



# VIPA

INTERNATIONAL

VACUUM INSULATION  
PANEL ASSOCIATION



## ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023

## Brussels, 9 November 2022

This Annual Report presents an overview of VIPA International's activities since the General Assembly held in Brussels on 29 June 2023.

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

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## SEBASTIAN BAARS

PRESIDENT, VIPA INTERNATIONAL  
CEO, VAKU-ISOTHERM

This year has been a good year for VIPA International. In 2023, we agreed to update our membership structure and fees to allow start-ups or smaller companies to join, and to grow our association internationally and amongst different sectors.

I was delighted to meet our Board and Secretariat in Brussels to discuss VIPA's strategic direction. Furthermore, I was happy to welcome two new colleagues to the Secretariat, Pau Sanchis, who became Executive Director, and Tudor Enache, the new Administrative Assistant.

This year's IVIS event took place in Chennai, India. I was not able to be there in person, but I was fortunately able to present virtually and introduce all the participants to our association. I was delighted to hear that VIPA received the 'Outstanding Contribution' prize from the organisers. Our sponsorship of IVIS is vital and I look forward to the next edition in the US in 2025.

In our working groups, we are currently looking into how we can increase awareness of VIPs among different stakeholders. We have decided to invest in a communications campaign to explain the VIP technology and benefits in a more accessible manner to different audiences. The campaign will be rolling out in Q1 of 2024 and I am excited to see the impact.

Within our Technical WG, we published the

'Effect of Insulation on the Space Heating Energy Demand of a Mid-Terraced Dwelling in London (UK)' study for our members. The study simulates the economic performance of VIPs in the UK building sector. Throughout 2024, we will look to publish more studies for our members and the public. We will also continue looking into how VIPs can be collected and recycled.

With the current political focus globally on climate change, energy costs and efficiency, space optimisation with a growing world population, and high energy costs, VIPs can have a crucial role in solving these challenges. I am happy that our Secretariat is having a close dialogue with the EU institutions to continually ensure fair legislation and standardisation around VIPs.

VIPA International will continue to be the global voice of the Vacuum Insulation Panel industry. Networking, knowledge-sharing and policy influence at global level will be key.

I hope you enjoy reading about our activities from the past year and I look forward to another successful year ahead and an in-person General Assembly in Berlin on 11-12 April 2024.

Thanks for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Sebastian Baars



**PAU SANCHIS**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We envision a future where vacuum insulation panels play a pivotal role in promoting health, energy efficiency and reducing carbon dioxide emissions across various applications and industries. This year holds particular significance as both the European Parliament and the USA will conduct elections.

In early 2023, we seized the opportunity to meet with the Board in Brussels to outline key topics and areas within the sector. Our goal is to raise awareness, ensure impact and develop strategies to elevate our association globally. Recognising the need for a renewed impetus for VIPA, we are confident that this year will bring increased visibility and relevance.

Collectively, we identified key actions from the previous year and those required for 2024, anticipating tangible results early next year. The main focus areas include communications and the development of key studies. The overarching objective is to expand the current VIPA International membership, foster more networking opportunities throughout the year, explore avenues for gathering additional statistics and identify opportunities for our business to thrive.

The Secretariat is ready to propel VIPA International to the next stage. Our team now comprises three dedicated professionals, and together, we aspire to position the sector not only in Europe but on a global scale. If you have any ideas, requests or information to share with us, please feel free to send us an email or give us a call.

We trust you will find this report enjoyable, and I eagerly anticipate the possibility of meeting you soon, either in person or virtually.

Last but not least, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to our President Sebastian Baars, whose term concludes this year. He has served as our President since 2020, guiding us through a pandemic and preparing the association for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

Yours sincerely,

Pau Sanchis

## MEMBERSHIP STRUCTURE UPDATE

As announced during our Extraordinary General Assembly in November, we are actively pursuing the goal of attracting new members and expanding our association.

In line with this objective, discussions with the Board and membership have centered around the prospect of modifying our membership fee structure. Unanimously, an agreement was reached in November, and VIPA will be transitioning to a more diversified membership-fee model.

