

ROUNDUP

January 2009

Technical Topics for CAB Members



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to 2009.

Some of you may have visited Bau in Munich this month, a huge exhibition showing few signs of recession and considerable optimism for the future. At their invitation Justin and I sat in on an International Aluminium Association (IAI) sustainability working group meeting where three consultants presented their ideas for promoting the environmentally friendly credentials of aluminium. I then attended a European Aluminium Association (EAA) building sustainability group meeting whilst at Bau so you can see the way European and global aluminium interests are leaning...and we are right up there with them.

The tension builds as we await the draft Part L Approved Documents, now likely to be ready in early April. There is talk of significant improvements to SAP for dwellings and making SBEM for non-dwellings yet more robust; in time the two may be brought together. Timings are such that the Construction Products Association (CPA), who are leading the external envelope aspect of the industry's efforts, has recommended a six month slippage of formal implementation to October 2010.

We have Glassex joining Interbuild this year in October and CAB will be there. Indeed we shall also be at Ecobuild at Earls Court from 3 – 5 March so do drop in on Stand **2592** if you plan to attend. Even better, stop by on 3 Mar at 4.30pm for *'How aluminium window systems provide a sustainable solution'*, a presentation by Justin and me as part of the 'Shedding light on window performance' seminar.

Is this the year that the security standards arguments, UK and European, will be resolved to everyone's satisfaction – somehow I doubt it but we shall try to ensure that CAB members are, whether financially or functionally, inconvenienced as little as possible.

And finally do not forget this year's Technical Conference on 21 May at the Stratford Manor hotel. The programme of speakers is being finalised now and we shall send out full details, the administration will be similar to previous years, just as soon as we can.

Sustainability

Our 'Aluminium & Sustainability' report continues to attract interest right across the sector and beyond, so do use it whenever anyone challenges aluminium's pedigree in this respect.

And while on this subject how many of you with an ISO 14001 certificate have asked Julie to amend your CAB web site entry to reflect this, so the search engine will find you? Architects, public bodies and the like are increasingly asking for such credentials.

Now for the Green Guide (GG). As many will know BRE has dropped the 6th floor artificial divide between dwellings and other buildings and has introduced an 'A' grade for commercial windows, albeit for those of 0.9kgs/m or less. Of rather greater significance is the statement that BRE and the CPA issued on 1 Dec 08 clarifying how specifiers etc should, and SHOULD NOT, interpret and use the Green Guide ratings when selecting construction materials. *This document is attached for those who have not yet seen it, as are my notes on how to apply the GG to aluminium windows.*

We continue to work with the IAI and EAA to ensure that aluminium is treated equitably within the BRE methodology; ALFED too is interested in helping us in this. Currently we are reviewing a BRE proposal for updating their data using that supplied by our team. Meanwhile you should all continue to emphasise just how small a contribution windows make, within the context of the Green Guide, to the overall building environmental performance

The BSI committee handling the creation of a Responsible Sourcing standard has made real progress once all the prejudices and pre-conceptions (including mine!) had been aired and resolved. It will be a framework standard for sector schemes covering materials and manufactured products. We continue to work with the IAI and ALFED on this.

Lastly the 'Man from the Ministry' ie Mark Davis of the CLG recently gave the CPA Technical Committee a presentation on their 'Zero Carbon Homes' programme – I have posted it on the CAB web site under 'Industry Issues' in the 'Information' area.

Security and SBD

Last time I reported a 'breakthrough' in our search for a common standard against which to test and certify commercial products and/or those used in non-domestic situations. A draft PAS, similar in structure to PAS24, has been tabled for the BSI Security panel to review. Quite how it would work is yet to be determined but remember we have our draft CAB scheme as one possible vehicle.

European Issues

Our friends in the EAA and FAECF continue to get excited about eco-labelling although we do seem to have gained acknowledgement that in carefully controlled and limited circumstances ie replacement windows for dwellings, Window Energy Ratings (WERs) can be one useful means of demonstrating compliance with energy saving laws/rules/standards – see AD'L' below. The EAA Environmental Product Declaration software is going through final checking before launch initially to three countries – France, Germany and UK; CAB will be the UK co-ordination body.

