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VACUUM INSULATION PANEL



NEWSLETTER June 2020

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VIPA International is a
supporter



Dear VIPA International Member,

For months now, the COVID-19 crisis has been affecting our life, both at a personal and a professional level. Everyone's health and safety is top priority and that is why this year's General Assembly will be organised in a virtual format. We hope to see you online on 17 September 2020.

We also hope you will enjoy reading this first 2020 edition of our newsletter which includes the latest sector news and updates on the different projects VIPA International is involved in.

With best regards,
Gregor Erbenich
President VIPA International

1. ASSOCIATION NEWS

Updates from the Board

The Board discussed the terms of the co-operation agreement with the GSH on the use of the RAL VIP quality label [signed in 2016](#).

Since 2016 the membership of the association has changed considerably and this led to questions on the terms and value of the agreement for the group because the RAL label is not very well known outside Germany. An addendum is being prepared which modifies the invoicing terms and notice period for resignation.

This topic stirred a lot of discussion within the group and it was agreed that the association should consider creating its own quality certification system for VIPs so that there is an internationally recognised quality scheme for VIPs. A separate Working Group will be created to work on this project.

Other topics under discussion include: finances, participation in the next edition of IVIS in 2021, organisation of conferences, membership outreach as well as future activities of the association covering the different applications of VIPs.

CEN and ISO standards to be voted this summer

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 (prEN-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 gone through an internal approval process within CEN which involved an assessment by an external consultant (HAS Consultant). The CEN TC88 WG11 had to make some adaptations to the format of the standard following the assessment of the HAS consultant.

The prEN-17140 is now finalised and the voting process is open until 30 July 2020. If the result of the vote is positive, the official publication of the prEN-17140 is likely to take place at the end of 2020 or early 2021.

Professor 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 last version submitted for vote was in fact an older version of the text which was submitted by mistake. This oversight delayed the process.

The last meeting of this ISO group took place in Seoul, South Korea, right after IVIS on 23-24 September 2019. ISO has strict timeframes for the development of standards so the ISO/TC 163/SC 3/WG 11 has until September this year to submit a new text for vote. The text is being fine-tuned and a new ballot is expected in July running until September.

VIPs: the slim high performance insulation solution for exclusive historical buildings



The Vacuum Insulation Panel technology was the insulation solution chosen by a team of architects wishing to refurbish their high-value historical office space located in Kensington, London.

This case study, provided by Kevothermal, shows how VIPs helped them make their historical building more energy efficient without compromising on floor space and without altering the external façade.

[Read more](#)

Save the date for the VIPA International General Assembly



The VIPA International General Assembly will take place on **17 September 2020**. The meeting will be organised virtually.

This year, a new president will be elected. Gregor Erbenich has occupied this position for two terms of two years each which is the maximum allowed.

International Energy Agency publishes reports on super-insulating materials in buildings



The results of the project looking into the benefits and challenges of super insulating materials initiated by the International Energy Agency in the framework of its Energy in Buildings and Communities Programme (EBC) were published at the beginning of the year.

The IEA-EBC Annex 65 Project started back in 2013 and was managed by the CSTB (the French Building Research Institute). The goal of this research work was to investigate

long-term benefits and risks of newly developed super insulating materials and systems and to provide guidelines for their optimal design and use.

[Read more](#)

Preparations for IVIS 2021 have already started



The **15th edition of the International Vacuum Insulation Symposium (IVIS 2021)** will be held in London, UK on 16 - 17 September 2021.

The abstract submission for papers and posters is open and the deadline is 1 December 2020. Poster presentation and an exhibition of insulation related products, equipment, sensors and literature will be organised during the conference.

VIPA members wishing to participate in the conference can benefit from a discounted registration fee of £250 instead of £350.

For more information, please visit the [conference website](#).

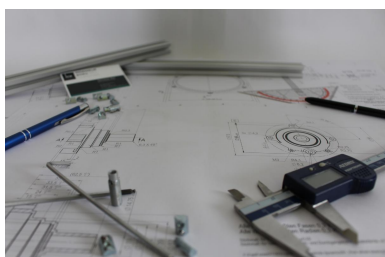
VIPA International welcomes new member



Kevothermal joined the association at the beginning of the year. Kevothermal is an international manufacturer of vacuum insulation panels for the cold chain packaging, thermal energy, electronics, construction, automotive and e-retail market sectors. The company has two manufacturing facilities in Albuquerque, United States and Shropshire, United Kingdom and over 10 years of manufacturing experience.

