

450.000 CONTRACTORS
2.4 MILLION EMPLOYEES
200 BILLION TURNOVER



...installating 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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Public procurement 2
- North sea electricity grid 2
- Construction product regulation 3
- EU craft & SME barometer 3
- Alternative energy summit 3
- Energy savings fund 4
- EGATEC 2011 4
- Upcoming events 5
- Lighting debate 6
- Mandate on Smart grid issued 7
- Acceleration of LED based lighting 7
- Electrical installation design guide 8
- Events 8

CEETB-NEWS Flash

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The role of SMEs in Standardization



Head of Cabinet **Antonio Preto**, Office of Commission Vice President A. Tajani (Industry and Entrepreneurship) met with CEETB Secretary General **Frank Baumeister** to discuss the role of SMEs in Standardization.

The Commission will come up with a Communication on the strategy to 2020 on European Standardization.

In industrial policy, standardization will be used to enhance European competitiveness in the global market, to promote sustainable growth and to facilitate international trade. For this, increased participation in the standards development process is a prerequisite, especially by Small and Medium Enterprises.

The EU Commission will establish a multiannual Work Programme, and will set priority objectives for its financing afterwards.

Energy Summit in Brussels Council sets infrastructure priorities for 2020



The EU 27 leaders met in Brussels on 4 February 2011 to consult on energy priorities for Europe up to 2020 and beyond.

Commission President Barroso stated that:

- One of the 20-20-20 targets, to reduce 20% energy consumption by 2020 is likely not to be reached in time
- The current fragmentation of markets must be overcome as soon as 2014 to ensure tangible solidarity and security of supply between member states
- No member state shall be an energy island by 2015
- All efforts must be taken to boost energy efficiency, especially in the building sector and transport

- Modernization of the EU's energy networks and network infrastructure are the basis for an integrated European energy market

In the next ten years the commission believes an investment of over € 1 trillion is to be made to replace, modernize and adapt infrastructure to the latest technologies and also to cater for demand for low carbon energy.

Next steps:

28 Feb. 2011: Energy ministers to adopt conclusions on 'Europe 2020' strategy and energy infrastructure priorities

2-3 May 2011: Informal meeting of energy ministers to debate energy roadmap 2050

10 June: Energy ministers to adopt conclusions on Energy Efficiency Action Plan

More: http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/ec/119175.pdf

Public procurement: SMEs disadvantaged

A new study published by the European Commission has found that SMEs are not obtaining a percentage of public procurement contracts proportionate to their economic importance.

The 'Evaluation of SMEs' access to public procurement markets in the EU' report found that despite winning an estimated 60% of public procurement contracts published in the Official Journal of the EU, SMEs are securing only 34% of the overall value of these

contracts.

This is between 14 and 21 percent lower than their overall weight in the economy. Whilst medium-sized enterprises are not unduly underrepresented in this regard, public procurement access for micro and small enterprises is clearly limited. Micro-enterprises secured a share of 6% of public procurement contracts, small enterprises 11% and medium-sized companies 17%.

More: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/business-environment/files/smes_access_to_public_procurement_final_report_2010_en.pdf

EU countries launch North Sea electricity grid

Ten European countries, including Norway, have agreed to develop an offshore electricity grid in the North Sea, in a bold move that promoters say will give Europe the opportunity to tap into an even bigger source of energy than the Middle East's oil capacity.

Ministers from all ten 'North Sea Countries' signed a 'Memorandum of Understanding' last December to develop an offshore electricity grid seen as a major step forward for a single European market for electricity.

North Sea countries had announced their plans already in December 2009 to cooperate on building a North Sea grid that could cost up to

€30 billion after forecasts by the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) that European offshore wind capacity could increase to 40GW by 2020.



The ultimate vision is a European 'supergrid' to provide supplies of renewable energy throughout the continent by tapping into vast solar resources from the Mediterranean and wind from the North.

However, the development of 'smart grids' at local distribution level will be crucial to reducing peaks in electricity demand, in order to ease pressure on the grid and increase its capacity to host renewable and distributed electricity sources.

Construction Product Regulation

In January 2011 the European Parliament adopted the final text of the Construction Products Regulation with a plenary vote. The fundamental SME simplification measures are kept in the final text, agreed with the Council at the end of 2010.

The focus of change is concerning the compulsory character of CE marking for construction products, after more than 30 years of voluntary CE marking.

The Regulation will replace the construction products Directive and is expected to become legally binding as a whole from mid 2013.

More: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P7-TA-2011-0004+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN&language=EN>

EU Craft and SME Barometer

The EU Craft and SME Barometer builds on the results of surveys that are conducted by UEAPME member organizations twice or four times a year on about 50.000 crafts and SMEs in different regions all over Europe.

Both CEETB and GCI-UICP are members of UEAPME.

