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VACUUM INSULATION PANEL

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**GLOBAL ASSOCIATION**

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# Annual Report of VIPA International Activities



August 2014 – August 2015

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## 1. Foreword

Dear VIPA International Member,

It will be a pleasure to welcome you to our General Assembly in Nanjing, China, where we will celebrate the first operative year of the Global Vacuum Insulation Panel Association.

A lot has happened since we held our first meetings on December 5 and 6, 2013 in Brussels. VIPA International is now up and running, with a solid organisational base of four Working Groups, an Executive Committee and a Board of Directors. New companies, institutes and universities have joined the association, bringing our total to 13 regular members and 4 associate members and we are confident we will continue increasing these numbers to effectively represent the industry worldwide.



I hope you agree that we have achieved a lot in the past year:

The Communications and PR Working Group has developed the association's website and visual identity. [www.vipa-international.org](http://www.vipa-international.org) is a great platform with different resources available to both members and non-members. In just six months we have published four case studies showcasing how Vacuum Insulation Panels (VIPs) can be used in different applications such as buildings or transport and packaging. These case studies are also available on EU-funded platforms such as Build Up, which increases positive visibility to the association as well as to our industry. The Working Group also prepared our participation to IVIS 2015, where we will be present with a stand in the exhibition area.

We have made considerable progress on the technical side. The Technical Working Group has proposed a list of projects to be financed by VIPA International. Two studies have recently been commissioned to a very well-known institute in Germany and we plan to finance other studies in the future. This summer, the European Standardisation body (CEN) accepted our application as liaison organisation to the CEN TC 88 WG 11 so we can have our own voice on the important standardisation work developed by this group. With the support of our members in China, we are co-operating with the Chinese authorities on their recent legislation regarding the energy efficiency of buildings. Our Public Affairs Working Group is analysing different regulations in Europe, USA and Asia and evaluating the different local stakeholders we need to establish a relationship with.

As my mandate as VIPA International President is coming to an end this September, I believe we are on the right track to help our industry grow in size and quality. It has been a pleasure leading VIPA International in this first year of activities. I finish this short mandate with a sense of mission accomplished and I look forward to working with the next President and the other board members to grow the association; promote VIPs and shape the best possible market and legislative conditions for our industry.

I hope you find this publication a helpful outline of VIPA International's activities and I look forward to meeting you in Nanjing.

Roland Caps,  
President of VIPA International,  
Chief Research Officer and Founder of va-Q-tec

## 2. Membership

As any association, VIPA International aims to continue growing its membership so it can become more representative of the industry especially in parts of the world where we do not have that many companies yet like the U.S.A. and Asia. The membership base of VIPA International increased in 2015: 4 regular members and 4 associate members joined the 10 founding members. One company resigned from the association. VIPA has now 13 full members and 4 associate members.

The Board invites the members to encourage other companies to join VIPA International in the coming months.

### Regular Members

- Camvac (UK)
- Evonik Industries (Germany)
- Fujian Super Tech (China)
- Hanita Coatings (Israel)
- Hongda Suzhou V.I.P. New Material (China)
- Kingspan (UK/Ireland)
- Knauf Insulation (Slovenia)
- Microtherm (Belgium)
- Porextherm (Germany)
- Qingdao Kerui New Environmental Materials (China)
- Rexor (France)
- Turna (Slovenia)
- va-Q-tec (Germany)



### Associate members

- FIW, München Forschungsinstitut für Wärmeschutz eV München (Germany), Christoph Sprengard
- NUAA, Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics (China), Professor Zhaofeng Chen
- Kongju National University (South Korea), Professor Jun-Tae Kim
- University of Victoria (Canada), Professor Phalguni Mukhopadhyaya



## Regular members that resigned from the association in 2015

- Owens Corning (USA)

