



VIPA

INTERNATIONAL

VACUUM INSULATION
PANEL ASSOCIATION



ANNUAL REPORT

2020-2021

This Annual Report presents an overview of VIPA International’s activities since the General Assembly held online in September 2020.

The activities carried out during this period could not have been possible without the support of the VIPA Int’l Board and the active contribution of VIPA Int’l members across the association’s Working Groups. The VIPA Int’l office thanks its members for their support!

STAY IN TOUCH



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VIPA International - Vacuum Insulation Panel Association



VIPA International



SEBASTIAN BAARS

PRESIDENT, VIPA INTERNATIONAL
CEO, VAKU-ISOTHERM

After another year of pandemic, I hope that you and your families are in good health. I would like to thank all of our members and staff for advancing the work of the association online during this time.

With that being said, we are optimistic that face-to-face meetings may soon resume and we can all benefit from meeting each other in person again. We are also hopeful that the International Vacuum Insulation Symposium (IVIS), originally due to take place in 2020, will finally be held in April next year, hosted by Brunel University in London. VIPA Int'l is the Platinum Sponsor of the event and we look forward to organising a 90-minute session during the event.

This time last year, I had just been elected as President of VIPA Int'l and I am proud of what we have achieved since then. We have overhauled the presentation of the association, with a new logo and visual identity, as well as a brand new website close to completion.

We have also finalised videos promoting the use of VIPs in buildings and in the transport of COVID vaccines around the world. It is great to see that our industry is providing solutions to the key challenges of the day. Hopefully, this will continue to have a positive impact on our business and make more people aware of the benefits our industry provides.

Through the Technical WG, we have been working on new tools to establish the cost-effectiveness of VIPs in buildings and measure the inner pressure of VIPs. Whilst these projects have not yet borne fruit, we will continue to look for ways to make these tools available to our members.

We were very optimistic towards the end of last year that progress had finally been made on establishing a European standard for VIPs in buildings. The CEN Standard on 'Thermal insulation products for buildings – Factory made Vacuum Insulation Panels (VIP)' was published in October 2020 after 7 years of advocacy by VIPA Int'l and our members. Unfortunately, the European Commission decided not to publish it in the Official Journal of the European Union, so it cannot be used for CE marking. We are, however, hopeful that progress can again be made in the year ahead with the support of our members.

Finally, due to shortages of silica in Europe, we will also start looking into the collection and recycling of VIPs used primarily in the transportation segment.

I hope you enjoy reading about our activities over the past year and look forward to another successful year ahead.

UPDATES FROM THE VIPA INT'L BOARD AND WORKING GROUPS

VIPA INT'L BOARD

The Board continued to meet virtually over the past year because of the pandemic and the related travel restrictions.

In addition to financial and membership matters, the Board considered some new projects, VIPA Int'l's participation at IVIS, including sponsorship and communication activities, as well as future activities the association could work on to continue to bring value to its members.

Looking ahead to 2021, the Board prioritised communications, with a new visual identity and website, as well as a number of actions to take advantage of the momentum around VIPs in the transportation segment because of their use in the transport of COVID-19 vaccines.

Given the uncertainty around physical events,



VIPA Int'l is the platinum sponsor of IVIS 2021,

which was postponed from September 2021 to April 2022 due to the COVID-19 travel restrictions.

VIPA Int'l will organise a 90-minute session, which will take place during the second day of the event.

any projects related to conferences and exhibitions remain on stand-by.

TECHNICAL WG

The Technical WG discussed tools to promote VIPs and reassure users of the value and benefits of the product in different applications.

One particular tool was an economic model to establish the cost effectiveness of VIPs in buildings according to easy to understand performance parameters. Brunel University presented a proposal for a six-month project. The scope and outcome are still being discussed, and instead of an economic model, Brunel is developing a one-page scenario per application focusing on parameters such as return on investment and energy savings, among others.