The UEAPME survey will be published twice a year ahead of the European Councils in Spring and Autumn and includes UEAPME's SME Business Climate Index, which is calculated as the average of the current situation and the expectations about the next period and sums positive and neutral answers as regards the overall situation for the business.



More: <http://www.ueapme.com/spip.php?rubrique120>

Jeremy Rifkin at the Alternative Energy Summit in Brussels



CEETB Secretary Frank Baumeister met Jeremy Rifkin at the Alternative Energy Summit in Brussels, which was organized by S&D and was well attended by quite a number of MEPs.

Rifkin, an American economist and well-known author of the acclaimed book 'The European Dream', believes the world has reached the end game of a second industrial revolution. According to Rifkin, this end game has set in motion a *third* industrial revolution, which will

be based on continental energy infrastructure and governance.

Rifkin also believes that the world has reached peak oil in terms of per-capita reserves.

"The system will collapse once more when oil prices will rise to \$140 or \$150 a barrel again", Rifkin said.

Boosting renewables, transforming every building into a power plant, developing hydrogen storage capacity, adapting Internet and communication technologies and developing plug-in transport are the five infrastructure pillars of Rifkin's third industrial revolution.

CEETB urges on one more pillar: to increase training & qualification skills in order to improve awareness & quality of the necessary energy efficiency infrastructure installments.

Nearly €8bn of EU energy savings fund lies unclaimed

As the EU struggles to meet its target of reducing energy consumption by 20% by 2020, energy efficiency grants from a reallocated fund worth eight billion Euros are still going unclaimed.

Marie Donnelly, director at the European Commission's DG Energy, says there are eight billion euros still up for grabs to help cities slash energy consumption.

"The recent change in regulation provides for up to 4% of the Cohesion Fund to be invested in energy efficiency for residential buildings,

but it is not being used as quickly as we would like to see, for many reasons" Donnelly told in an interview.

The Energy Efficiency Action Plan of 2011 will again target the area of energy and buildings, in particular raising awareness about the ESCO market.

"We have a new financial mechanism coming on-stream. As a result of the recovery package there will be about €146 million available for the renovation of buildings," she added.

More: http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/agriculture/general_framework/q24233_en.htm

EGATEC 2011

MARCOGAZ, the Technical Organization of the European Natural Gas Industry, is pleased to invite you to the **EGATEC 2011** (European Gas Technology Conference) which will take place in **Copenhagen (DK) on 12th and 13th May 2011**.

The EGATEC is the successor of European Forum Gas organized annually since 2003 under the auspices of MARCOGAZ. This important technical event is this year organized by DGC (Danish Gas Technology Centre) jointly with MARCOGAZ and GERG.

The Conference program is built on the theme "Gas innovation for a greener Europe" and ex-

amines how natural gas and other energy gases combine to create a greener gas system without relaxing strict requirements on security of supply, efficiency and safety.

The Conference program will give an update of the latest development on the topics:

*Future role of gas in the energy mix,
Smart gas,
Natural gas and renewable,
Biomethane,
Unconventional gas,
Carbon capture and storage,
New green gas technologies,
Safe gas pipeline transportation.*

More information: www.egatec2011.dk

Upcoming events

- I. EUSEW 2011 in Brussels - inspiring, informing, sparking change



More: www.eusew.eu

- II. ISH, the world's leading trade fair - Bathroom, Building, Energy, Air-conditioning Technology, Renewable Energies, Frankfurt (Germany), 15 – 19 March 2011



More: www.ish.messefrankfurt.com

- III. GCI-UICP / CEETB Annual Congress in Valencia (Spain), 22 – 24 September 2011



Save the date!



AIE-Articles for CEETB February edition 2011

European Association of Electrical Contractors

AIE emphasises the role of the electrical contractors at the European Parliament in lighting debate

On 25 January last, the AIE participated to a workshop at the European Parliament organised by the lighting industry to press their case for lighting system legislation. This workshop was part of a full-on attempt by the industry to push for legislation as to ensure a proper lighting design, an installation according to design, commissioning and maintenance of the lighting system while promoting modernisation of lighting, as a route to reach the energy efficiency targets and increase the quality of light.

Fiona Hall, UK Member of European Parliament (ALDE), was in the Chair. Also Dr Liese, German MEP (EPP) attended as many other representatives of the European Commission. Mary Donnelly, Director of energy efficiency at DG Energy presented the key developments of EU Energy Efficiency Strategy emphasising the need for integration and cooperation between the diverse actors in the European energy efficiency scene and recognising that lighting was only part of the whole. Moreover she recognized that existing measures are already in place for lighting under the Eco design Directive, Energy labelling Directive, the Green Public Procurement and the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive. Whilst not all of these are mandatory, she identified the cost and

investment as a first barrier these days.

