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VIPA International is a supporter



Dear

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

We are proud to present the first edition of **VIPs News**, the brand new VIPA International External Newsletter. We want to share with you the latest news and projects our association is working on as well as the latest developments related to our industry and technology.

Enjoy the reading!

With best regards,  
 Gregor Erbenich  
 President VIPA International

## ASSOCIATION NEWS

### 1.1 New animated video on appliances



As part of the strategy of VIPA Intl to raise awareness to vacuum insulation panels technology and to inform about the numerous advantages it brings to the different applications where it is used, VIPA Intl published its second video. The video on the use of VIPS in home appliances shows how VIP technology can contribute to energy efficiency and sustainability, top priorities for governments everywhere in the world. We invite everyone to share it. The video can be watched on [YouTube](#) and [Youku](#). Subtitles are

available in Mandarin, Japanese, Dutch, German, French and Slovenian. Read press release [here](#). Other videos on our [homepage](#).

### 1.2 VIPA International Platinum sponsor of IVIS in Japan



The 14th International Vacuum Insulation Symposium (IVIS), organised by the Kindai University, took place in Kyoto, Japan, on 19-20 September 2019 with VIPA Intl as a Platinum Sponsor. VIPA Intl President, Gregor Erbenich, was a keynote speaker at the opening session and many of our members participated at the different sessions throughout the two days. All information on this year's event as well as previous IVIS editions is available on our website [here](#). VIPA Intl organised its General Assembly one day before the

start of IVIS in Kyoto. Most of the members attended the meeting which took place at the same venue of IVIS, the Kyoto Research Park. More info on the General Assembly in our [press release](#).

### 1.3 Follow the VIPA International Company LinkedIn page



One of the key objectives of our association is to increase awareness on VIPs and to communicate on the multiple benefits of the technology. A LinkedIn company page was created in March 2019 as an additional platform to reach out to members and interested parties. If you want to stay tuned on the latest news of the vacuum insulation industry, connect with us [here](#).

### 1.4 New members

VIPA International is open to different types of companies and organisations, divided in 4 categories of members: **Regular members** (VIP manufacturers and material & equipment suppliers); **Associate members** (companies with an interest in the VIP industry that do not fall under the previous categories); **Academia** (universities, research institutes and laboratories) and **Associations**. We were happy to welcome 2 new members in 2019.

**Panasonic** joined as regular member in January 2019. Panasonic solutions for manufacturers brings strategic innovations to customers' product development to enable manufacturers to plan and build world-class solutions. Panasonic's industrial technologies range from electronic and automation components and devices, materials, batteries and a wide range of unique solutions. They provide manufacturers with the performance, quality and reliability synonymous with the Panasonic brand.



**Oak Bridge National Laboratory** joined as an academia member in July 2019. Oak Ridge National Laboratory is the largest US Department of Energy science and energy laboratory, conducting basic and applied research to deliver transformative solutions to compelling problems in energy and security.

## 1.5 RAL VIP Quality Label



In 2016 VIPA Intl signed a co-operation agreement with the European Association of Thermal Insulation Manufacturers (GSH) for the use of the RAL VIP Quality Mark. VIPA Intl members which are part of the GSH VIP group worked on the review of the quality assessment rules of the VIP RAL quality label (document RAL-GZ 960). The objective was to go beyond the existing rules, integrate the standard EN 17140, and extend the label to cover all core materials (fumed silica, glass fiber, powders, foams) and all different VIP applications. The new GZ-960 document extends the label to water tanks, refrigerators, appliances and temperature-controlled boxes. The document was approved by the RAL and is already in force. More info and access to updated RAL document [here](#)

## 1.6 Case study London Bridge Station upgraded with VIPs



An excellent way of showcasing the advantages of using VIPs is the production of case studies. The latest case study VIPA Intl published was provided by Kingspan Insulation. The case study shows how vacuum insulation panels contributed to the renovation process of the London Bridge Station by bringing outstanding thermal performance without compromising on the space. Read press release [here](#). Have a look at the case study and other cases studies published by VIPA Intl [here](#).

