



...installing energy efficiency to buildings in Europe

450.000 CONTRACTORS  
2.4 MILLION EMPLOYEES  
200 BILLION TURNOVER

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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# CEETB-NEWS Flash

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## Energy Efficiency Directive

A political agreement on the draft Energy Efficiency Directive between the European Parliament and the Council was reached on 13 June 2012.

The European Parliament now voted in favour of the Energy Efficiency Directive on 11 September 2012.

When the Council has voted in early October, then there will be the signature of the Directive (in the margins of the October Plenary session of the European Parliament) and its publication in the Official Journal.

The Directive will enter into force 20 days after its publication in Official Journal.

The Directive brings forward legally binding measures to step up Member States efforts to use energy more efficiently at all stages of the energy chain – from the transformation of energy and its distribution to its final consumption. Measures include the legal obligation to establish energy efficiency obligations schemes or policy measures in all member states. These will drive energy efficiency improvements in households, industries and transport sectors. Other measures include an exemplary role to be played by the public sector and a right for consumers to know how much energy they consume.

More: [http://ec.europa.eu/energy/efficiency/eed/eed\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/energy/efficiency/eed/eed_en.htm)

## New report: Energy efficiency obligations - the EU experience

A new briefing on the European experience from energy efficiency obligations (EEOs) has been published recently.

The new report entitled "Energy efficiency obligations – the EU experience" is a briefing produced for the European Commission's Directorate-General Energy.

EEOs are in effect a direct intervention into the energy market. In this sense, the Member State (MS) governments are intervening into the energy market in similar fashion as other environmental interventions, e.g. the EU Emissions Trading Scheme or Green Certificates for renewable energy.

Analysis of the National Energy Efficiency Action Plans (NEEPs) presented to the EU Commission by Member States in 2007 shows that for those with quantified plans in the residential and tertiary sector, the EEOs are a very important part of how they expect to meet their 9% energy saving target in 2016. Despite these EEO successes, due to the differences between the operational aspects of EEOs in different countries, it is unlikely that there could be a fully harmonised EU wide

EEO scheme in the near term.

After ratification of the Energy Efficiency Directive by the end of 2012, EEOs will have to be valued again.

Read [the report](#)



## Carbon emissions linked to rise in hay fever and asthma in Europe

Pollen allergy is a common cause of allergic respiratory diseases such as hay fever and asthma. A recent continent-wide study suggests that rising carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions over the last 30 years may be increasing pollen counts especially in European cities, which could have serious consequences for public health.

Hay fever and other allergies appear to be rising across Europe. In the UK, doctor's diagnoses of hay fever rose by a third between 2001 and 2005. Meanwhile, the number of

people with asthma in Europe reached the 30 million mark in 2004, a number greater than the population of the Netherlands and Belgium combined.

Despite the lack of evidence of a clear cause, the research highlights a trend towards an increase in atmospheric pollen in Europe, which may be influenced by higher levels of CO<sub>2</sub>, more pronounced in urban areas. The EU requires united action across all sectors to face the potentially serious consequences of CO<sub>2</sub> for future public health, combined with efforts to strengthen health systems towards improved prevention and control.

More: [http://ec.europa.eu/health/major\\_chronic\\_diseases/policy/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/health/major_chronic_diseases/policy/index_en.htm)

## Energy Smart Buildings

In 2011, a European campaign for Smart Energy Buildings was launched by a consortium of leading associations, agencies and companies specialising in renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable communication. CEETB is a major partner of this campaign. It is supported by the Intelligent Energy Europe Programme of the European Commission.

The objective of the campaign is to achieve a massive EU-wide mobilisation and empowerment of citizens, the industry sector, public bodies, parliamentarians and the media. It shall contribute to a fast and significant development of Europe's building stock towards nearly zero energy standards of both private and public buildings.

Europe is dotted with examples of energy smart buildings, both new and retrofitted, demonstrating that it is technically and economically possible to move a significant percentage of the existing building stock to this level.

However, in many Member States there is little evidence that the number of smart energy buildings will be increased to a great extent without further mobilisation of governments, businesses and societal groups.

An EU strategy for widespread deployment of deep renovation in the existing building stock is required to capitalise on this potential and to avoid a lock-in situation in the building stock if not done properly the first time.

More: <http://www.takeyourenergyback.eu/>

## New EU construction strategy

Low energy buildings with high CO2 and energy cost saving potential still have a limited market uptake, despite their economic and environmental advantages. Construction comprises of more than 10 % of total employment in Europe.