The WG also discussed the development of an inner pressure measurement device, developing user requirement specifications, which were sent to several companies. Two companies came back with an offer. The Board and Technical WG considered the two offers and decided not to pursue them. The Secretariat will continue to contact other companies, as well as universities, for alternative offers.

Some members of the WG are also involved in the standardisation efforts in Europe (CEN/CENELEC) as well as internationally (ISO level) and keep members informed about developments.



CEN standard approved but not 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 Official Journal of the European Union (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 result. Several other building-related product standards are pending "approval" by the European Commission because 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 long list of 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 so the enquiry phase can be initiated.

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

The EN 17140 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 has 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:



Benjamin.Wienen@din.de

Building on the momentum around COVID-19 vaccines and promoting VIPs in buildings


COVID vaccine video

'How VIPs enable COVID-19 vaccines to be shipped around the world'

~68k views

Mass COVID vaccine rollout

COVID case study



VIPA International Case Study
Providing Thermal Protection for COVID-19 Vaccine Shipments from BioTech Facilities

The Problem
The Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine (BNT162b2), which is based on BioNTech's proprietary mRNA technology, was developed by both BioNTech and Pfizer. While the mRNA is very effective for fighting COVID-19, it is also very sensitive to temperature. The frozen vials can be stored and transported at -90 °C to -80 °C for up to six months.

The Solution
The custom container from Clack Global uses a double wall of foam-in-place Vacuum Insulated Panels (VIPs) technology, a custom stacked box with product use time with a built-in handle for simplified packing and unpacking. Thermal testing revealed all requirements, and the shipping container performed well beyond the 240-hour minimum. The container will maintain the desired temperature indefinitely with the addition of dry ice as needed.

The Result
The foam-in-place double-wall VIP insulated shaper provides 10+ days of temperature protection for vaccine shipments from BioTech facilities in Germany. Additionally, Clack was able to reduce the amount of dry ice needed by more than 30% from their original projection by making additional tweaks to the design.

The custom thermal shipping container maintains -70°C for a minimum of 240 hours to keep vaccine shipments transported while maintaining the cooling chain without any additional equipment.

Case study and images provided by Clack Global

About VIPs International
The VIP Association (VIPA) is a global trade association representing the Vacuum Insulation Panels (VIP) industry. VIPA promotes the benefits of VIPs and provides a platform for industry collaboration. VIPA is the leading authority on VIPs and provides a platform for industry collaboration. VIPA is the leading authority on VIPs and provides a platform for industry collaboration.

COVID FAQ page



How VIPs are used to transport COVID-19 vaccines

All you need to know about vacuum insulation panels and the transport of COVID-19 vaccines across the world

The new COVID-19 vaccine poses a considerable logistical challenge as it must be stored and transported at ultra-low temperatures. Vacuum Insulation Panels (VIPs) are the ideal solution for this challenge. VIPs are made of two thin layers of porous material sandwiched together, creating a highly insulating barrier. This allows for the safe and efficient transport of vaccines across the world.

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VIPs in buildings video

'Enhancing energy efficiency and saving space: VIPs in buildings'

~22k views

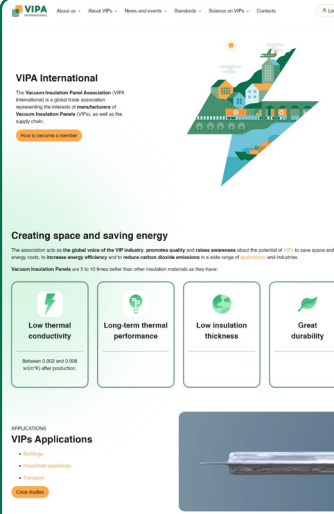
DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS WG

Over the past 12 months, the VIPA Int'l Digital Communications WG has made great strides towards giving the association a fresh new look with a modern new logo and visual identity emphasising the sustainability of the product, as well as a full redesign of the website.

The group has also worked to take advantage of the publicity around the use of VIPs to ship COVID-19 vaccines around the world and promote VIPs as an energy efficient and space saving solution in buildings.

