

EPBD Concerted Action




The Transposition of the Buildings Directive in Europe

- EPBD Conference
- Budapest, 10 May 2005

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Background

- EPBD approved as a prime example of the subsidiarity principle.
- The EPBD states the goals that must be reached, but it lets MS a wide range of freedom to implement them.
- **With good reason:** types of houses and HVAC practices vary widely across Europe, climates are very different, heating and cooling needs totally different from North to South.

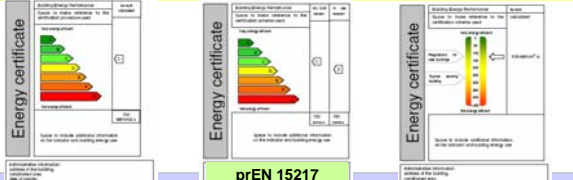


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The Push towards Harmonization


- Lack of the detailed common methodology for characterizing the energy performance of buildings – a major difficulty for MS.
- Energy Certificate – format and content – huge potential for major differences.
- The EC wish to help convergence and similarity of approaches among MS – comparability for consumers.



prEN 15217

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The Path towards Harmonization

- **EDM Committee** meets to discuss common problems and help with common solutions.
- **Mandate to CEN** to produce a set of suitable standards, available by 2007.
- These Standards must become National Standards but that does not make them mandatory... Nor does the EPBD make them mandatory
- But the EC expects that the MS methodologies shall be in at least broad compliance with the new EN standards, available in draft form since 2005.
- **European Concerted Action** for MS to voluntarily exchange ideas and march towards reducing the spread of solutions.

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BUILDINGS CONCERTED ACTION - OVERALL OBJECTIVES

- To enhance and structure the **sharing of information and experiences from national implementation.**
- To **promote good practice** concepts in activities required of Member States for implementation of the EPB Directive.
- To create **favourable conditions for an accelerated degree of convergence** of National procedures in EPBD related matters.
- To complement the work of the Energy Demand Committee (Article 14 of the EPBD) and its ad-hoc group on **CEN standards and Certification.**

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THE CONCERTED ACTION IN OPERATION...

- **24 countries working together on a voluntary basis**
- **Getting inspiration and ideas from one another**
- **Towards limiting the range of solutions to the common challenge of transposing the EPBD**
- **Every country gains from the exchange**
- **Developing a European philosophy for Energy Efficiency in Buildings**

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WORKING STRATEGY FOR THE CA

- Work focuses on a series of specific, objective issues arranged in 4 core themes:
 - CERTIFICATION
 - INSPECTION OF BOILERS AND AIR-CONDITIONING SYSTEMS
 - CERTIFICATION OF EXPERTS AND INSPECTORS
 - USE OF THE NEW CEN STANDARDS

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CERTIFICATION Topics

- Organization of Certification schemes
- New vs Existing buildings - methodologies
- Public Buildings vs Rent or sale of apartments
- Certification per building or per apartment?
- Simplified methodologies for small buildings – default values
- How to use of metered data?
- Quality standards for software and calculation methods
- Quality insurance for inspections and inspectors
- Identification of energy-saving recommendations and their real effectiveness
- How to take advantage of certificates for new buildings
- Costs of certification
- Asset rating or operational rating

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INSPECTIONS OF AC AND BOILERS

- Organization of inspection schemes
- Inspections or information campaigns?
- Cost effectiveness of the inspections
- Methodologies for Inspections
- How to use the new draft PrEN standards for:
 - Regular inspection of boilers - large central systems
 - Regular inspection of air-conditioners - smaller individual units
 - Regular inspection of air-conditioners - larger central air-conditioners with heating, cooling and ventilation
- Are ventilation systems to be included in inspections?
- Combining inspections with regular maintenance procedures

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EXPERTS

- How many experts are needed in each MS?
- Which criteria and qualifications for accreditation of experts and inspectors?
- Training inspectors
- Degree of Independence
- Code of Practice for Inspectors
- Quality assurance for experts and inspections
- National monitoring of inspections after 2006
- Insurance and Liability

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The Status of Transposition

- D-day, 4 January 2006, is long past...
- The posters displayed outside show that that there are significant delays in most countries and that many technical issues still remain – something that became evident in mid 2005.
- There are still many unresolved issues in most MS
- MS show a clear resistance to change despite all the pressures

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Dates – Article 3 (Calculation Methodology)