This new approach allows existing members to maintain their current structure while introducing different categories to attract new members.

As highlighted, the Secretariat believes that adopting a revenue-based membership fee model can yield several advantages for our association:

**1. Fairness and Equity:** Revenue-based fees are widely regarded as fair since they correlate with a member's financial capacity. This ensures that members with higher revenues or larger businesses contribute proportionally more to the association,

distributing the financial burden equitably among all members.

**2. Membership Engagement:** Members who perceive a direct connection between their financial success and the support provided by the association are likely to become more actively engaged in various activities, including networking events, educational programs, and advocacy efforts.

**3. Support for Small Businesses:** Smaller businesses with lower revenues may find revenue-based fees more accessible than fixed fees. This affordability can contribute to attracting and retaining a diverse membership base, including startups and small enterprises.

**4. Flexibility and Scalability:** This model is adaptable and scalable, allowing the association to adjust fees in response to changes in members' revenues over time. This flexibility ensures that fees remain relevant and reasonable.



IVIS 2023 at College of Engineering, Anna University, Chennai, India



**IVIS2025 will take place in the United States in Oak Ridge National Laboratory.** More information regarding the dates will follow in the beginning of 2024. The event will as usual welcome scientists, researchers, manufacturers, suppliers, end users, social scientists and policy makers from all over the world working in the areas of Vacuum Insulation Panels (VIPs), super insulation, aerogel and other insulation materials.





## EUROPEAN POLICY UPDATE

One of our major accomplishments this year was the scheduled meeting with the EU Commission, which successfully took place on 17 November, 2023. The meeting was attended by the Secretariat and a representative from VIPA's industry. As previously emphasised, our objective was twofold: to raise awareness within EU institutions about the importance and impact Vacuum Insulation Panels (VIPs) can ensure and to gain a clear understanding of the current political landscape to expedite the standardisation process.

### ENERGY PERFORMANCE OF BUILDINGS DIRECTIVE (EPBD)

Last December, the EU achieved an initial agreement on the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) to reduce emissions and energy usage in buildings across the

Union. This legislative development aligns with the European Green Deal's commitment to decarbonise buildings, positively impacting people's quality of life, homes, workplaces and energy costs.



#### Key measures included in this piece of legislation:

- Each Member State will adopt a national trajectory, aiming to reduce the average primary energy use of residential buildings by 16% by 2030 and 20-22% by 2035. Flexibility is provided to consider national circumstances, allowing Member States to choose targeted buildings and measures.
- National measures must ensure that at least 55% of the reduction in average primary energy use comes from renovating the worst-performing buildings.
- For non-residential buildings, minimum

energy performance standards will gradually improve the stock. This will result in renovating the 16% worst-performing buildings by 2030 and the 26% worst-performing buildings by 2033.

#### The Renovation Wave introduces several points worth to be monitored by our sector:

- The revised EPBD enhances strategic planning and tools for renovations. Member States are required to develop Building Renovation Plans, outlining strategies to decarbonize the building stock and address barriers like financing and skilled labor shortages.
- National building renovation passport schemes will guide owners through phased renovations toward achieving zero-emission buildings.
- One-stop-shops will be established, offering dedicated support for homeowners, SMEs, and all stakeholders in the renovation value chain.



#### Next Steps:

Member States must transpose the directive into their national laws within a specified timeframe. This involves adjusting existing legislation or creating new laws and regulations. The implementation of this regulatory framework is expected to begin approximately two years after transposition.

VIPA International will closely monitor the transposition and implementation of this Directive to keep our membership informed.

If you have any specific questions related to this matter, please contact us.

## UPDATE ON THE CEN 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 decision for the citation is based on an assessment that compares the initial mandate of the standard with the result. The last revision of EN 17140 led to the conclusion that the existing mandate is insufficient for a citation in the OJEU and therefore the mandate itself has to be revised.