## 3. Finances

VIPA International 2014 Annual Accounts (EUR)		
ITEM	Budgeted April 2014	Year end
<b>Income</b>	100.000	100.000
Full members (10): 10,000 EUR		
Associate members (0): 500 EUR		
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>100.000</b>	<b>100.000</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Incorporation of the association in US	5.000	5.000
Website & corporate identity	10.000	10.000
Miscellaneous costs (eg registration name, bank account)	4.000	565
Kellen Europe fees for secretariat and management	60.000	59.077
Out of pocket costs (meetings & travel expenses )	3.000	3.579
Reports, studies	18.000	0
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>100.000</b>	<b>78.221</b>
<b>RESULT</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21.779</b>

During the first two years of the association, the Board decided to set the annual membership fee at EUR 10.000 for member companies joining as Manufacturer member, Material Supplier member and Equipment Supplier member. Companies or organisations joining as Associate Member pay a smaller fee of EUR 500 (plus research-related services). During 2014, VIPA International had 10 regular members, resulting in a total income of EUR 100.000.

On the side of the expenses, the Board decided to put aside EUR 18.000 to finance technical studies on VIPs. This amount was not spent in 2014 and it was therefore carried forward to the 2015 budget with the same objective. As it is the case for most associations, during the first year of activities an important part of the available funds was used for the setting-up of the association like the incorporation costs, the creation of visual identity and the website. Overall, some of the expenditure was not consumed in 2014 which resulted in a positive balance for the association at the end of the year of EUR 21.779.

For detailed information on VIPA International's finances, please contact the secretariat or the Treasurer Vladimir Pogač.

## 4. Roadmap of VIPA International 2014-2015 activities

VIPA International's 2014 activities were focused on setting-up the association, creating the legal entity, developing the website, the logo and the first case studies. A few added-value activities were initiated (overview of legislation on buildings' energy efficiency in Europe, mapping of stakeholders in Brussels, participation at CEN TC 88 WG 11). All actions were completed in due time. The Roadmap included 4 sections:

- Creating the association
- Membership Outreach
- Public Relations & Communications
- Public Affairs

### Creating the association

- Finalise the incorporation process
- Ensure the legal entity is created

### Membership Outreach

- Reach out to the main market players
- Increase the number of manufacturer members

### Public Relations & Communications

- Work on corporate identity (logo, tagline)
- Release the website of the association
- Publish two case studies

### Public Affairs

- Map of policy initiatives for EU, China and USA
- Map of key stakeholders involved in buildings/energy efficiency debate in Brussels
- Develop a position on the standard being written by the CEN Technical Committee (CEN C88/WG11)

The Roadmap of VIPA International 2015 activities was approved on 22 January 2015 during the Board meeting in Munich. Considerable progress has already been made on the different milestones agreed in January. Membership has increased; new content was produced for the website, including case studies and press releases; two newsletters have been published. The participation at IVIS 2015 was identified as a key target for 2015 and was carefully prepared by the Board and the Communications & PR Working Group. Different options are on the table for IVIS 2017 including a greater role for the association in the event.

A lot of time and effort was spent on the analysis of the legislative environment in Europe where there are a lot of regulations and initiatives on energy efficiency of buildings. VIPA International is now registered in the European Transparency Register and already submitted responses to public consultations. The Working Groups evaluated participation at EU-funded projects and stakeholders groupings. On the other side of the Atlantic, VIPA International contacted a US law firm to identify similar opportunities in the US for both buildings and appliances. For the time being no further action was taken on this because there are no US-based companies currently within the association, but we hope this will trigger their interest to join VIPA International at some point. Last but not least, VIPA International members participated actively in CEN TC 88 WG 11 and also provided recommendations to the standardisation work being done in China at the moment.

