

The Crucial role of windows in the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD)



EuroWindow holds the opinion as a strong supporter of the EPBD, that the revision of the EPBD is an opportunity to better recognise the crucial role windows play in terms of daylight, indoor climate and energy efficiency.

To emphasize this EuroWindow published the position paper "The benefits of windows and glazed areas" and the connected Infographic "Windows for healthier buildings". Both documents are in different languages on the website of EuroWindow in the section "[Energy Performance of Buildings](#)" available.

The key points are:

- 1.) Stimulation of the renovation rate of European buildings by acknowledging the importance of non-energy aspects as driving renovation:**
The rate of building renovation is too low: below 1.2% per year!

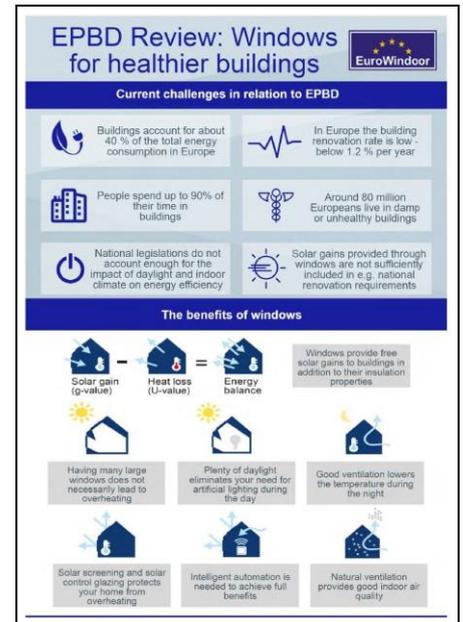
Triggering renovations in Europe is key in obtaining large energy use reductions in our buildings, and the replacement of windows plays a crucial role in achieving this goal.

- 2.) Focus on daylight, indoor climate aspects and a dynamic building envelope to ensure that European citizens live and work in healthier buildings:**

A study from Fraunhofer (IBP) 2015, states that around 80 million Europeans live in damp or unhealthy buildings, which has a huge impact of the health and well-being!

- 3.) Assessment of the energy performance of windows based on the energy balance approach to be defined in the specific heating and cooling climatic conditions:**

Why only regulating one part of a window's function while leaving the contributing part of solar gain out? In addition to their insulation properties, windows provide free solar heat gains to buildings.



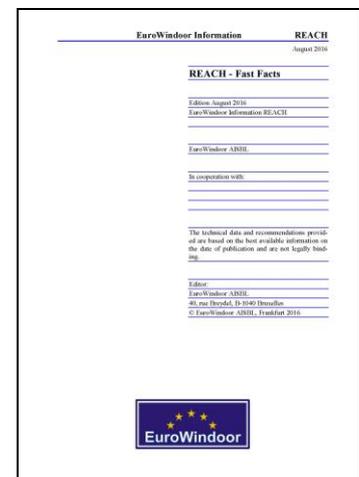
EuroWindow is in process on finding common ground with Glass for Europe, ES-SO and European Aluminium on a joint position to this important item. The joint position paper will be published when agreed.

EuroWindow information REACH – fast facts



The European court of justice skipped in 2015 the previous opinion on Art. 33 from ECHA with a majority of Member States and decided that declaration of single articles (e.g. for a profile) has to be "forwarded" with the article made of articles (e.g. window). The previous interpretation of the REACH declaration is no longer applicable. EuroWindow decided in the last Directing Council meeting on July 6th

in Amsterdam to publish an information "REACH – fast facts" which has been elaborated on basis of a proposal from the German member associations VFF and BF. This information will support the manufacturers of windows, doors and facades (curtain walling) and their suppliers to deal with this new legal situation. Beside a general overview on REACH the focus of the document is on duties and recommendations for downstream users. "REACH – fast facts" is available for download on www.EuroWindow.eu.



EuroWindoor Timber Study Tour 2016 on May 18- 20th, 2016 in Finland



The first EuroWindoor Timber Study Tour through the Southwest of

Finland was organized in the tradition of the FEMIB study tours and gave the 27 participants from seven European countries varied insights into the Finnish window and timber industry. Furthermore, the study tour was aimed to establish new contacts and to contribute as well the improved cooperation of European companies in the sector.

The starting point of the tour was the Hotel Scandic Rosendahl in Tampere, in which the participants met after their arrival on Wednesday, May 18th, 2016. The participants visited on Thursday first the production of Inwido Ruovesi window manufacturer in Ruovesi. A counterpoint set the visit to the nearby Serlachius Art Museum Gösta, whose 2014-opened extension in timber construction attracted international attention. On the way back to Tampere, the participants visited the sawmill Metsä Vilppula. The

ultramodern sawmill was optimized in 2013 and impresses with high performance and low level of offcuts



Sawmill Metsä Vilppula

On Friday, the group visited the production of Lammin Ikkunat window manufacturer on the way to Helsinki. Beside the modern production, a test equipment for developing solutions to overcome the shielding of mobile radiation by low-e coating in modern buildings was shown. Finally, the visit of a window installation of Skaala Production Oy in a building complex near the airport of Helsinki was on the itinerary.

The "Federation of the Finnish Woodworking Industries" hosted the Tour. The company visits were only possible by the close contacts of this member association of EuroWindoor.

EuroWindoor grows - New Members

EuroWindoor admitted three new members in 2016:

The Directing Council welcomes **Assovetro** (Associazione Nazionale degli Industriali del Vetro) from Italy **ANFAJE** (Associação Nacional dos Fabricantes de Janelas Eficientes) from Portugal and **AGORIA VZW AISBL** from Belgium.

With the beginning of 2017 the **Association of the Austrian Wood Industries** (Fachverband der Holzindustrie Österreichs) will join EuroWindoor AISBL. Among other important tasks the Directing Council of EuroWindoor AISBL accepted already their membership application on the last meeting on July 6th, 2016 in Amsterdam.



Directing Council meeting on July 6th, 2016 in Amsterdam

The development from 2015 goes on: The successful work of EuroWindoor AISBL and the need to bundle the efforts on European level has convinced further national associations to join EuroWindoor AISBL. EuroWindoor has grown to 18 member associations and one company member.

More national associations are interested in joining the successful work of EuroWindoor AISBL and to become member. The General Secretariat is in close contact with them.

Imprint

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Images: EuroWindoor



The participants (not complete) in front of Serlachius Art Museum Gösta on May 19th, 2016

Appointments 2016/ 2017:

- 3/11/2016: EuroWindoor Directing Council meeting, Brussels/Belgium
- 16-21/01/2017: Fair "Bau" 2017, Munich/Germany
- 15/3/2017: EuroWindoor Directing Council and General Assembly, Frankfurt/Germany
- 06-07/07/2017: EuroWindoor Directing Council, Stockholm/Sweden
- Nov. 2017: EuroWindoor Directing Council, date and location to be fixed

