
VACUUM INSULATION PANEL



GLOBAL ASSOCIATION

VIPA International Public Affairs WG

10 September 2015, Brussels



Agenda



1. Welcome

- 1.1** Governance rules
- 1.2** Approval of the agenda
- 1.3** Approval minutes previous conference call 27 April 2015 and review of action items

2. National legislation on energy efficiency in buildings (US, Germany, UK, France, China, Japan)

- 2.1** Status of information gathering

3. Updates on EU legislation and VIP case for advocacy

- 3.1** Energy Performance of Buildings Directive / Energy Efficiency Directive: review process
- 3.2** Public consultation on the Evaluation of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive
- 3.3** Public consultation on Circular Economy
- 3.4** Commission proposal on energy label

4. AoB & date of next conference call

1.3 review of action items

Engagement with Brussels-based stakeholders

Action: Adrian Pargenter (Kingspan) to ask his colleagues for a recommendation on the best association (based in Brussels) for VIPA to engage with.

Recommendation: John Garbutt (Kingspan) suggested that VIPA should look to collaborate with EPFA (European Phenolic Foam Association) and PU Europe and look to join EuroACE and Insulation Platform (informal platform of BING, EXIBA, EUMEPS, EURIMA).

Board decision: engage with Brussels-based stakeholders in a passive way, sending them press releases and newsletters

Action approved by the Board: VIPA members that are part of other European insulation-related associations to defend the interests of VIPs within these associations:

Plastics Europe (Evonik)

EuroACE and Renovate Europe (Kingspan, Knauf)

European Alliance to Save Energy (Kingspan, Knauf)

EURIMA - European Insulation Manufacturers Association, mineral wool producers (Knauf)

PU Europe - European voice for the polyurethane (PUR/PIR) insulation industry (Evonik)

PPA-Europe - European Association for Panels and Profiles (Kingspan)

1.3 review of action items

Participation at EU consortiums and projects

1 - PEFCR: Product Environment Footprint Category Rules

Purpose: The Product Environmental Footprint (“PEF”) is a proposed methodology for calculating the life cycle environmental impact of products in the EU. The methodology was developed by the European Commission’s Joint Research Centre and is now being tested through a series of pilot projects on different products (batteries, stationary, PV, paints, leather, IT equipment, etc.) <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eussd/smgp/index.htm>

Board decision: VIPA registered as Stakeholder

2 - EU-funded project tISEP: towards Improved Standards for increased Energy Performances of retrofitted existing buildings

Timeframe for a decision on funding: 5 months

Board decision: VIPA joined as observer (no direct costs or specific tasks, we could still receive information, assess methodologies, use and comment results and provide inputs)

1.3 review of action items

3 - Resource Efficient Buildings Study (2015-2017)

Stakeholder group for the European Commission '[Resource Efficient Buildings](#)' study

- **Purpose:** develop indicators to be able to better compare the resource efficiency of buildings across Europe. By resource efficiency, the Commission means « less environmental impact across the building life cycle. In principle this include also energy consumption.

VIPA has not been selected to take part in the stakeholder group. There will be two public consultations and VIPA will have the opportunity to provide its comments.

First meeting: outcomes (documents circulated to members)

- Stakeholders agreed to develop macro-objectives applicable to all building types. Performance indicators could be developed for specific building types, with particular regards for residential buildings.
- The importance of health and wellbeing was highlighted, but received mixed reactions. The ability of VIPs to save space could be relevant, as the trade off between space provision and occupant health and wellbeing was raised.

1.3 review of action items

Macro-objectives could be identified in four areas:

- **Building structure**

Prioritise re-use of existing structures; optimisation to achieve design performance with reduced material flow, GHG emissions and ecosystem damage.

- **Overall building performance**

GHG emissions along the LCA; primary energy consumption; material flow minimisation; primary material substitution; service-life extension and water consumption.

- **Urban development form and location**

Favour the re-use of brownfield sites; optimise building form and intensity of use; optimise public transport access and development density.

- **Performance, productivity and comfort of assets**

Optimisation of light, temperature and air quality; minimisation of life cycle costs and the quality of location/surroundings.

Next steps: the proposed set of indicators will be published in the first half of 2016. VIPA will have the opportunity to reply to the following public consultation.

2. National legislation on energy efficiency in buildings



National legislation on energy efficiency in buildings (US, Germany, UK, France, China, Japan)

European Union: Analysis provided by the secretariat

North America: Information provided by Prof. Phalguni

Germany: DENA (German Energy Agency) provided a presentation on German legislative landscape. FIW will also provide some information on the German Energy Savings Ordinance.