## Roadmap of 2015 activities

- Completed
- Work in progress
- On hold

### Membership Outreach

- Be more representative of the industry: increase the number of manufacturer members. Increase global presence, particularly in the US and Asia
- Gather more associate members

### Public Relations & Communications

- Improve website
- Publish case studies
- Publish quarterly newsletter (internal and external)
- Disseminate case studies in online free platforms eg. BuildUp
- Active participation at IVIS 2015 in Nanjing, China
- Consider taking over the organisation of IVIS in collaboration with the current IVIS Advisory Board

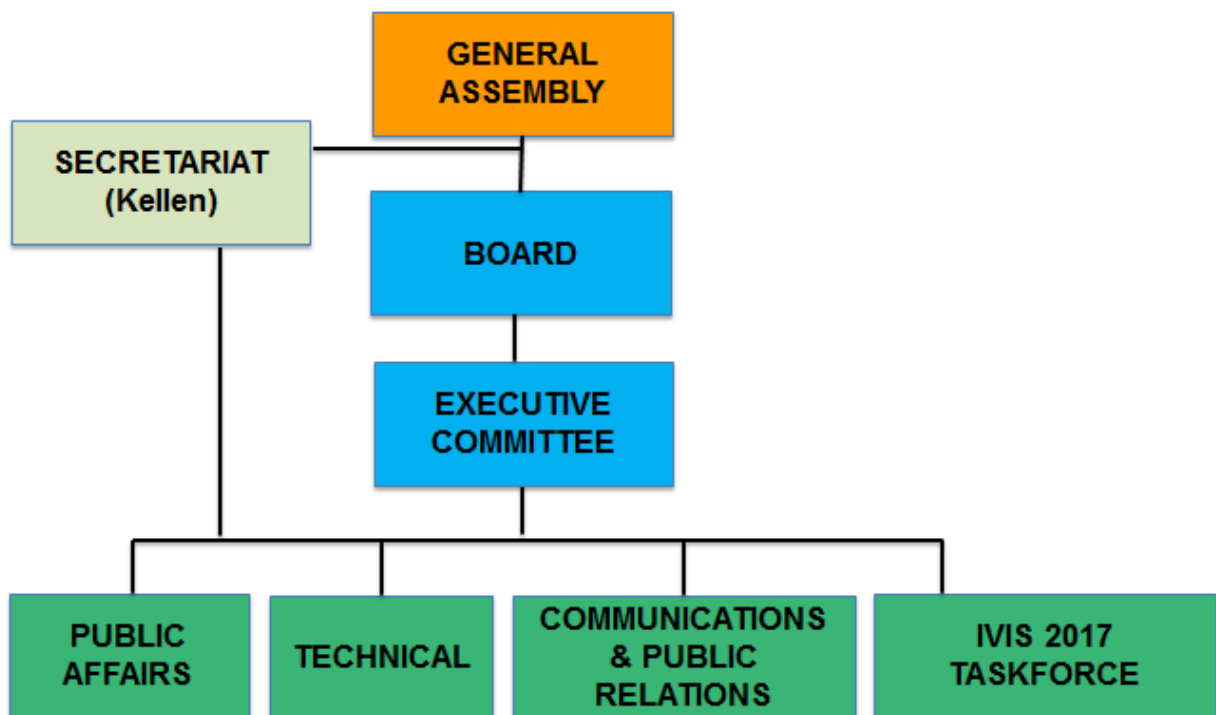
### Public Affairs & Advocacy

- Identify opportunities to influence legislation in the US impacting on the use of VIPs in buildings and appliances
- Monitor the discussions in China and Japan about new legislation and standards in buildings
- Review the key stakeholders and decision-makers in Brussels and consider establishing relations with them

### CEN Technical Standard

- Commission a technical study on ageing process – accurate measurement of the continuous increase of thermal conductivity of the VIPs (within some days) to get information on the extrapolated value beyond 20 years
- Continue participating at the standardisation process (CEN TC88/WG11)
- Align efforts with IEA Task65
- Look into quality matters (performance of the panels, failure rate and quality of installation)
- Consider the possibility of creating a quality certification scheme
- Look into sustainability and recycling issues

## 5. Organisation Chart





## 5.1 Board

The Board of Directors of VIPA International manages the business and affairs of the association. For the first two years, the Board of Directors is composed of all regular members of the association. Every regular member has the right to nominate one main representative to the Board as well as one substitute/deputy. Each company has one vote.

