



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2016

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VIPA International is a Build Up Partner



Just a couple of weeks away from our General Assembly in Barcelona, we prepared a brief summary of the activities undertaken the past months and included more information about the meetings in Spain on 11-12 October 2016.

We hope you will find this information useful and remain at your disposal if any queries arise.

I am looking forward to meeting you in Barcelona

With best regards,
Roland Caps
President VIPA International

1. General News

1.1 VIPA General Assembly in Barcelona 11-12 October

In a couple of weeks time, VIPA International members will meet in Barcelona, Spain, to review the association's activities and discuss a new strategic plan for the next 3 years. Here is some practical information about the event:

Venue: Hotel Tryp Barcelona Apolo (Av. del Paral·lel, 57-59, 08004 Barcelona, Spain)

Programme:

Tuesday 11 October

11:00 to 16:30: Strategic Planning Session (for all members and invitees)

17:00 to 19:30: guided tour to the Sagrada Família

20:00: dinner with all members at the [Restaurant Agua](#) (30 Paseo Marítimo de la Barceloneta, 08003 Barcelona)

Wednesday 12 October:

09:00 to 10:30: General Assembly (for all members)

11:00 to 16:00: Board Meeting (for Board members only)

The agenda of this years' General Assembly will include important points for vote:

- New Board of Directors
- New President, Vice-President and Treasurer
- Changes to Bylaws (new membership categories)
- Co-operation agreement with the GSH on the use of the RAL VIP quality mark
- 2015 annual accounts
- 2016 budget and membership fees
- Membership resignation of Jiangsu Sanyou Dior Energy-saving New Materials

- Membership exclusion of Fujian Super Tech Advanced Materials for non-payment to 2016 fees

All documents for the General Assembly are available for download in the [reserved area of the website](#).

In case you have not yet confirmed your attendance, please get in touch with the VIPA secretariat as soon as possible.

1.2 Membership feedback survey - still one week to reply

Two years after the creation of VIPA International, the Board would like to collect feedback from the membership to help shape the priorities and improve the functioning of the association. The objective is to assess the level of satisfaction of the membership with the activities and achievements of VIPA International and also to understand which areas the association should focus and work on the next years.

In case you have not yet done so, we kindly ask you to provide your feedback on VIPA International by completing the survey by **3 October 2016**. Your feedback will be treated with utmost confidentiality and will remain anonymous. All this information will serve as a basis for the strategic planning session which is planned for 11 October in Barcelona.

[Click here](#) to answer to the survey

1.3 VIPA delegation meets European Commission in Brussels

On Thursday 28 July 2016 VIPA International met Laurent Deleersnyder and Ana Fernandez, policy officers of the European Commission (DG Energy, Unit C3: Energy Efficiency). Gregor Erbenich, Raquel Ponte Costa and Francesco Gattiglio attended the meeting on behalf of VIPA.

The meeting was a good occasion to present to the Commission officials the activities of VIPA International as well as VIP technology. Mr Deleersnyder and Ms Fernandez were particularly interested in understanding how VIPs work and how they can improve the energy efficiency of European buildings.

The officials highlighted that additional information on VIPs might be useful to improve the cost-optimal methodology. Space considerations might be included in the methodology at national level, while it is unlikely to be included in the main framework. Besides, they asked VIPA to provide some information on the volume of VIP sales in the past years, as well as the indexed costs of VIPs of the past 10 years to better understand the cost evolution of VIPs. Mr Deleersnyder also provided some insights on the incoming proposal on Energy Efficiency - see "Policy news from Europe" for additional details.

1.4 Co-operation agreement with the GSH for the use of the RAL quality assurance label for VIPs will be signed in Barcelona

At the last conference call of the Board early September, it was decided to sign the co-operation agreement with the GSH (Güteschutzgemeinschaft Hartschaum e.V.: European association of manufacturers of thermal insulating products) on the use of the RAL quality assurance label for VIPs. The agreement will only enter into force in January 2017. By then, all VIPA members applying to the label will no longer need to pay for it. Besides having access to the label, another advantage of the agreement is the possibility to participate at the drafting process of the quality assessment rules (RAL-GZ 960 document). In this regard, a small group of experts is already working on the Quality and Testing Regulations for VIPs. The group had three meetings to review the text and try to bring it in line with the work of the CEN TC 88 WG 11. The recommendations of this ad-hoc Task Force will be reviewed and discussed in detail by the VIPA Technical Working Group and subsequently by the Board.

It remains up to each company to decide whether or not to apply for the RAL quality mark. VIPA International will strongly encourage its members to apply to the label but it will not make this a condition for membership.

The co-operation agreement will be signed on 12 October in Barcelona, Spain, after the General Assembly.