An upgraded image and presentation

NEW LOGO & COLOUR SCHEME

VIPA International
The association is the global voice of the VIP industry, promotes quality and raises awareness about the potential of VIPs to save space and energy costs, to enhance energy efficiency and to reduce carbon dioxide emissions in a wide range of applications and industries.

Creating space and saving energy
The association is the global voice of the VIP industry, promotes quality and raises awareness about the potential of VIPs to save space and energy costs, to enhance energy efficiency and to reduce carbon dioxide emissions in a wide range of applications and industries.

Low thermal conductivity
Between 0.002 and 0.008 W/mK, often lower

Long-term thermal performance

Low insulation thickness

Great durability

Applications
VIP Applications

- Buildings
- Industrial applications
- Transport

[Case studies](#)

NEW WEBSITE UNDER CONSTRUCTION

VIPA INT'L COMMUNICATIONS IN NUMBERS



5 NEWS RELEASES PUBLISHED

VIPA Int'l elects Vaku Isotherm CEO Sebastian Baars as new President, 1 October 2020

New CEN Standard on VIPs in buildings to boost vacuum insulation industry in Europe, 21 October 2020

Saving energy and creating space: watch our new video on VIPs in buildings, 23 November 2020

Vacuum Insulation Panels enable COVID-19 vaccines to be shipped around the world, 5 August 2021

Vacuum insulation panels provide thermal protection for COVID-19 vaccine shipments, 8 September 2021



About VIPA International

The **Vacuum Insulation Panel Association** (VIPA International) is a global trade association representing the interests of manufacturers of vacuum insulation panels, as well as the supply chain. The mission of the association is to act as the global voice of the vacuum insulation panel industry, promote quality and raise awareness about the potential of saving space and energy costs, and reducing carbon dioxide emissions in a wide range of applications and industries.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES & CRITERIA

Rights and benefits:

- Influence the association’s strategy and positions
- Move positions forward in the VIPA Int’l Working Groups
- Gain access to industry resources, guides and updates
- Share knowledge, expertise and best practices
- Network with high level peers and representatives from the VIP industry
- Have a common voice in influencing decision-making in Europe

Regular members Manufacturers, material suppliers and equipment suppliers

Associate members Companies with an interest in the industry

Academia Institutes, laboratories and universities with an interest in the industry

Institutions Not-for-profit associations with an interest in the industry

NOT YET A MEMBER?

VIPA International membership is open to manufacturers of Vacuum Insulation Panels (VIPs), as well as material and equipment suppliers, but also to companies with an interest in the VIP industry that do not fall into the previous categories.

Academic institutions and non-profit associations with an interest in the VIP industry are also welcome to join the association.

How to become a member:

✉ VIPA-international@kellencompany.com

🔗 vipa-international.org/become-a-member

➔
SCAN THE QR CODE



VIPA INT'L MEMBERS

REGULAR MEMBERS

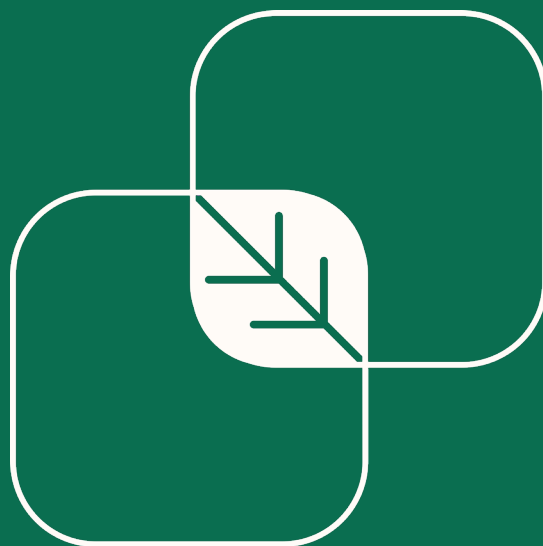


ASSOCIATE MEMBERS



ACADEMIA





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