

**Vacuum Insulation Panel Association
Public Affairs Working Group Conference Call
Tuesday 4 October 2016, 10:00 to 11:00 CET**

Participants:

Gregor Erbenich, Porextherm
Roland Caps, va-Q-Tec
John Garbutt, Kingspan
Francesco Gattiglio, VIPA International Policy Officer

Apologies:

Pascal Rousset, Rexor
Gary Chalkley, Camvac

Minutes

1. Welcome

1.1 Governance rules

Francesco Gattiglio welcomed participants to the call. Francesco reminded participants of the VIPA Antitrust Compliance Statement.

1.2 Approval of the agenda

The agenda was adopted with no changes.

1.3 Approval minutes previous conference call 21 March and review of action items

The minutes of the conference call of 21 March were approved with no changes. The reply of VIPA International to the consultation on Resource Efficiency for the Building Sector will be discussed under agenda point 3. All other actions were completed.

2. Legislative updates

2.1 New Energy Efficiency legislative proposal

Francesco Gattiglio informed the participants on the activities of VIPA International. The European Commission will publish the new energy efficiency package, including the revised Energy Efficiency Directive (EED) and Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) on the 11 October 2016. A first draft of the two directives was leaked in September.

The draft version of the [Energy Efficiency Directive](#) includes only minor changes compared to the previous version adopted in 2012. The general energy efficiency target of the EU is set at 30%, raised from the 27% agreed by the Council in 2014. The target will be binding for the EU, but there are no pre-established binding targets at national level.

Also the draft version of the [Energy Performance of Buildings Directive](#) was leaked. The directive does not include revolutionary changes, but aims to boost “investment in building renovation benefiting especially SMEs”. Financial incentives to renovation will have to be linked to the energy efficiency savings delivered, in line with VIPA’s policy suggestions. The Smart Financing for Smart Buildings Initiative will be also published in the coming weeks.

Participants were of the opinion that the new energy efficiency target is positive for VIPs in general, even if it should be more ambitious and in line with the suggestions of the European Parliament. Overall VIPA should keep pushing for ambitious energy efficiency targets and for the inclusion of space into cost-benefit calculations.

Francesco presented different options for follow-up actions of VIPA International: VIPA could publish a press release after the publication of the package to express its satisfaction for the increased target, asking at the same time to raise the ambition of the package in the trilogue discussions between Council, Parliament and

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Commission. VIPA could also prepare a new position paper on the specific points of the package and circulate it to the Members of the European Parliament, Permanent Representations and European Commission, asking also for a meeting.

Participants agreed to suggest to the Board to only publish a press release after the publication of the package. The press release should welcome the positive changes in the package (i.e. the increased energy efficiency target and financial incentives to renovation linked to the energy efficiency savings delivered), highlight the contribution of VIPs and include VIPA's policy suggestions already included in the policy paper prepared in the past months.

However, participants remarked that VIPA should be more active at national level, because directives will only set the general targets. One option might be to organise meetings between national governments and member companies acting on behalf of VIPA. VIPA could join forces with national associations working on insulation establish contacts with national governments and raise the standards for insulation products. Besides, VIPA could also consider the possibility of joining forces with other Brussels-based organisations, such as PU Europe or the Phenolic Association.

Francesco reported that VIPA will have a strategic planning session in Barcelona on 10 October and highlighted that the suggestion to be more active at national level and the possibility to join forces with other Brussels-based organisations are worth to be discussed in that forum.

Action:

- Secretariat to prepare a press release on the publication of the energy efficiency package.

3. Public Consultation on EU framework of core indicators for the environmental performance of buildings

Francesco informed the participants on the Public Consultation on EU framework of core indicators for the environmental performance of buildings. The text of the consultation is actually quite general and not focused on insulation, but only on the 6 macro-objectives already proposed by the Joint Research Centre. However, future consultation could be focused on the additional macro-objectives, including more efficient use of space. Participants agreed that the topic of the current consultation is too general and there is no added value for VIPA in taking part to the consultation. However, VIPA should continue to monitor the evolution of this initiative.

4. AoB & date of next conference call

The date of the next conference call shall be decided via email. No other item was discussed. The conference call finished at 11:00.
