



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2015

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VIPA International is a Sponsor of IVIS 2015



VIPA International is a Build Up Partner



VIPA International is a Liaison Organisation to CEN TC 88 WG11



VIPA International is going to hold a Board meeting and a General Assembly in Nanjing, China, just before IVIS 2015. It will be a perfect occasion to celebrate the first year and half of the association, review past accomplishments and discuss activities and priorities for 2016 and beyond.

The association has been very active in 2015 thanks to the work of the Board and the three working groups. Additional details are included in the articles below and a complete report on VIPA activities in 2015 will be provided during the meetings in Nanjing.

Among the key accomplishments we would like to highlight the contribution to the standardisation process in Europe and in China. VIPA International became recently a Liaison Organisation to the CEN TC 88 WG 11 to better contribute to the standardisation process in Europe. Another good news is the growth of the association, which has now 13 full members and 4 associate members. Our website is up and running. It includes different press releases and four case studies highlighting the capabilities of VIPs.

We have also included in this Newsletter key policy news from Brussels and a list of relevant events for VIPA and its members. We hope you find this publication helpful and remain at your disposal should you have any questions or remarks about VIPA International.

We hope to meet you all in Nanjing to discuss the future activities of our organisation.

With best regards,
Roland Caps

VIPA International President

1. General News

1.1.

Don't forget to visit the VIPA International stand at IVIS 2015

VIPA International is a bronze sponsor of the 2015 edition of the International Vacuum Insulation Symposium (IVIS) taking place in Nanjing, China, from 19 to 20 September this year ([read news release here](#)). Our President Roland Caps will be one of the keynote speakers of the opening session. A dedicated stand of VIPA will be available to provide information on VIPA's activities at the exhibition area during the entire event. Meetings with prospect members, Chinese authorities and the China Insulation Material Association (CIMA) will also be organised. We encourage our members to visit the VIPA International stand during IVIS 2015.

1.2. Two case studies released

VIPA International publishes case studies provided by its members. These showcase the advantages of VIPs. The Communications & PR Working Group is leading this effort together with the VIPA secretariat. Should you wish to send a case study from your company, please feel free to contact the secretariat in Brussels. VIPA International released recently two new case studies:

- VIP technology offers maximum energy efficiency, while retaining the architecture of a traditional Swiss house - case study provided by Microtherm - [click here](#). The case study was also published on the BuildUp platform - [click here](#).
- VIP technology helps turn '70s secondary school into state of the art passive house - case study provided by Porextherm - [click here](#)



1.3 VIPA International joins CEN as liaison organisation

VIPA International signed an agreement with the European Committee for Standardisation (CEN) to become Liaison Organisation. VIPA International will contribute to the work of TC88/WG11 Vacuum Insulation Product.

VIPA International will appoint one Board member to act as VIPA's representative in the WG.

2. Association News

2.1. New members joining the association

VIPA International aims at increasing its membership basis to be more representative and to have more resources for added-value activities for its members. In this sense, we are contacting all companies from manufacturers to supply chain and strongly encourage our current members to spread the word about the association to their own personal and business networks so we can increase the number of member companies in 2015.

We are happy to welcome **Hongda Suzhou V.I.P. New Material** (China) as new manufacturer member of VIPA and the **Kongju National University** (South Korea) as new associate member of VIPA.

2.2. Board Update

The VIPA International Board had a meeting in Brussels on 7 May and a conference call on 8 July. The Board decided to commission two studies to the Forschungsinstitut für Wärmeschutz (FIW) on the ageing process of VIPs and on compressive strength measurement on VIP. These studies will hopefully fasten the standardisation process of VIPs going on in Europe via the CEN.

The Board is discussing the possibility of hosting IVIS 2017. A special Taskforce was created to review all options and make a recommendation to the Board. Another issue currently under discussion is a cooperation with the German GSH VIP Group on the VIP RAL quality label. In terms of finances, almost all members have already paid their 2015 membership fee invoices. The expenses are being executed as expected.

2.3 Update Technical WG

The Technical WG continues following the standardisation activities of the CEN TC88/WG11 and the IEA EBC Annex 65. Good progress was made during the last meetings of the CEN TC88/WG11: the WG approved the storage conditions of VIPs (50°C and 70% humidity for six months). Thermal conductivity, gas pressure and weight were measured after 1, 2, 4 and 6 months. The results showed an increase of the thermal conductivity of the VIPs during the whole duration of the exercise. Both WG11 and Annex65 agreed that this is a good method to calculate the ageing process of VIPs.

The WG is also cooperating with the Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics (NUAA) on the Chinese standard for VIPs in buildings.

