

PANEL ASSOCIATION

### **NEWSLETTER**

### September 2021

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#### VIPA INT'L SUPPORTS



International V S **V**acuum

Insulation Symposium 2021 April 2022 LONDON, UK

The Vacuum Insulation Panel Association (VIPA Int'l) is the global trade association representing the interests of manufacturers of Vacuum Insulation Panels (VIPs), as well as the supply chain.

In this issue of VIPs News, we present the latest news from the association and industry, including a video, case study and FAQs on the role of VIPs in transporting COVID vaccines around the world, as well as the latest news on IVIS 2021, the CEN standard on VIPs in buildings and the EU's 'Fit for 55' package of legislation.

We hope that you enjoy this edition!

Sebastian Baars President, VIPA Int'I

#### 1. ASSOCIATION NEWS



Insulation Vacuum **Panels** enable COVID-19 vaccines to be shipped around the world

A new video from VIPA Int'l, the representative association of the global vacuum insulation panel (VIP) industry, demonstrates how VIPs help solve the unprecedented logistical challenge of shipping billions of COVID-19 vaccines around the world at very low temperatures (-20°C to -70°C).

Read more here

Vacuum insulation provide panels COVID-19 thermal protection for vaccine shipments

new case study from VIPA Int'l, the



**VIPA** 

representative association of the global vacuum insulation panel industry, explains why vacuum insulation panels (VIPs) were one of the key technologies chosen to transport shipments of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine (BNT162b2) from BioNTech facilities.

Download the Case Study



## FAQ: How VIPs are used to transport COVID vaccines around the world

The mass COVID-19 vaccine rollout presents an unprecedented logistical challenge as billions of vaccines need to be shipped around the world at stable temperatures, ranging from 2-8°C to as low as -20°C and even -70°C.

Find out everything you need to know about VIPs and the transport of COVID vaccines around the world with our COVID vaccine FAQ page.

Read more here

### 2. Industry News

International VI Vacuum Insulation Symposium



## IVIS 2021 rescheduled for 11-12 April, 2022

Due to the ongoing situation with the COVID-19 pandemic, the <u>15th International Vacuum Insulation Symposium</u>, IVIS 2021, will now take place on 11 and 12 April 2022 at Brunel University, London. VIPA Int'l remains the Platinum Sponsor of the event.

Before then, there will be three 'Open Seminars'. The first of these seminars on 30 June featured va-Q-tec co-founder and former VIPA Int'l President Dr Roland Caps on the role of VIPs in the fight against COVID-19.





# CEN standard still far from being a European harmonised standard

The CEN standard on thermal insulation products for buildings - factory made Vacuum Insulation Panels (VIP) - Specification (EN 17140:2020) was published at the end of 2020 by the European standardisation body - CEN.

In order to turn the EN 17140 into a European harmonised standard, the text needs to be cited in the OJEU. Without this step, the standard cannot be used as the basis for CE marking. The European Commission is responsible for assessing each standard and for taking this decision. The Commission's assessment compares the initial mandate of the standard with the final result. A number of other building-related products standards are pending "approval" by the European Commission as a result of changes introduced by the construction products Regulation. Various meetings took place between the European Commission and the CEN to discuss the citation of EN 17140. The Commission sent a list of around 10 points that require review in the EN 17140 so that citation can be allowed. The CEN TC88 WG11 worked on a new text addressing all 10 points and also discussed the new draft with the European Commission to ensure their subsequent approval. Unfortunately the assessment of the HAS consultant on the revised text was negative and included a list of 78 comments which contradicts the earlier feedback received by the European Commission. The CEN TC88 WG11 is now discussing an additional revision of the text. A positive assessment by the HAS consultant is necessary in order to initiate the enquiry phase.

#### What does this mean for the EN 17140 and CE marking?

The EN 17140 still remains valid as a standard. It is just not a European harmonised standard. In practice this means that, for CE marking and DoP purposes, companies need to continue using the EOTA procedure.

#### VIP producers needed to join the CEN TC 88 WG11

Membership to the WG 11 reduced considerably over the past years and is now limited to a handful of companies. We urge VIP manufacturers to consider getting involved in the WG 11 to help complete the necessary revisions so a new draft can be published, approved and cited in the Official Journal of the EU. In case you are interested, please contact the WG11 secretary Benjamin Wienen <a href="mailto:Benjamin.Wienen@din.de">Benjamin.Wienen@din.de</a>.



# New 'Fit for 55' legislation in Europe to prepare for 55% emission reduction target

Under the European Green Deal, the EU has agreed even more ambitious climate goals, setting a target of -55% greenhouse (GHG) emissions by 2030 as a necessary intermediate step towards the long term goal of net zero GHG emissions by 2050. To prepare the path for achieving these very ambitious targets, the European Commission adopted a new package of legislation called Fit for 55 package on 14 July. The package amends eight existing pieces of legislation and presents five new initiatives, across a range of policy areas and economic sectors: climate, energy and fuels, transport, buildings, land use and forestry:

- Revision of the EU Emissions Trading System, including maritime, aviation and CORSIA as well as a proposal for ETS as own resource
- Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism and a proposal for CBAM as own resource
- Effort Sharing Regulation
- Revision of the Energy Tax Directive
- Amendment to the Renewable Energy Directive to implement the ambition of the new 2030 climate target
- Amendment of the Energy Efficiency Directive to implement the ambition of the new 2030 climate target
- Revision of the Regulation on the inclusion of greenhouse gas emissions and removals from land use, land use change and forestry
- Revision of the Directive on deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure
- Revision of the Regulation setting CO<sub>2</sub> emission performance standards for new passenger cars and for new light commercial vehicles

Other initiatives will be published in the fourth quarter of 2021:

- Reducing methane emissions in the energy sector
- Revision of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive
- Revision of the Third Energy Package for gas to regulate competitive decarbonised gas markets

All legislative proposals are accompanied by impact assessments: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP 21 3541

# Recast of European Energy Efficiency Directive

The Commission's proposal, issued in July,



includes higher targets for reducing EU primary (-39%) and final (-36%) energy consumption by 2030.

These new targets would become binding at EU level and reinforced by a benchmarking system for Member States to set their national indicative contributions to this binding EU target. The recast of this Directive focuses on increasing energy efficiency in sectors with high energy-savings potential (heating and cooling, industry and energy services). The public sector as a whole would need to reduce annual energy consumption by 1.7% every year, ensure that 3% of the floor space in public buildings is renovated annually (until now this requirement has only applied to central government buildings), and include more systematic energy efficiency requirements in public procurement procedures. The Commission's proposal includes several measures to boost building renovation rates, increase the take-up of energy efficiency investments, address energy poverty, and empower and protect consumers. Member States are expected to almost double the annual energy savings obligations (+1.5%) over the 2024-2030 period. The proposal issued in July is now being discussed by the Council and the European Parliament.

https://oeil.secure.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/popups/ficheprocedure.do?reference=2021/0203(COD)&l=en

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