Energy Saving Week

The Energy Saving Trust runs this every year and for those of you with 'Energy Saving Recommended' products you might like to register your interest by emailing: energysavingweek@est.org.uk . Interestingly this week, 19 to 25 Oct 09, now coincides with the combined Interbuild and Glassex exhibitions.

Fire

Your new Technical Support Officer Martin Ford is, among other things, researching and developing his knowledge of product fire classification and testing of both windows/doors and curtain walling. This subject, along with Acoustics, is beginning to assume greater importance across Europe so in due course he will be contacting members with fire rated products.

REGULATIONS & STANDARDS

DON'T FORGET:

- 1. As members you can order British Standards through CAB at a discounted rate (plus a small admin charge – contact Julie Harley for details.*
- 2. You can view and download the Approved Documents (AD) to the Building Regulations for **FREE** at www.planningportal.gov.uk*
- 3. Similarly the Scottish Regulations are freely available on the Scottish Building Standards website www.sbsa.gov.uk and the Northern Ireland ones at www.dfpni.gov.uk .*
- 4. The latest Standards & Regulations list is attached*

BUILDING REGULATIONS

ENGLAND & WALES

ADL Conservation of fuel & power

ADF Means of ventilation

We await publication of the draft ADs in the hope that the consultants have heard our pleas for sensible improvements to the required thermal criteria. Equally we want simplification of the ventilation rules especially the requirements for trickle ventilation.

No change yet from last time.

SCOTLAND & NI

Nothing to report this time.

STANDARDS

BS 4873 Aluminium Window and Doorsets – Specification.

As soon as the final queries are resolved, particularly the use and meaning of TBT as an acronym, this standard will be published along with the Timber window one BS 644; we are trying to bring all the materials standards closer in content as well as layout. This is a substantial rewrite so you should think about getting a copy of the revised standard once available.

BS 6375-1, -2, -3 Performance of Windows and Doors

All three are now published. *The attached sheet* shows the changes to BS 6375-1 and BS 6375-2 while BS 6375-3 is brand new and deals with those criteria listed in BS EN 14351-1 that the other two do not. Again I would recommend that those involved in tender specifications consider getting copies of these standards as, together with BS 4873 and BS EN 14351-1, they constitute an excellent information bank.

BS EN 14351-1 Windows & Doors Product Standard

As mentioned last time this standard now runs alongside the national product standards until February 2010.

BS EN 1999-1-1 Eurocode 9: Design of aluminium structures Part 1-1 General structural rules

BS EB 1999-1-3 Eurocode 9: Design of aluminium structures Part 1-3 Structures susceptible to fatigue

The National Annexes have been published for these structural codes which means the 3 year co-existence period with current National standards has started. These two Eurocodes will thus eventually replace BS8118-1:1991 (partial) and BS 8118-2:1991.

PUBLICATIONS & REPORTS

Martin Ford is working hard to get our programme of Guidance Notes back on course. He will be reporting progress made to the full Technical Committee on 26 February in Leeds. Following that, and the publication of the BSs mentioned above, he will turn his attention to the revision of our Setting the Standards #2 (Windows) and #5 (Doors). If you have any comments concerning either set of documents please contact him – martin.ford@c-a-b.org.uk .

DIARY DATES

26 February	CAB Technical Committee Regional Members Meeting & CAB Contractual Awareness Seminar	Royal Armouries , Leeds
3 – 5 March	Ecobuild	Earls Court
April	CAB Marketing Conference	
23 April	CAB TC Scotland	Holiday Inn, Glasgow Airport
21 May	Technical Conference	Stratford Manor Hotel
3 July	CAB AGM & Dinner	Forest of Arden Hotel, Warks
24 September	CAB Technical Committee Regional Members Meeting & Aluminium in Renovation Awards	National Motorcycle Museum M42 Jct 6 Solihull
18 - 21 October	Interbuild & Glassex 09	NEC, Birmingham

For further information on any of the above contact: enquiries@c-a-b.org.uk or 01453 828851

See also www.aluminiumarchitecture.com

Attachments:

Acronym List

Standards & Publications List

BRE/CPA Green Guide Statement

CAB Green Guide interpretation note

BS 6375-1 & -2 comparison note

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