### Current Composition

<b>Name</b>	<b>Company</b>
Roland Caps, VIPA International President	va-Q-tec
Oved Shapira, VIPA International Vice-President	Hanita Coatings
Vladimir Pogač, VIPA International Treasurer	Turna
Hark-Oluf Asbahr	Evonik Industries
Richard Burnley	Kingspan
Gary Chalkley	Camvac
Michel Chauvois / Pascal Rousset	Rexor
Uroš Cotelj	Knauf Insulation
Gregor Erbenich	Porextherm
Qiang Liu / Xiaoyi Zhou	Fujian Super Tech
Steven Heytens / Filip Verstraete	Microtherm
Yanqing Zhou	Hongda Suzhou V.I.P. New Material
Zhai Chuanwei / Yi He	Qingdao Kerui New Environmental Materials

### VIPA International Board had four meetings and two conference calls between August 2014 and August 2015:

- 17 September 2014, Brussels
- 4 December 2014, Brussels
- 22 January 2015, Munich
- 16 March 2015, conference call
- 7 May 2015, Brussels
- 8 July 2015, conference call

### Activities of the Board

The meetings of 2014 were mainly dedicated to the finalisation of the incorporation process and the first steps of the association. The Board approved the Bylaws of the association, the Code of Conduct as well as the visual identity, the website and the roadmap for the first year of activities.

Following a recommendation of the Technical Working Group, the Board decided to commission two studies to help the standardisation process of VIPs worldwide:

- Ageing process - accurate measurement of the continuous increase of thermal conductivity of the VIPs (within some days) to get information on the extrapolated value beyond 20 years;
- Compressive strength of vacuum insulation panels according to EN 826: Difficulties with the measurement results for VIP and possible solutions.

The studies will be conducted by FIW and completed in the first half of 2016. To have a direct representation at the CEN (European standardisation body), the Board decided to apply for Liaison Organisation status within the CEN. The application was approved in August 2015. VIPA International is

also contributing to the standardisation process in China through its Chinese members and with the constant support of the Technical Working Group.

A lot of time has been dedicated to IVIS 2015. VIPA International is sponsoring the event and will have a stand at the exhibition area. The Board discussed IVIS 2017 and the possibility to organise it in cooperation with a university or a technical center. With the support of the Public Affairs Working Group, the Board analysed the legislative landscape in Europe, China and in the U.S.A. on energy efficiency of buildings and decided to gather information on legislation at national level. With regards to US legislation, it was agreed to commission a report to a local law firm (Greenberg Traurig) if at least three US-based companies join VIPA International. With regards to quality, discussions are ongoing about adopting a quality certification scheme. The Board is looking at the possibilities and talking with organisations that own certification schemes in Europe

## 5.2 Executive Committee

The Executive Committee prepares the meetings and conference calls of the Board and the decisions that need to be taken. It also acts as main point of contact to the secretariat when urgent decisions are needed. The Executive Committee is composed of the President, the Vice-President and the Treasurer of the association and of the secretariat staff members.

### Current Composition

<b>Name</b>	<b>Company</b>
Roland Caps, VIPA International President	va-Q-tec
Oved Shapira, VIPA International Vice-President	Hanita Coatings
Vladimir Pogač, VIPA International Treasurer	Turna

### VIPA International Executive Committee had six conference calls between August 2014 and August 2015:

- 10 September 2014
- 13 November 2014
- 25 November 2014
- 16 January 2015
- 3 February 2015
- 27 April 2015

## 5.3 Working groups

The three Working Groups (Public Affairs, Technical, and PR & Communications) and the recently created IVIS 2017 Taskforce were set-up to work on specific issues and report back to the Board with recommendations and proposed activities. All members can take part in one or more Working Groups. Participation is strongly encouraged.