2.4 Update Communications WG

The Communications and PR WG oversees VIPA communications (press releases, website, newsletters, case studies, etc). The WG approved a set of collateral materials to be used in the exhibition stand of VIPA during IVIS in Nanjing:

- [VIPA flyer](#)

- [ViPA roll-up banner](#)

The WG encourages all members to print the flyer and use it to promote the association, especially to companies that could be interested in becoming member.

2.5 Update Public Affairs WG

The Public Affairs WG is following carefully the latest news on EU legislation. The PA WG is preparing the replies to the public consultations on the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) and on Circular Economy. In particular, the WG will analyse the review process of the EPBD and Energy Efficiency Directive (EED) to identify opportunities to influence the process. Legislation in China, Japan and USA is also monitored by the WG.

2.6 2015 General Assembly during IVIS in Nanjing, China

VIPA International 2015 General Assembly will take place on Friday, 18 September, from 14:00 to 15:30 at the campus of NUAA in Nanjing. The General Assembly is open to all members - regular and associate. The General Assembly will review VIPA International activities and budget. The General Assembly will elect a new President of the association. A call for candidates will be circulated in August.

A meeting of the Board will also take place on Friday 18 September after the General Assembly, from 15:30 to 17:00.

3. Policy News from Europe

3.1. Energy labelling

The European Commission launched on 15 July a proposal to change the energy label of products as part of its Energy Union strategy. If accepted, a single energy labeling scale from 'A to G' will replace all existing energy labels. Additionally, all new energy efficient products placed on the EU market will have to be registered in a digital database. There will be no change for products already on the market, while new products will be sold with the new scale and old labels will be removed by retailers.

This Commission proposal will be sent to the European Parliament and the Council. Agreement and final approval are expected to take one year. Additional information is available on the website of the European Commission - [click here](#)

3.2. Public consultation on the evaluation of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD)

The European Commission launched a public consultation on the evaluation of the EPBD, the key Directive on energy efficiency of buildings. The Commission is asking stakeholders to evaluate whether the Directive has met its aims and explore issues in relation to the Smart Finance for Smart Buildings Initiative. The consultation is the first step of the review process of the EPBD. The transposition of the EPBD has been problematic: the Commission opened infringement procedures against all 28 Member States for failing to fully transpose the EPBD. Most Member States have now complied with their transposition obligations and the only infringements still open are against Austria, Italy, the Netherlands, the Czech Republic, United Kingdom and Poland. The review is due by January 2017. The text of consultation, open until 31 October 2015, is available on the website of the European Commission - [click here](#).

3.3 Review of the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED)

The problems faced by the Energy Efficiency Directive are similar to those of the EPBD: in March, Malta was the only EU Member State not hit by legal action over failures to translate the Directive into national law. The review process of the Energy Efficiency Directive is due to start in the coming months.

3.4 Public consultation on circular economy

The European Commission launched a public consultation on Circular Economy. Circular economy is an all-encompassing policy with the objective of transforming Europe into a more resource-efficient economy. It aims to turn waste into a resource and close the loop of resources through re-use, repair, refurbish and recycle of existing materials and products.

With this consultation, the European Commission aims to define the main barriers to the

development of a more circular economy and gather suggestions on how to overcome them. The text of consultation, open until 20 August 2015, is available on the website of the European Commission - [click here](#).

4. Upcoming events

- 26-28 August 2015, Florence, Italy: [MED GREEN FORUM 2015 - Mediterranean Green Buildings and Renewable Energy Forum](#)
- 4 September 2015, Brussels, Belgium: [2nd QUALICHeCK Conference](#)
- 14-15 September 2015, Brussels, Belgium: [Information day on the Horizon 2020 work programme 2016-2017 â€˜Secure, Clean and Efficient Energyâ€™™](#)
- 29-30 September 2015, Istanbul, Turkey: [10th Global Insulation Conference](#) (Roland Caps (VIPA President) will be among the speakers and will introduce a presentation titled "Vacuum insulation panels (VIPs): Current status and future trends")
- 1-2 October 2015, Vancouver, Canada: [North American Passive House Network Conference](#) (NAPHN15)
- 6-11 October 2015, Birmingham, UK: [UK Construction Week 2015](#)
- 15 October 2015, Brussels, Belgium: [Renovate Europe Day REDay2015](#)
- 15 October 2015, Brussels, Belgium: [Collaboration for housing nZEB renovation - Innovative business strategies for successful collaborations](#)
- 20 October 2015, London, UK: [UK Passivhaus Conference 2015](#)
- 17-19 November 2019, Barcelona, Spain: [Smart City Expo World Congress](#)
- 20-22 November 2015, Athens, Greece: [Building Green Expo 2015](#)

VIPA International Secretariat

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