The AIE stressed during the debate that lighting systems could indeed play a significant role in the energy efficiency debate by integrating controls and that the potential of savings in existing buildings was consequent because of the low renovation rate. However because of the nature of the electrical contractors' work who install not only lighting but different types of electrical systems in a building, the AIE emphasized that to implement legislation only for lighting would only add extra burden on a sector with a majority of SME's and inevitably have an adverse effect reducing the number to companies able to offer and implement energy efficient lighting measures and therefore slowing down the whole process. The AIE stated that we rather believe in education and training of installers, information and awareness raising of the public, tax incentives and the use of existing tools as the EPBD or standards to raise the quality of light.

The outcome of the workshop was not decisive or concluding in favor of any specific legislation for lighting but an approach towards 'systems' rather than only products was identified by the Commission as an obvious (but long) way forward

Draft EC Standardisation Mandate on Smart Grid issued

The EC has recently issued the final draft Standardisation Mandate to European Standardisation Organisations (ESOs) to support European Smart Grid deployment which is currently under consultation.

The mandate is the follow-up of the work within the EU Task Force on Smart Grids in which the AIE is participating in the Steering Committee and WG 3.

As defined in the document, "a Smart Grid is an electricity network that can cost-efficiently integrate the behaviour and actions of all users connected to it – generators, consumers and those that do both – in order to ensure economically efficient, sustainable power system with low losses and high levels of quality and security of supply and safety."

The objective of the mandate is to develop a set of standards that will achieve interoperability and will "enable or facilitate the implementation in Europe of the different high level Smart Grid services". As we know, all electric installers are likely to be impacted, as well as grid producers and SMEs as consumers. Interfaces with the smart grid and related services (for industry, building, appliances and home automation) are included within the mandated work (see "2. Scope and objectives", 2nd paragraph), not the services as such.

Great attention should be given to interoperability and technology neutrality, which is mentioned twice in the document, in order to keep the market open.

The document is available at the AIE secretariat: eschellekens@aie.eu

Acceleration of LED based lighting R&D and market development

Next to AIE's active participation in the EU technical working group (DG INFOS) on Solid State Lighting (SSL or LED), the AIE together with a consortium of 11 partners (amongst which Osram, GE, Philips, KNX, LUCI France, CNRS-ENTPE, VSD Germany), has introduced a project for EU funding regarding the uptake of the LED market called ACCeLED.

The European Commission acknowledges that LED lighting has not yet achieved the market penetration one could expect from such a promising technology. The speed of market penetration of LED lighting is very much depending on the capacity of all the stakeholders of the SSL community to better cooperate in order to create confidence all along the value chain and as a consequence accelerate the delivery of innovative research based products on the market. Acceptance of the project by the European Commission should be notified by April.

In the framework of the EU technical working group on SSL, the AIE has sent in December a 5 pages contribution identifying the current barriers regarding the SSL technology, the potential triggers to

deploy and accelerate the uptake of the market from an electrical contractors' point of view as well as recommendations to address these. The EU WG meets again this Thursday 3 February 2011 during which the AIE will present more technical aspects regarding the disadvantages, weaknesses, strengths, opportunities and threats of LEDs.

Whilst the identified barriers are the high price, low margins on the new products, lack of confidence in the technology, ... the AIE recommends to consider lighting from the project design phase of a building, not to add any legislation on lighting systems other than in the standardisation field, to stimulate market by financial incentives and increase visibility of successful lighting projects as to raise awareness and confidence. The role of public lighting can play an important role as beyond energy savings, lighting can create important economic advantages through its contribution to highlight the cultural and architectural heritage of municipalities and cities. Public procurement procedures should enhance the total life cycle costs. The AIE paper is available at the AIE secretariat: info@aie.eu

Electrical Installation design guide for domestic and similar premises

Report of the AIE/NORMAPME working group for the implementation of Technical report CLC/TR 50480

The AIE have set up a working group with The European Office of Crafts, Trades and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises for Standardisation (NORMAPME) to prepare a simplified version of CENELEC technical report CLC TR 50480: determination of cross-sectional area of conductors and selection of protective devices.

The working group have met twice and agreed the Technical Report is most unsuitable for small electrical contractors. The design procedure of the report includes for generators and transformers in the transmission and distribution systems supplying the electrical installation.

Members attending (representing Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Italy, Spain and the UK) have

agreed to prepare an electrical installation design guide for domestic and similar premises that will include:

- i) a simple design procedure for domestic installations and final circuits
- ii) standard circuit tables
- iii) for the contributing countries
 - > supply characteristics
 - > typical circuit arrangements
 - > particular national requirements.

A draft simple design procedure, some standard circuit tables and a summary of supply characteristics have been drafted and members are preparing corrections and typical installation arrangements for the next meeting, on 28 March. It is hoped that members unable to attend the working group may wish to look at the work to date and include supply characteristics and typical circuit arrangements for their countries.

Events

31.03.2011: AIE-EUEW – ELC – CELMA: Joint meeting in Budapest

11.04.2011 – 15.04.2011: Sustainable Energy Week – www.eusew.eu



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