1.5 New case study 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 one new case study:

Plus Energy House in Bottrop features VIP technology - [download here](#)

This case study demonstrates how VIPs play an important role when insulation and space are a concern. The team working on the renovation process did not hesitate to use this technology and was very satisfied with the final result. The Kewitsch family was also very pleased to participate at the Innovation City project and to get back to their home which became a Plus Energy house.

2. Policy News from Europe

2.1. Energy efficiency proposal

The European Commission will publish a new proposal on Energy Efficiency in the first half of October. The proposal will include a review of the Energy Efficiency Directive ([EED](#)) and the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive ([EPBD](#)).

The draft versions of the two documents were leaked in the past weeks, showing that the new proposal will bring limited news. The [new EED](#) proposal includes an EU energy efficiency target of 30%. This target will be binding at EU level. Article 4, requiring Member States to establish strategies to stimulate investments for the renovation of buildings, will be moved to the EPBD for consistency reasons.

Also the [EPBD proposal](#) reveals limited changes. Regarding insulation, the proposal clarifies that there will be no eco-design requirements for thermal insulation products, since they are already covered at national level. Besides, new buildings will only have to take into account minimum energy performance requirements, while under the current EPBD locally available high efficiency alternatives (i.e. heat pumps, cogeneration and renewable energy) had to be taken into account.

Finally, the proposal will include as well a dedicated initiative on financing (the "Smart financing for smart buildings initiative"). No leaked drafts of this initiative were released yet. However, the EPBD proposal mentions that financial incentives to renovation will have to be linked to the energy efficiency savings delivered, as measured by the Energy Performance Certificate before and after renovation.

2.2 JRC report on energy consumption and energy efficiency trends

The Joint Research Centre of the European Commission published at the end of August a [report](#) analyzing the European energy consumption in four sectors: residential, tertiary (services), transport and industry.

The report highlights a decrease (-9.52%) in the energy consumption of the residential sector over the period 2000-2014. This decline took place above all in the years after 2010. According to the report, energy efficient domestic appliances and better insulation of buildings are among the causes of this decrease.

2.3 European Commission report on cost-optimal levels

The European Commission published a [report](#) reviewing the progress of Member States in reaching cost-optimal levels of minimum energy performance requirements. The report shows that only Greece has not submitted cost-optimal calculations. It also remarks that the overall objective of informing

decision-making on setting minimum energy performance requirements at cost-effective level was achieved. However, there is still potential for cost-effective energy savings in the building sector. The report suggests that this target can be achieved by bridging the gap between the current minimum requirements and cost-optimal levels.

2.4 Guidelines for the promotion of nearly zero-energy buildings

The European Commission published on 29 July a [recommendation](#) on the guidelines for the promotion of nearly zero-energy buildings (NZEBs). NZEB is the energy standard that all new buildings will have to adhere to by the end of 2020. With these guidelines, the Commission underlines that there will not be a EU-wide NZEB definition. However, Member States are required to adopt ambitious definitions, at least at the level of the projected cost-optimal level of minimum requirements. 2020 benchmarks for the energy performances of NZEBs in different climate zones are proposed in the recommendation.

3. Upcoming events

- 5-7 October, Los Angeles, [USA Greenbuild International Conference and Expo 2016](#)
- 10-11 October, Bern, Switzerland [Advanced Building Skins Conference 2016](#)
- 13 October, Brussels, Belgium [Renovate Europe Day: setting the EU vision - NZEB building stock by 2050](#)
- 17-20 October, Stockholm, Sweden [Building Sustainability SGBC16](#)
- 18-19 October, Berlin, Germany: [Thermal Insulation Products - KEYMARK Conference](#)
- 19-21 October, Brussels, Belgium [Second International Conference on Energy Efficiency and Comfort of Historic Buildings \(EECHB 2016\)](#)
- 2-4 November, Belgrade, [Serbia Green Building Expo](#)
- 3-4 November, Lisbon, Portugal [Congress of Innovation on Sustainable Construction \(CINCOS16\)](#)
- 15 November, Stuttgart-Esslingen/Germany [Energy Performance Contracting in Public Buildings](#)
- 17 November, London, UK: [CIBSE Building Performance Conference and Exhibition 2016](#)
- 17-18 November, Brussels, Belgium [European Construction Technology Platform \(ECTP\): Innovative Built Environment](#)
- 30 November - 2 December, Belgrade, Serbia [47th International HVAC&R Congress and Exhibition](#)
- 15 December, Brussels, Belgium [QUALICHeCK International Workshop | Performance of thermal insulation](#)
- 30 January- 1 February 2017, Las Vegas, USA [AHR Expo 2017 - Air-Conditioning, Heating, Refrigerating Exposition](#)

VIPA International Secretariat

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