### 5.3.1 Communications & Public Relations Working Group

#### Current Composition

<b>Name</b>	<b>Company</b>
Hark-Oluf Asbahr	Evonik Industries
Michel Chauvois	Rexor
Uroš Cotelj	Knauf Insulation

Gregor Erbenich  
John Garbutt  
Alison Navon  
Vladimir Pogač  
Oved Shapira  
Maja Tomazin  
Insook Yoo

Porextherm  
Kingspan  
Hanita Coatings  
Turna  
Hanita Coatings  
Knauf Insulation  
va-Q-tec

### VIPA International Communications & Public Relations Working Group had five conference calls between August 2014 and August 2015:

- 9 September 2014
- 5 November 2014
- 24 November 2014
- 12 January 2015
- 24 April 2015

### Activities of the Communications & Public Relations Working Group

The first meetings of the Communications & Public Relations Working Group were dedicated to the creation of the corporate identity of the association including the visuals like the logo but also the mission statement, the tagline, and the logo usage policy. The launch of the website was a clear target for the Working Group. <http://vipa-international.com/> was launched in January 2015.

The Communications & Public Relations Working Group approved a format for the case studies to be published on the website. So far, four case studies have been released. Case studies are also published on Build Up, an online platform funded by the European Commission to disseminate information on energy efficient buildings:

- VIP technology delivers optimum thermal performance with a minimal build-up to care housing in North Yorkshire, U.K. - case study provided by Kingspan Insulation Ltd
- Vacuum insulated boxes provide the UK NHS Blood and Transplant with a transportation solution for blood components nationwide - case study provided by va-Q-tec AG
- VIP technology offers maximum energy efficiency, while retaining the architecture of a traditional Swiss house - case study provided by Microtherm, a brand of the Promat division
- VIP technology helps turn '70s secondary school into state of the art passive house - case study provided by Porextherm

VIPA International Quarterly Newsletter was first launched in April 2015. This publication informs members and non-members about the activities of the association The Working Group also coordinates the publication of press releases. Eight press releases have been published so far:

- Vacuum insulation panel industry's players announce the creation of a new and global association representing the sector - 13 October 2014
- VIPA International unveils website and visual identity - 13 February 2015
- VIPA International sponsors 12th edition of the International Vacuum Insulation Symposium in Nanjing, China - 18 March 2015
- JRC report lists vacuum insulation panels as one of the technologies needed to phase out inefficient buildings in Europe - 30 March 2015

- Vacuum insulated boxes provide the UK NHS Blood and Transplant with a transportation solution for blood components nationwide - 8 April 2015
- VIP technology increases energy performance without compromising the usable space and the original architecture of a traditional Swiss house - 19 May 2015
- VIP technology helps turn '70s secondary school into state of the art passive house - 3 August 2015
- VIPA International will be present at the 2015 edition of the International Vacuum Insulation Symposium in Nanjing, China - 3 September 2015

Very recently all efforts of this WG were focused on IVIS 2015. A set of collateral material was prepared (flyer and roll-up banner) together with giveaways to be distributed in the stand.

### 5.3.2 Technical Working Group

#### Current Composition

<b>Name</b>	<b>Company</b>
Roland Caps	va-Q-tec
Yoash Carmi	Hanita Coatings
Zhaofeng Chen	Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics
Justin Davies	Kingspan
Matthias Geisler	Evonik Industries
Yi He	Qingdao Kerui New Environmental Materials
Jun-Tae Kim	Kongju National University
Marko Meglič	Knauf Insulation
Phalguni Mukhopadhyaya	University of Victoria
Estelle Perrin	Rexor
Pascal Rousset	Rexor
Christoph Sprengard	FIW
Liat Suari	Hanita Coatings
Xie Zenghang	Fujian Super Tech
Joe Zhou	Fujian Super Tech