In June 2023, the CPR acquis subgroup for thermal insulation products started its work. The goal of the CPR Technical Acquis Process is to improve existing mandates for technical specifications by defining

the content of the high-level structure of harmonised technical specifications. This includes assessment methods, essential characteristics, expression of test/assessment results (inclusion of classes of performance and/or threshold levels), requirements and regulatory needs. In the process, the implications of the revision of the CPR will be taken into account.

The outcome of the CPR Acquis process will be used to issue new standardisation requests to replace the existing mandates. In the case of VIPs, the existing mandate M/103 will be replaced by a new standardisation request for thermal insulation products. Once the new standardisation request will be available, the revision of EN 17140 will be initiated to restart the work towards a citation in the OJEU.

If you have any specific questions about the CEN standard, please contact the WG11 secretary Benjamin Wienen:

 [Benjamin.Wienen@din.de](mailto:Benjamin.Wienen@din.de)



## ISABELLA BECK JØRGENSEN COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

How do you make vacuum insulation panels stand out on social media at a time when we are all overloaded with content on social media? We want to make VIPs relevant to different target audiences and explain the benefits in an authentic and understandable manner. VIPA International decided to take up the challenge in 2023 and create a communications campaign aimed at:

### 1. Raise awareness about VIPs

We want to communicate more about their potential for saving space, and energy costs and reducing carbon dioxide emissions in a wide range of applications and industries.

### 2. Position VIPA International

We want to position our association as the main voice of the vacuum insulation panel industry.

Together with the Brussels-based digital agency, ZN, we have been collaborating to create a creative concept, strategic messages, visuals, and authentic materials. All the materials will be published

on LinkedIn throughout Q1 in 2024 and can be discovered under the hashtag **#VIPA4Climate**.

The Communications Working Group was relaunched in 2023 and welcomed 7 new members. The working group will be meeting four times in 2024 virtually to discuss content, communications plan/strategies, and exchange their experiences about effectively communicating VIPs.

At VIPA International we believe strategic communication can make a significant difference in making VIPs more relevant.

Why are Vacuum Insulation Panels so efficient?