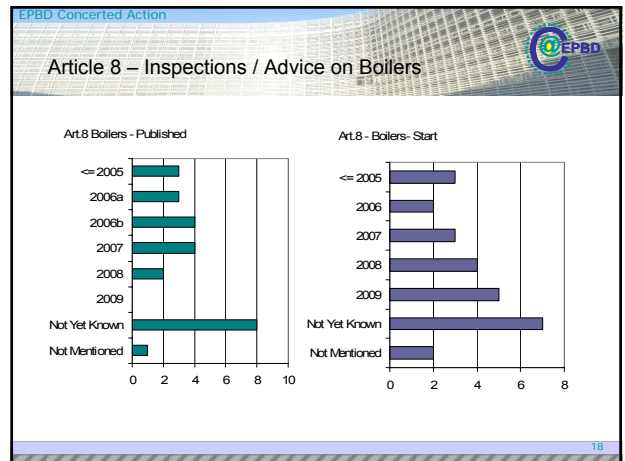
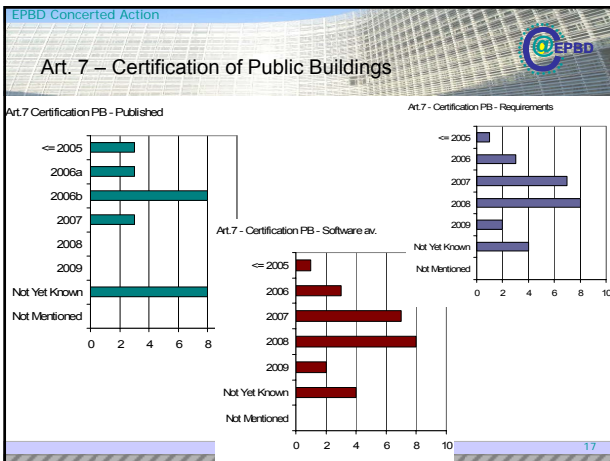
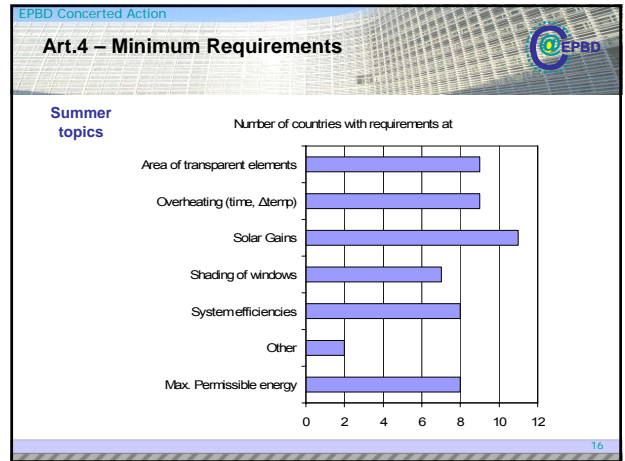
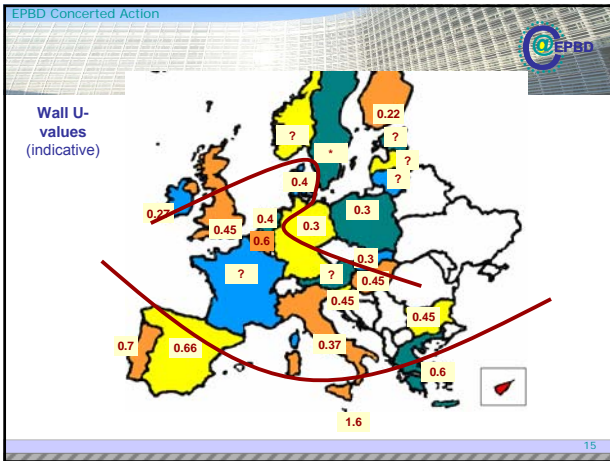
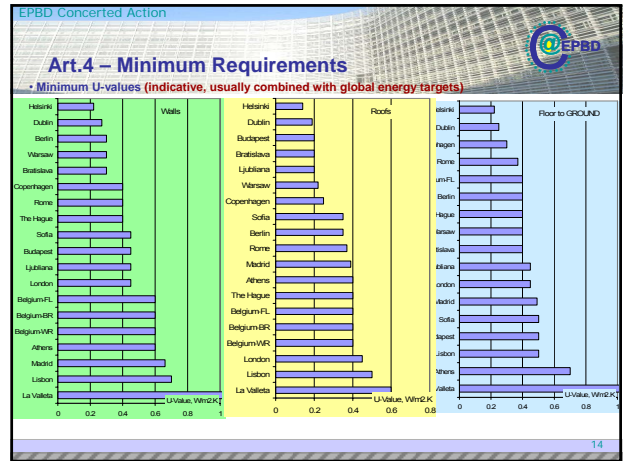
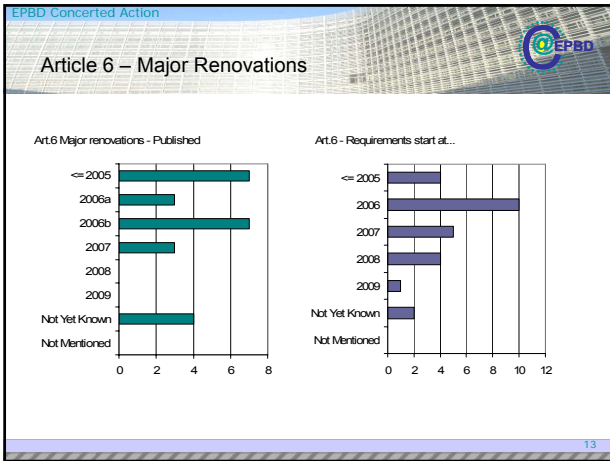
Art.3 - Calc. methodology - Published