#### VIPA International Technical Working Group had three conference calls between August 2014 and August 2015:

- 20 October 2014
- 25 March 2015
- 1 July 2015

#### Activities of the Technical Working Group

The Technical Working Group follows the standardisation activities of CEN TC88/WG11, IEA-EBC-Annex65 and the Chinese standardisation body. The Working Group prepared a list of topics where further research is needed to speed up the standardisation process:

- Accurate testing and calculation methods of edge effect
- Accurate testing and calculation methods of effective thermal conductivity of VIP

- Finding the best (most relevant) acceleration conditions (with special emphasis for refrigerators) in thermal conductivity tests
- Measurement of VIPs internal pressure using liftoff technique
- Characterisation of getter used in VIP

The following studies have been approved and will be carried out in 2015-2016:

- Ageing process - accurate measurement of the continuous increase of thermal conductivity of the VIPs (within some days) to get information on the extrapolated value beyond 20 years;
- Compressive strength of vacuum insulation panels according to EN 826: Difficulties with the measurement results for VIP and possible solutions.

Together with the Public Affairs Working Group, the Technical Working Group also reviews the invitations that VIPA received to take part in EU-funded projects, responses to public consultations and any other document where technical input is needed.

### 5.3.3 Public Affairs Working Group

#### Current Composition

<b>Name</b>	<b>Company</b>
Roland Caps	va-Q-tec
John Garbutt	Kingspan
Pascal Rousset	Rexor
Gregor Erbenich	Porextherm
Gary Chalkley	Camvac

#### VIPA International Public Affairs Working Group had one conference call between August 2014 and August 2015:

- 27 April 2015

#### Activities of the Public Affairs Working Group

The Public Affairs Working Group focused its 2014-2015 activities on identifying key stakeholders and analysing the main pieces of legislation with impact on VIPs. The first action of the Working Group was to gather information on the legislative landscape on energy efficiency of buildings in Europe, China and US. The WG is constantly looking for the latest updates on legislation, monitoring relevant changes and identifying opportunities to promote and advocate for VIPs and for VIPA International. For instance, the Working Group is following closely the review process of the Energy Efficiency Directive and the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive, the two most relevant directives on the topic in the European Union.

The Working Group also assessed the database of relevant contacts in the Brussels arena and discussed which actors are worth engaging with for possible advocacy campaigns. These are kept updated on the activities of VIPA International through newsletters and press releases. Finally, the Working Group also examined proposals to participate at EU funded projects and stakeholder groups.

### 5.3.4 IVIS 2017 Taskforce

#### Current Composition

Name	Company
Hark-Oluf Asbahr	Evonik Industries
Michel Chauvois	Rexor
Gregor Erbenich	Porextherm
Oved Shapira	Hanita Coatings

#### VIPA International IVIS 2017 Taskforce had one conference call between August 2014 and August 2015:

- 23 July 2015

#### Activities of the IVIS 2017 Taskforce

The IVIS 2017 Taskforce has been recently created and held only one conference call. The participants to the Taskforce agreed to pursue the following objectives:

- Agree on a vision for IVIS taking into account VIPA International mission statement
- Review options and cost implications
- Make recommendation to the Board
- Discuss Board's decision with IVIS Advisory Board ahead of IVIS 2015
- Prepare next steps

The Taskforce proposed to the Board to co-host IVIS 2017 together with another university or research center. The Taskforce suggested that VIPA International should take care of the marketing and promotional activities related to the event. The scientific side of the event should continue being the responsibility of the institute or university hosting IVIS. Location, practical organisation and division of work will be discussed in the coming months.

## 6. VIPA International Secretariat

VIPA International secretariat is run by Kellen (<http://kellencompany.com>), an association management company based in Brussels. The secretariat includes:

- Raquel Ponte Costa, acting as Executive Director
- Francesco Gattiglio, acting as Policy Officer
- Bénédicte Lambert, acting as Managing Assistant

Should you have any queries or require any assistance, please feel free to contact us:

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