Therefore, to promote the construction sector as a driving force in the creation of jobs and for sustained growth for the economy in general, the European Commission has tabled a strategy to boost the sector. Its main lines include stimulating favorable investment conditions, in particular in the renovation and maintenance of buildings. For example, this comprises encouraging the take up of the package of up to €120 billion in loans available from the European Investment

Bank (EIB) as part of June's *Pact for Growth and Employment*. Secondly, boost innovation and improve worker's qualifications by promoting mobility. Thirdly, improve resource efficiency, by promoting mutual recognition of sustainable construction systems in the EU. Fourthly, provide standard design codes of practice to construction companies making it easier for them to work in other Member States. Finally, foster the global position of European construction enterprises to stimulate good performances and sustainable standards in third countries.



More: [http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item\\_id=6122&lang=en&tpa\\_id=0&title=Unleashing % 2Dthe % 2Dpotential % 2Dof % 2Dlow % 2Denergy % 2Dbuildings%2Dto%2Dpush%2Dconstruction%2Dsector%2Dback%2Dto%2Dgrowth](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item_id=6122&lang=en&tpa_id=0&title=Unleashing%20the%20potential%20of%20low%20energy%20buildings%20to%20push%20construction%20sector%20back%20to%20growth)

## Final decision on South Stream pipeline in sight

A consortium backing the Gazprom-led South Stream pipeline expects to make a final investment decision within months, says the head of one of its second largest shareholder, Italy's Eni energy, Paolo Scaroni.

"All partners are interested in the natural gas pipeline project, but we still need to see all the details before making the investment decision", said Scaroni. A decision, he said, is expected by early 2013.

The pipeline would carry up to 63 billion cubic metres (bcm) of Russian gas a year across the Black Sea to Europe.

Last year, Turkey approved the route through its Black Sea economic zone, allowing the corridor to bypass Ukraine, which opposes South Stream project because it would lose important transit income.

The South Stream pipeline has been in competition with the other southern gas corridor projects.

The **Nabucco** pipeline was initially designed to carry gas from Azerbaijan to Baumgarten, Austria, the same gas hub near Vienna that the South Stream partners plan to use.

But recent developments indicate that the backbone of the southern corridor will be the Trans-Anatolia Gas Pipeline (**TANAP**) across Turkey, while Nabucco may be downsized and run only through EU territory. TANAP could eventually carry as much as 31 bcm, equal to the planned capacity of the Nabucco pipeline. Gas from Azerbaijan is expected to come upstream in 2017, the same year that South Stream is to be working at full capacity.

## Conference on Renewable Energy in Graz: The added value of satellite solutions for SMEs 11 Sept. 2012, Graz, Austria

Eurisy, FFG (Austrian Research Promotion Agency), ICS (Internationalisierungs Center Steiermark) und UEAPME organised a conference on **renewable energy: the added value of satellite solutions for SMEs**, on 11 September 2012 in Graz, Austria. The conference took place in the premises of the Economic Development Institute in Graz (Wirtschaftsförderungsinstitut Steiermark/WIFI).

During this free one-day conference, participants had the opportunity to learn about innova-

tive, operational satellite applications in the renewable energy sector, through good practice examples from SMEs, and network with providers of satellite solutions, policy makers and SME representatives.

UEAPME Vice President Ulrike Rabmer-Koller delivered a welcome address, Frank Baumeister, CEETB Secretary General, chaired a workshop on Satellite Benefits for Business. Approx. 120 guests attended the conference.

More: [f.baumeister@ueapme.com](mailto:f.baumeister@ueapme.com)

## Events

### Stakeholder workshop:

Towards Nearly Zero Energy Buildings; definition of common principles under the EPBD

Date and time: Monday 24 September, 10:00-17:30

Venue: Centre Albert Borschette (CCAB), room 4C, rue Froissart 36 - 1040 Bruxelles

Programme : [http://www.eceee.org/calendar/2012/NzEB-24-september-2012/Agenda\\_NzEB](http://www.eceee.org/calendar/2012/NzEB-24-september-2012/Agenda_NzEB)

### GCI-UICP Annual Congress

Date and time: Friday, 28. September 2012, 09.00 – 17.00

Venue: Hilton Hotel Sofia, 1 Bulgaria Blvd., 1421 Sofia, Bulgaria

Programme: <http://nisbg.org/online-reg/>.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> European SME Convention

Date and time: Monday, 1 October 2012, 09:00 – 13:00

Venue: European Commission, Charlemagne Building, Meeting Room Alcide de Gasperi, Rue de la Loi, 170 – 1040 Brussels

Programme : [http://www.ueapme.com/IMG/pdf/120914\\_agenda\\_1st\\_October.pdf](http://www.ueapme.com/IMG/pdf/120914_agenda_1st_October.pdf)



IGRC2014 takes place in Copenhagen, Denmark September 17-19, 2014

The International Gas Union and the Danish Gas Technology Centre cordially invite you to the next International Gas Union Research Conference (IGRC) that will take place in the capital of Denmark, Copenhagen on September 17-19, 2014. [Read more about the conference organisation](#)



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