

450.000 CONTRACTORS
2.4 MILLION EMPLOYEES
200 BILLION TURNOVER



...installing energy efficiency to buildings in Europe

JOINT NEWS-
LETTER OF:

- **AIE**
European Association of Electrical Contractors
- **GCI**
Genie Climatique Internationale
- **UICP**
International Union of Roofing and Plumbing
- **CEETB European Committee for Technical Equipment of Buildings**

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Michael Mc Closkey new president of GCI-UICP



Michael Mc Closkey has been elected as the new president of GCI-UICP for the office period 2012/13. Mc Closkey is a council member of Building & Engineering Services Association (UK); he has been elected as a member of the GCI-UICP Board in September 2011.

McCloskey follows Hakan Bergqvist (VVS Foretagen, Sweden) who resigned a couple of weeks ago.

Together with the election of Mr McCloskey two other new Board members were appointed: Mr. José Marcos Hernandez (conaf, Spain) and Mr. Karl Walter Schuster (BTGA, Germany).

The new Board of GCI-UICP is committed to better improve the Association's understanding of the major concerns that are influencing technical contracting in the EU.

EU countries strike deal on energy efficiency law



Still during the Danish Presidency, negotiators from the European Parliament, Commission and Council reached a deal on the Energy Efficiency Directive. However it fails to achieve its initial purpose of reaching 20% energy savings by 2020, warns Claude Turmes, Green MEP from Luxembourg.

The Parliament Chief negotiator, who was leading the talks on behalf of the European Parliament, appeared moderately satisfied after the agreement was struck.

"This deal will give a boost to Europe's economy and help achieve our energy security and climate goals," he said.

"[The new energy efficiency legislation](#) sets out binding measures, which will go a significant way towards bridging the current gap the EU is facing with regards to meeting its pledge to reduce energy consumption 20% by 2020," he explained.

However, just recently, Turmes had calculated that the current compromise would result in only 14.5% total energy savings by 2020, well short of the 20% goal that member states had previously agreed on in principle at an EU summit in 2007.



Barroso presses for more climate ambition

"The European Union needs to work harder to reach its 2020 green energy objectives", says Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso.

Denmark, which has just completed a six-month stint leading EU policy debate, put the environment at the heart of its presidency. And it set as a priority getting a deal on an Energy Efficiency Directive to reduce EU energy use and dependency on fossil fuel imports (see this Newsflash).

"Whilst we welcome what was achieved, we must also say that further work on reaching our 2020 objectives will be needed," Barroso told the European Parliament, meeting in Strasbourg in early July at the beginning of the Cyprus' Presidency.

The Commission estimates that the outcome reached on saving primary energy would allow delivering approximately two-thirds of the original proposal.

Old district heating systems at risk of bankruptcy

District heating systems have not been modernised in many EU member states, although they currently provide over 60% of heat and hot water in Nordic and Eastern European countries.

District heating systems are the most economical way to provide heating, steam and hot water to urban areas with high population density, according to the Danish District Heating Association, a trade group.



Using heat produced during electricity generation or from factories, the technology makes a significant contribution to the efficiency of the overall energy sector, the group argues. District heating systems can also use renewable energy sources such as straw, wood chips, municipal refuse and biogas.

The European Commission has recognised the benefits of district heating, saying they have significant potential for saving primary energy.

Renewables Global Status Report

First released in 2005, REN21's Renewables Global Status Report (GSR) has grown to become a truly collaborative effort of over 400 authors, contributors and reviewers, and is today the most frequently referenced report on renewable energy market, industry and policy trends.

The latest version of 2012 has been published now.

More: http://www.ren21.net/Portals/97/documents/REN21_GSR2012_Key%20Findings.pdf

It provides testimony of the undeterred growth of electricity, heat, and fuel production capacities from renewable energy sources, including solar PV, wind power, solar hot water/heating, biofuels, hydropower, and geothermal.

Complementary country information can be viewed on www.map.ren21.net

CPR day in Brussels

The Construction Products Regulation (305/2011/EU - CPR), replacing the Construction Products Directive (89/106/EEC - CPD) is laying down harmonized conditions for the marketing of construction products.

The CEETB Secretariat in Brussels was invited to participate at the CPR conference organized by DG enterprise with almost 600 stakeholders here.

As part of the Better Regulation initiative, the CPR provides more clarification of the concepts and the use of CE-marking introduces simplified procedures, which will reduce the costs incurred by enterprises, in particular small and medium enterprises (SMEs).

More: [Construction Products Regulation](#)

By imposing new and stricter designation criteria to bodies involved in the assessment and the verification of construction products, the CPR is also increasing the credibility and reliability of the whole system.

The free movement of designers, civil engineers and construction services is now facilitated after the publication and EU-wide implementation of common European technical standards for structural design: the Eurocodes.



Electric vehicle sales in Western Europe get off to very slow start

The early sales environment for EVs in Western Europe has been very slow despite a favourable tax and incentive environment in most major European markets.

The first generation of electric vehicles (EVs) from the major global OEMs, including Nissan's LEAF, have been on the market for roughly a year now in most major Western European markets.

The Renault-Nissan alliance is leading the way in terms of global OEMs pushing commercial production EV programmes.

However, although Renault's EV programme is the most ambitious, it is only just bringing its models to market.



The Mitsubishi i-MiEV was the first EV from a major OEM to go on sale in Europe, but the real game-changer was the Nissan LEAF, which has been on sale for the best part of a year in Europe, Japan, and the US.

The high price of EVs, range limitations and developing infrastructure are still high barriers to entry for most consumers. In stressed economies, the sales performances of EVs have been particularly bad; indeed no EVs were sold at all in Greece in 2011. On the face of it EV sales have got off to a very faltering start in Europe in 2011 and the early months of 2012. Combined EV sales in the Western European market last year came to just 11,000 units.

Events

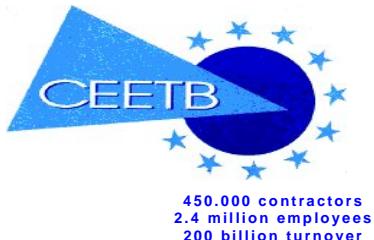
GCI-UICP Congress 2012

27-29 September 2012 in Sofia—<http://nisq.org/online-reg/>

dena-Energieeffizienzkongress
18 - 19 September in Hotel InterContinental Berlin

More on the program www.dena-kongress.de

Renovate Europe Day:
11 October 2011
More on www.renovate-europe.eu/red



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