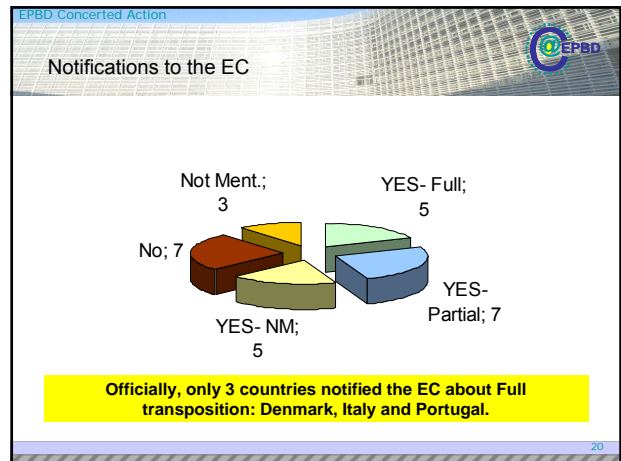
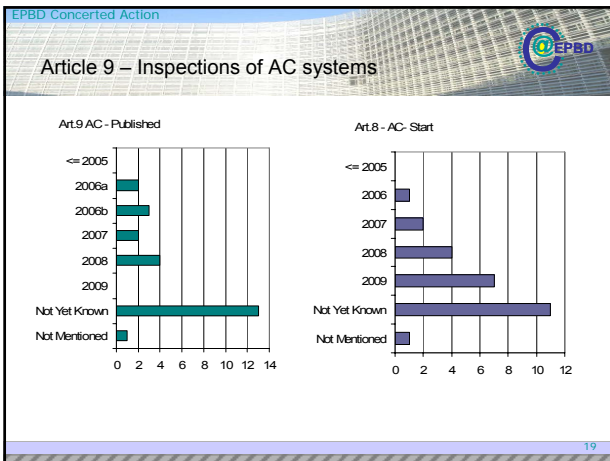
Year/Status	Number of Countries
<= 2005	2
2006a	2
2006b	4
2007	4
2008	4
2009	4
Not Yet Known	6
Not Mentioned	2

Art.3 - Requirements start

Year/Status	Number of Countries
<= 2005	2
2006a	2
2006b	7
2007	3
2008	5
2009	4
Not Yet Known	2
Not Mentioned	6

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- ### Qualitative remarks
- Even when mentioning “full transposition”, MS often add “in a **draft** decree” or “**except...**”
 - It often seems that the **general laws** have been published but the **specific regulations or values** haven't yet been set.
 - The calendars foreseen for availability of tools and for start “in field” certification (art.7) is nearly the same – **countries are waiting for the availability of suitable software** – preparing it takes time.
 - The **most delayed** appear to be **Inspections/advice on boilers** and especially **Inspections of AC systems**.
 - **All posters** contain the expression “**Not Yet Known**” or equivalent **at least twice**.
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- ### The near future...
- **Most countries will have enacted legislation and regulations before the end of 2006, but not all...**
 - **Most countries will request an extension of 3 years.**
 - **We shall start to see certificates popping up for NEW buildings, PUBLIC buildings, and, to a lesser extent, EXISTING buildings over the period 2007-2008.**
 - **The complete EPBD shall not be fully in force in the whole of Europe before 2009. No change really feasible before then.**
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- ### The major bottleneck
- **Certified experts!**
 - **I.e., the lack of certified experts...**
 - **Thousands needed across the EU.**
 - **It takes time to get them trained and certified with a minimum of credibility.**
 - **This will allow most MS to request the 3-year extension.**
 - **Many countries have not yet decided the qualifications of experts and inspectors**
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- ### CONCLUSIONS
- **There is a lot happening in all MS to transpose the EPBD**
 - **The Commission is providing support towards harmonization:**
 - new CEN standards
 - Buildings Concerted Action - a discussion and exchange forum for MS
 - Various SAVE projects to support EPBD implementation – regular cooperation with the CA-EPBD foreseen
 - **MS are cooperating with one another quite effectively**
 - **Only a few MS have fully completed their plans**
 - **Still, many challenges remain... and time is very short**
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