The European Commission’s EEBD programme: “Development of an interactive vocational Web training tool for the take off of the buildings DIRECTIVE 2002/91/EC” aims to develop a vocational dynamic tool that will provide a suitable mean to obtain the technical competence that allows better understanding and using the DIRECTIVE 2002/91/EC and the relevant national regulations. This newsletter offers information concerning the concept of the EEDB project and highlights the forthcoming actions and invents.

EEBD - Electronic Energy Buildings Directive

The building sector constitutes about 40% to the total energy consumption in EU. It is therefore essential to improve the energy efficiency in buildings. The DIRECTIVE 2002/91/EC provides a precise legislative framework for improving the energy performance of the built environment. It has been well understood that up to 22% of energy saving could be achieved in the building sector in Europe if the economic condition permits. Surveys carried out in previous projects revealed that significant amount of energy had been wasted in buildings due to poor design, commissioning, maintenance and operation. Besides the economic barriers, this situation is likely because building designers, managers and operators do not have sufficient technical competence. The training tool to be developed in this project will provide them a suitable mean to obtain the technical competence that allows them to better understand and use the DIRECTIVE 2002/91/EC and relevant national regulations and to design, maintain and operate the buildings with higher energy efficiency. Furthermore, the training tool will also provide information on the process of building energy certificate that can be disseminated among trainers, auditors, certificate experts, and building owners, tenants and operators. The proposed objectives will be achieved by identifying the vocational training needs in EU regions and by interacting with the key actors in the development of the training tool. The tool will incorporate the state-of-the art information in modules and will be automatically updated according to the end users requirements. Each trainee will be given opportunities to rate each of the modules and the entire tool in terms of flexibility, usefulness, completeness, consistence with his/her demands, user friendliness, adaptability to the market requirement. The feedback from trainees will be used to continuously improve the tool in order to meet the market needs. The tool will be free of charge and after the completion of the project, the maintenance of the tool will be made by own funds, advertising and by honorarium. The project consortium is consisted of partners from the UK, Greece, France, Bulgaria and Austria. These partners have long-term experience on their national building regulations. Most partners are currently involved in or responsible for assessing the impacts of the DIRECTIVE 2002/91/EC on national regulations and developing necessary national implementation details. The tool will be evaluated by academic experts via peer review, which focuses on the examination of the trainability of the tool, and through mock-up trainings, which is designed to collect and analyse feedback from potential users of the tool such as building design engineers, building operators, and building control system integrators. The major deliverables are: Report on vocational training needs in various EU regions; Report on participants profile; Academic materials of the training tool; Vocational training syllabus for the four EU regions (Northern, Southern, Eastern and Central); The static part of the tool; The dynamic part of the tool; Report on the testing activities; Report on the evaluation results; Potential impact report; Virtual Classrooms; Electronic brochures and on-line help desk for the EEBD tool; The static part of the EEBD tool in CD-ROM. A number of workshops will be organised in participating countries to disseminate the output of the project.
The expected results of EEBD project are based on the deliverables of the project. The major deliverable of the project is the vocational training tool. The issues that the DIRECTIVE 2002/91/EC raises, are of a major concern for a wide range of building engineers, energy and indoor environment experts, architects, urban planners and policy makers, marketing of energy and energy economics. The proposed vocational tool with its dynamic structure is fully expandable in order to meet future requirements. The strategic impact of the specific project is to create a Central Contact and Training Point for engineers involved in the implementation of the DIRECTIVE 2002/91/EC in the various EU countries. A follow-up structure of the technological developments in the energy efficiency in buildings domain will be built. The Consortium will mainly focus on office buildings. As training is a dynamic procedure and the trainees are skilled professionals, their involvement in the evolution of the tool ensures the tool’s contribution to the transferability of the project’s results. As the number of “skilled” Internet users is steadily increasing (35% of population is using Internet and this percentage is steadily increasing) an internet tailored database and distance learning tool is a very good mean to reach all interested groups. The development of such tool enhances the interaction of the building professionals providing different approaches and solutions in DIRECTIVE’s issues that are not met during the traditional training of engineers. By the use of this tool the engineers practice will be re-oriented as they will be trained in new techniques, products and practices towards improving energy efficiency and indoor environment, reduction of energy use and reduction of costs. Their employability will be strengthened, as they will be capable of providing solutions and applying innovative practices to their work.

Survey in progress

In the frame of Work Package 1 of EEBD project a survey is in progress for identifying the vocational training needs related to the DIRECTIVE 2002/91/EC. This process will facilitate the development of the vocational training tool, by determining its general structure. The main tool for the implementation of this survey is the distribution of a questionnaire to target groups and key actors, in printed and electronic format. The information that will be collected involves:

- The vocational training subjects.
- The participation of engineers, architects, building designers, etc to these activities.

The aim of the specific action is to identify and measure the level of interest of the end users for vocational training in the related subjects. An on-line version of the questionnaire is available in the following Internet address:


The participation to this survey is open to any interesting professional included in the target groups of the project.
Target groups
• Building designers and architects
• Civil Engineers
• Mechanical Engineers
• Electrical and Electronic Engineers
• Building experts
• Building Services Engineers
• Building managers and planners
• Postgraduate students in the energy efficiency in buildings

Key Actors
• Professional bodies and committees
• Governmental Institutions
• Environmental and Energy policy committees

Workshop
Clima 2005 Conference
Lausanne Switzerland 9-13.10.2005
REHVA workshops

Topic
An interactive vocational Web training tool for the take-off of the buildings DIRECTIVE 2002/91/EC

Chairpersons
Denia Kolokotsa, Technological Educational Institute of Crete
Francis Allard, Université de La Rochelle, REHVA

Objectives
The objective of workshop is to present the layout, the work content and the capabilities of a vocational training tool via Web for the Building Energy Performance Directive.

The second objective of the workshop is to discuss the trainees needs from such tool in order to enforce the dissemination of the DIRECTIVE 2002/91/EC.

Scope
The focus of the workshop is to give the opportunity to exchange ideas and get some input from the end users concerning the syllabus and specifications of the tool.

Target group
• Building designers and architects
• Civil Engineers
• Mechanical Engineers
• Electrical and Electronic Engineers
• Building experts
• Building Services Engineers
• Building managers and planners
• Postgraduate students in the energy efficiency in buildings

Preliminary programme
1. The necessity of a dynamic vocational training tool for the up take of the EPD. The EEBD project. Denia Kolokotsa, Technological Educational Institute of Crete, GR
2. Review of the vocational training needs in EU. F. Allard, Université de la Rochelle & REHVA, FR
3. Specifications and layout of the tool. N. Bakonikolas, B. Stefanou, BYTE S.A., GR
4. Round table and discussion
EEBD Partnership

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Official web sites of the project
http://www.eebd.org
http://cig.bre.co.uk/eebd

On-line questionnaire web site
http://www.univ-lr.fr/apps/Enquetes/wa/RepondreAUneEnquete?enqOrdre=129&Langue=en