



Building & Construction news

Election new EXCOM

EuPC welcomes the nomination of Maria Clotilde Cabral, Alain



Alain Requillart

Requillart, Joachim Eckstein, Walter Claes, Ad Groenewegen, Bruno Ribault, Dario Gallina, Ralf Olsen, Ulrike Grawe, Ton Pluijmer and Roel van't Veer to sit in the Building and Construction EXCOM for the next 2 years. A special welcome to the new members Alain Requillart, Dario Gallina, and Ad Groenewegen.

CEN TC 350 Plenary meeting, Task Group and Working Groups

The CEN/TC 350 "Sustainability of Construction Works" Plenary Meeting, the Task Group Framework and the Working Groups 1, 2 and 3 met on 9-13 October 2006 at the CEN/Cenelec meeting Centre in Brussels, Belgium. Next meeting will take place in April 2007 in Paris. On the Task Group Framework meeting a first decision was to modify the title of the draft framework document 'Sustainability of construction works-Framework of assessment of buildings'. **WG1 Environmental Performance of Buildings** requests a nine month's delay (January 2008) for the dispatch of the Technical Specifications of WI 2 because

of disagreements of the experts on the first draft.

Next meeting: 24/25 January 2007 in Lisbon; week 16/20 April 2007 in Paris.

WG 2 Building Life Cycle Description:

The Work Item **WI 7** : "Description of the Building Life cycle"

has not started yet because of procedural (and financial) unclarities between the Commission and CEN. On the technical level, the Commission has questions on the shift from "Product level" to "Building level". Next meeting: there will be no Working Group meeting in January, but 16/20 April 2007 in Paris (if activated in time).

WG 3 Product Level:

Next meetings will be held 22/23 January 2007 in Lisbon; 16/20 April in Paris. More information available at request.

Mr Walter Claes, HSE Director of **EuPC** was appointed as **EuPC** expert to participate in CEN/TC 351(Construction Products-assessment of release of dangerous substances). Dr Dirk Seiling from ARMACELL was also nominated to participate as back-up for Walter Claes.

Regulated Substances update

The **First European workshop on Regulated Substances in Construction Products** will take place on **16 November 2006** at **EuPC** offices, in Brussels. Participants will have the opportunity to hear industry experts from leading companies and the

European Commission as they deliver presentations on regulated substances in building products. For more information contact bianka.nagy@eupc.org.

Vinyl 2010

During the summer Vinyl 2010 had an internal Review of the organization in order to adjust the current structure and the resources. Four task Forces were set-up: Finance, General Management, Strategy and Stakeholder Dialogue. Each of the task forces met several times over a period of 4 months and some proposals for improvement were presented on 14/09/2006, in view of reaching the objective of the PVC Voluntary Commitment. Some changes have been agreed by the Vinyl 2010 board on 15/09/2006. The changes are related to the financing of the projects and the representation in the Vinyl 2010 Management Committee. Two additional seats have been allocated to EuPC/converters (1 flexible PVC and 1 for Rigid PVC Sector). A new financing scheme based on 1euro/T PVC consumed might be introduced in 2007 in order to increase the financial resources for recycling.

EP Second Reading of REACH

The second reading of the EU's Reach regulation MEPs on the environment committee resulted by adopting a position significantly greener than the one adopted by the parliament's plenary session last year.

Scope

Reach's scope would be expanded by **including polymers under the regulation within at the latest six years.**

Registration

Significantly more responsibilities on companies will be placed: chemical safety reports would be required for substances produced between 1 and 10 tonnes. More basic data would also be required for these. More downstream uses would have to be reported and there would be earlier registration of some substances in the range up to 100 tonnes.

Authorisation

The key difference of opinion with ministers from first reading remains: MEPs want mandatory substitution of VHCs (Very high concern substances) where alternatives exist. Dangerous chemicals would only be authorised for use if there were no alternative, if the socioeconomic benefits outweighed the risks and if the risk could be adequately controlled. The council of ministers, meanwhile, says some dangerous substances should continue to be used if their risks can be controlled, irrespective of whether alternatives exist. In addition the parliament said authorisations should be limited to five years, that they should always be accompanied by a substitution plan, and that all dangerous substances should appear on a candidate list of substances for authorisation.

The parliament would be able to veto European commission decisions on authorisations. Nanoparticles would be covered by authorisation, but ores and concentrates would be exempt. There would be earlier restrictions on substances of very high concern contained in imported consumer articles. For more information contact reach@eupc.org

Sectoral news

TEPPFA news

Plastic Pipe companies have long been involved with promoting the environmental performance of their products and the way they are manufactured. Now the EU Commission is hinting that European manufacturing industry in general, may have to reduce the extent of its environmental impacts. According to Roel van't Veer, general manager of TEPPFA the plastic pipe industry has already taken on all of the life cycle principles that the Commission is raising. The environmental impacts at each stage were taken into account. But as the quality continuously can be improved, it can contribute to improving the environmental performance. The industry can promote the collection and recycling of plastics waste and thus reduce landfill. Plans were being drawn up to see how TEPPFA could respond to the needs and opportunities of a

more sustainable future. More info www.teppfa.org

EPFLOOR news

New website launched

The European PVC Flooring Manufacturers Sector Group ("EPFLOOR") website is online on www.epfloor.eu. The website purpose is to support political and commercial efforts to promote PVC flooring. PVC Industry's message on flooring is put in a positive light.

ESWA news

European Single ply waterproofing association, ESWA held its General Assembly in Zürich on 7 September 2006. ESWA will be celebrating its 10th Anniversary in 2007 in Germany! www.eswa.be! For more information contact: info@eswa.be

EuPC Personalia

EuPC is delighted to announce the birth of Manon Piroux in July 2006, daughter of Delphine Hébert and the birth of Shaqir in September, son of Falmata Barma.

EuPC is happy to welcome Ingrid Verschueren to its organisation. Ingrid Verschueren has joined **EuPC** as the new legal director and is replacing Joy Donné.

EuPC Upcoming events

20	October 2006	EuPF Meeting	EuPC offices, Brussels
16	November 2006	Regulated Substances Conference	EuPC offices, Brussels
16	November 2006	Fire WG Meeting	EuPC offices, Brussels
5	December 2006	Steering Committee Meeting	EuPC offices, Brussels
5	December 2006	Building & Construction Plenary meeting	EuPC offices, Brussels
6	December 2006	Communications Committee Meeting	EuPC offices, Brussels
7	December 2006	REACH Conference	EuPC offices, Brussels