversary and the conference will take place at University College **Dublin**, Ireland, between the **22nd and 24th of October 2008** with the theme 'Towards Zero Energy Building'. At a time of great change in building design it promises to be a milestone in the advance of passive and low energy architecture.

> For further information go to www.plea2008.org

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Directorate-General
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and Transport

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