UK: Secretariat and Gary Chalkley provided some notes on the UK Energy Efficiency Action Plan 2014

France: Michel Chauvois provided information and links describing how insulation is regulated in France.

China: information on standardisation sent by Prof Chen

Japan: Hanita's contacts with Prof Atsushi Iwamae, Kindai University

All information on legislation will be saved and made available in the members only section 7 of VIPA website.

3. Updates on EU legislation and VIP case for advocacy



3.1 Energy Performance of Buildings Directive / Energy Efficiency Directive: review process

- EED and EPBD are the main EU Directives for energy efficiency and renovation of buildings.
- In 2015 and 2016 the Commission will launch their review process, foreseen to be finalised by 2017: overall they set up ambitious renovation targets, but due to the financial situation in Europe they have not been fully implemented and enforced.
- Other measures are under discussion and could influence the review process. For instance, a strategy on heating and cooling of buildings will be published in the next months. A leaked [document](#) promotes a new approach on energy performance standards to take into consideration costs and synergies.
- It recognised that refurbishment rate is low, and its acceleration may be important, but at the same time it promotes the use of alternative energy sources (i.e. heat pumps) and behaviour changes to reduce the consumption of energy of buildings.
- Public consultation on EPBD already launched.

3. Updates on EU legislation and VIP case for advocacy



3.2 Public consultation on the Evaluation of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive

From **30.06.2015** to **31.10.2015**

- The Directive requires that:
 - new buildings must be nearly zero energy buildings by 31 December 2020
 - EU countries must set minimum energy performance requirements for new and retrofitted buildings
 - EU countries have to draw up lists of national financial measures to improve the energy efficiency of buildings
- The public consultation launches the review of the directive (due by 1 January 2017)
- Objective: evaluate whether the directive has met its aims and explore issues in relation to the Smart Finance for Smart Buildings initiative.
- Reply through open answers, text of the consultation circulated to the members.
- **Value for VIPA:** Opportunity to suggest changes to text of the Directive which is the most relevant legislative act on energy efficiency of buildings.
- **Suggested next steps:** PA WG call mid-October to discuss VIPA contribution to the consultation

3. Updates on EU legislation and VIP case for advocacy



3.3 Public consultation on Circular Economy

- Circular economy aims to maintain the value of the materials and energy used in products in the value chain for the optimal duration, thus minimising waste and resource use
- **Objective:** define the main barriers to the development of a more circular economy and gather views regarding which measures could be taken at EU level to overcome them. The consultation asked to evaluate the importance of product features, policy measures and product priorities.
- **VIPA replied to the public consultation; the reply was circulated to PA WG members and Board members.**
- **Next steps:** the Commission will present a new circular economy strategy late in 2015. It will comprise a revised legislative proposal on waste and a Communication setting out an action plan to 2020. Secretariat will keep members updated on this.

3. Updates on EU legislation and VIP case for advocacy



3.4 Commission proposal on energy label

The EU Commission launched a [proposal](#) to change the energy label of product as part of its Energy Union strategy, with the following changes:

- Replace all existing energy labels (currently classified in different scales) with a single energy labelling scale from 'A to G'. See [infographic](#) for additional info.
- A digital database for new energy efficient products will also be created: all new products placed on the EU market will have to be registered in the database.

When approved it will be implemented as follows:

- Products already on the market will be sold with no change
- New products will be sold with the new scale. Old labels, such as those with the A+ to A+++ scales, will be removed by retailers.
- Producers will register their products in the database.

Which effects for VIPs and VIPA?

3. Updates on EU legislation and VIP case for advocacy



3.4 Commission proposal on energy label

Legislative process: next steps

- Commission proposal sent to the European Parliament and the Council, (ordinary legislative procedure)
- Committee responsible: Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE).
- Rapporteur to be appointed in the coming weeks. The rapporteur drafts a report with amendments on the proposal published by the European Commission (opportunity to influence!). ITRE and then the Plenary will vote on the proposed new text.
- The Council will then vote on the text. Agreement and final approval are expected to take one year.

Suggested action for VIPA: after the appointment of the Rapporteur, VIPA could publish a press release to support the proposal or propose amendments. The press release could be sent to relevant players (for instance rapporteur and shadow rapporteurs).

4. Any other business

Any other business ?

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