## 1.7 Technical Bulletin published

In July 2019, the VIPA Intl Technical Working Group published a Technical Bulletin about the calculation of the declaration of thermal performance for VIPs in buildings according the draft product standard prEN 17140. The declaration of thermal performance has to be done by the manufacturers, depending on the dimensions of the panels and their edge effects, including statistical variation of the production and including ageing of the panels. Link to the technical bulletin [here](#).

## 1.8 New study on thermal conductivity of fumed silica grades and behavior of fiberglass desiccants

One of the objectives of the association is to fund research studies about concrete aspects of the technology related to production or applications. Since its creation VIPA has funded 5 studies (see [link](#)). The latest study for which VIPA International just concluded a contract with Avery Dennison Hanita on the effect of moisture content on the thermal conductivity of different types of fumed silica VIPs and behaviour of different types of fiberglass desiccants was initiated this summer for a duration of one year (final report by July 2020).

## 2. INDUSTRY NEWS

### Standardisation of VIPs worldwide

VIPA International is pleased to see that standardisation activities on our technology are progressing well around the world. Standards are key tools to accelerate the market acceptance of new products and to create a level playing field for all companies in the market. VIPA Intl is following closely all these standardisation discussions and keeping its members informed about all developments. The association believes in the value of standards and would welcome global harmonisation as much as possible. Below, a status update on the different standardization efforts.

### European Standard prEN-17140



The CEN Technical Committee 88 (thermal insulating materials and products) Working Group 11 (vacuum insulation products - VIP) drafted the factory made vacuum insulated panels (VIP) for buildings specification (EN-17140). The standard was voted early 2018 but AFNOR, the French standardisation body, made an appeal. After some back and forth and some adaptations to the text, AFNOR decided to drop the appeal in October 2018. Since then the text has been going through internal approval process within CEN which involved an assessment by an external consultant (HAS Consultant). The assessment of the consultant included requests for modifications on the standard. These requests have been addressed by the CEN TC88 WG11 and a new draft will be available the next weeks. At the next WG11 meeting, early November, the new draft will be presented and further steps will be discussed. The draft will be submitted to a first formal vote and consultation round (3 months for comments). In case of no additional comments, a second formal vote will follow. The prEN-17140 could then be

officially published at the end of 2020.

## ISO standard

Phalguni Mukhopadhyaya (University of Victoria, Canada) is the convenor of the group ISO/TC 163/SC 3/WG 11 which drafted the thermal insulation products for buildings - Vacuum insulation panels (VIP) - Products specification ISO/DIS 16478.3. The text was submitted to public enquiry a couple of times in 2018 and 2019 but it failed to get enough positive votes in order to be approved. The ISO group is already working on a new draft. The last meeting of this group took place in Seoul, South Korea, right after IVIS on 23-24 September 2019.

## New Chinese VIP standard for building applications



The Chinese national standard "Vacuum Insulation Panels" GB/T 37608-2019 has been published on 4 June 2019. The standard was drafted by Nanjing Fiberglass Research & Design Institute, together with many other institutes, colleges, producers and users over the past 3 years. The project is now finished and will enter into force on 1st May 2020. The national standard "Vacuum Insulation Panels" GB/T 37608-2019 includes the range, terms & definitions, classifications & marks, demands of technique, test methods etc. The standard is for VIPs applying to the architecture and industry in range of -40°C to -70°C. It refers to the important terms such as center-of-panel thermal conductivity, effective thermal conductivity and service life, which show the key concepts of VIPs to the users and producers objectively.

If you want to stay informed on the latest developments, check the VIPA Intl website [here](#) and/or opt-in to our mailing list [here](#).

## Temperature Control & Logistics Forum



VIPA Intl is a media partner of the Temperature Control and Logistics Forum, the conference to discuss everything logistics, supply chain and temperature controlled for the Pharmaceutical Industry. The forum will take place from 27-30 January 2020 in Dusseldorf, Germany.

More info and registrations [here](#).

## VIPA International Secretariat

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