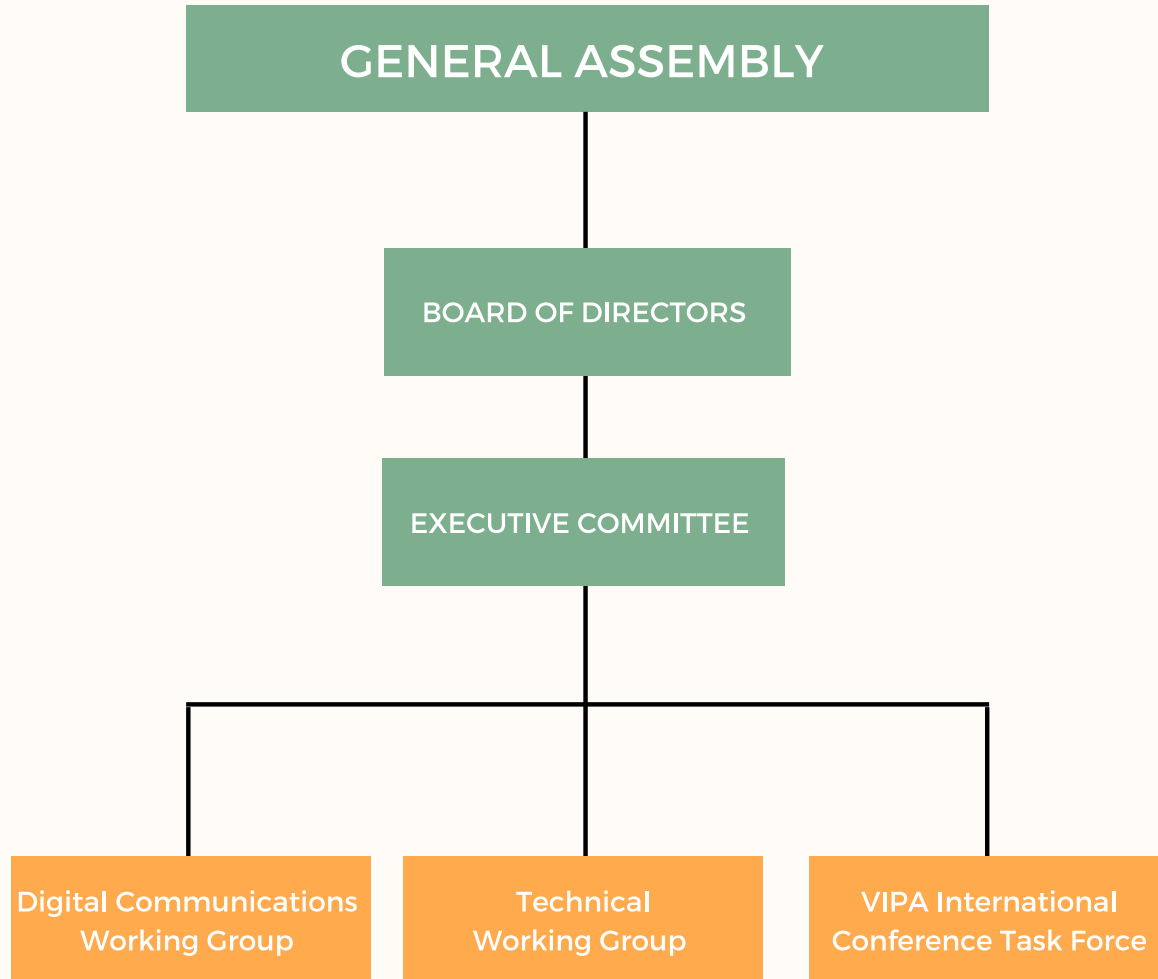
Extremely low thermal conductivity

#VIPA4Climate





# VIPA INT'L STRUCTURE



## 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?

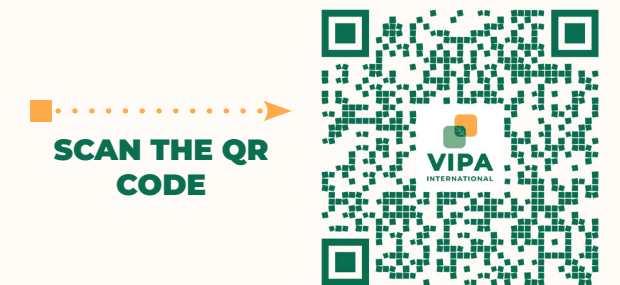
VIPA International membership is open to manufacturers of Vacuum Insulation Panels (VIPs), as well as material and equipment suppliers, but also to companies with an interest in the VIP industry that do not fall into the previous categories.

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](mailto:VIPA-international@kellencompany.com)

🔗 [vipa-international.org/become-a-member](https://vipa-international.org/become-a-member)



## VIPA INT'L MEMBERS

### REGULAR MEMBERS



YuanTing Cold Chain

### ACADEMIA



## VIPA INT'L SECRETARIAT



**PAU SANCHIS**  
Executive Director

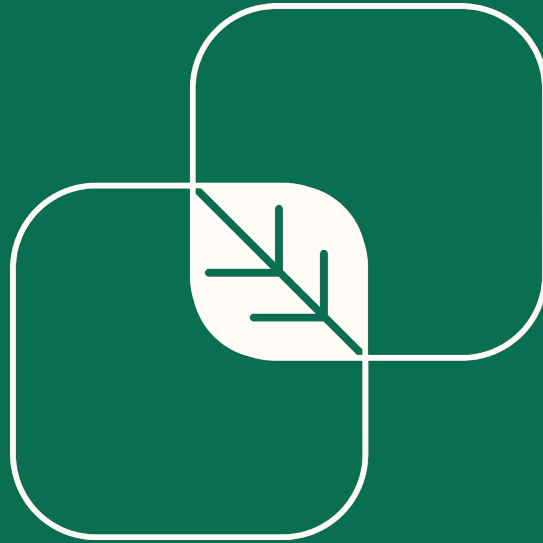


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