[Read more](#)

Updates from the Technical Working Group



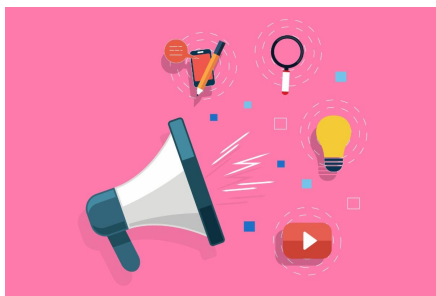
Christoph Sprengard from FIW Munchen is the new chair of the Technical Working Group replacing Yoash Carmi from Avery Dennison Hanita.

Avery Dennison Hanita is finalising the study on the effect of moisture content on the thermal conductivity of different types of fumed silica VIPs and the behaviour of different types of fiberglass desiccants. The study should be completed in autumn.

The Working Group is also looking at future projects such as the development of a tool to calculate the energy savings brought by VIPs in building applications. A partnership with a company specialised in pressure measurement devices is one of the other ideas being discussed.

Updates from the Digital Communications Working Group

Michel Chauvois from REXOR accepted to take over the role of chair of the Digital Communications & Public Affairs



Working Group. He is replacing Maja Tomazin from Knauf Insulation.

Architects and building professionals were identified as the target audience for this year. An animatic video focusing on the advantages of using VIPs in the building sector is currently under development and will be available soon.

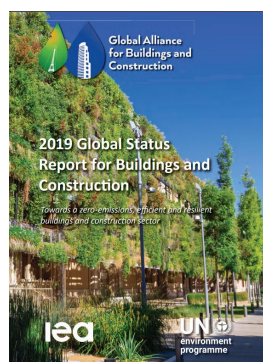
The group has also discussed paid promotion opportunities and other possible improvements to the website in order to increase the number of visitors.

2. POLICY NEWS

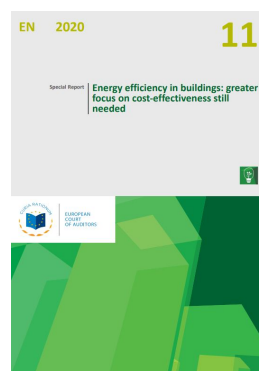
Energy efficient buildings in the focus

The [2019 Global Status Report for Buildings and Construction](#) provides an update on drivers of CO2 emissions and energy demand globally since 2017, along with examples of policies, technologies and investments that support low-carbon building stocks. The report was prepared by the International Energy Agency for the Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction and was co-ordinated by the United Nations Environment Programme.

The [European Court of Auditors Special Report "Energy efficiency in buildings"](#) shows that EU-funded projects still do not focus on achieving the greatest potential energy savings per euro invested. Along a series of observations, the report also provides recommendations to help the EU achieve its 2030 energy efficiency target by improving the cost effectiveness of its 2021-2027 Cohesion policy spending.

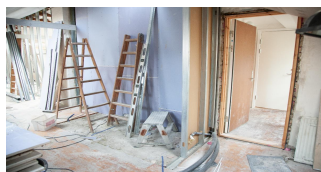


[2019 Global Status Report for Buildings and Construction](#)



[Energy efficiency in buildings: greater focus on cost-effectiveness still needed](#)

Preparing the future EU Renovation Wave initiative



The Renovation Wave initiative is a priority under the European Green Deal and the Recovery Plan for the EU. It aims to increase the rate and quality of renovation of existing buildings and thereby help decarbonise the building stock.

The European Commission has opened a public consultation on how to boost the renovation of buildings across the EU aiming to gather input from a broad range of stakeholders. This input will then feed into the Commission deliberations on this initiative.

The Commission plans to publish this autumn a strategic communication and an action plan with concrete measures to deploy faster and deeper renovation.

[Participate in the consultation](#)

[Learn more about the Renovation Wave](#)

VIPA International Secretariat

For any queries please contact the office in Brussels:

Raquel Ponte Costa
Veerle Guns

Avenue de Tervueren 188A, Postbox 4, 1150 Brussels, Belgium
Phone: +32 2 761 1681
Mail: VIPA-international@kellencompany.com
Web: www.vipa-international.org