

# ROUNDUP

May 2009

*Technical Topics for CAB Members*



## INTRODUCTION

It has been a busy start to the year with an excellent turnout for the CAB Regional and Technical Committee meetings in Leeds, three days at Ecobuild, various BSI and European meetings and, perhaps most important of all, several visits to members for briefing and discussion sessions. In these difficult days being armed with the best information on current and forthcoming technical issues is vital and can give that small competitive edge to your efforts. So please remember that such visits are part of what you pay for in your annual subscription to CAB. To emphasise what we mean please see your Technical Officer's editorial offering in the April AiA ezine (*attached*).

I hope you have booked your place(s) at the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Technical Conference on 21 May at the Stratford Manor Hotel; **if not please contact Julie Harley in our office ASAP**. As in previous years we have an eclectic mixture of expert speakers and hopefully there is something for everyone – see *attached programme*.

## CURRENT TOPICS

### Sustainability

The Responsible Sourcing framework standard BS 8902 is now available for view and comment on the BSI draft standards web site. <http://drafts.bsigroup.com/?d=327> . By all means comment on the content but please do so to me rather than direct to the committee so I can co-ordinate the 'aluminium' response. Ideally we should have an independent (?Government) organization overseeing all the sector schemes ensuring they meet the requirements of the standard but as yet such a body has not been identified. BRE are not favoured (who needs another Green Guide?!), mainly because they already have their own standard (BES 6001) and very complex it is too.

Speaking of the Green Guide for now we are accepting a limited part of the BRE proposal that deals with data update; support has been forthcoming from ALFED, the EAA and principally the International Aluminium Institute.

On 22 May *Building* magazine is publishing a Supplement that covers CAB, our members and the aluminium position on sustainability. This magazine reaches over 120,000 readers, many of them influential in our industry.

## **Security and SBD**

Your CAB SBD ad hoc group is meeting with BSI and SBD representatives on 11 May to ensure that the industry's concerns and realities are clearly explained and hopefully understood. Then work will continue on the drafting of a new PAS for commercial security testing of doors and windows which should ensure there is one commonly available standard for SBD compliance. The CAB scheme we developed last year may well play a significant part in the overall acceptance by all parties of the SBD certification requirements.

Meanwhile we still await the likely arrival of the European burglary standards ENs 1627 – 30 that have been lingering in the background now for many years. SBD continue to be very much against them in principle as is UK plc generally because of the perceived major difficulties of equal application across the 27 EC states and the extended time it takes to amend such standards.

## **European Issues**

The reviews of the Construction Products Directive(CPD) leading to a new Construction Products Regulation(CPR) have been exercising the minds of many in the European Parliament(EP) and Commission(EC). It now seems that the earliest we can expect to see the CPR is some time in 2012 at which time CE marking will become MANDATORY for all member states ie including the UK. Meanwhile we have EP elections next month and frankly who knows quite what will happen in the next 2-3 years. Meanwhile companies based in mainland Europe, who have to CE mark their products (windows & doors to EN 14351-1 and curtain walling to EN 13830), may well start to ship them in to the UK so be prepared for a possible marketing initiative in this respect.

## **FENSA**

FENSA, on whose Board I sit, is exhibiting at the CIH Conference in Harrogate from 16 to 18 June – see [www.cihhousing.com](http://www.cihhousing.com) for more information on the show. Those of you involved in the installation end of the supply chain may like to see their team on Stand 191 in Hall C. Even in these difficult times the number of companies registered with FENSA exceeds 9000 so they must be doing something right!

## Buildoffsite

This organisation was the focus of a recent CPA briefing note on integrated floor cassettes (what?). Their clear intention is to promote the advantages of offsite construction, something I know several of our members are moving towards. You might like to visit their web site at <http://www.buildoffsite.com/index.html>.

## 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](http://www.planningportal.gov.uk)*
- 3. Similarly the Scottish Regulations are freely available on the Scottish Building Standards website [www.sbsa.gov.uk](http://www.sbsa.gov.uk) and the Northern Ireland ones at [www.dfpni.gov.uk](http://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 still await publication of the drafts for discussion with the latest indication of mid May. All in all we are expecting something more than 600 pages to read and digest!

### SCOTLAND & NI

Nothing new to report.

## STANDARDS

### **BS 6375-2 Performance of Windows and Doors**

This part of the revised BS 6373 trilogy deals with operating forces and it is beginning to become clear that many systems companies do not have current test data for either windows or doors. This standard cross refers to the relevant EN test and classification standards so you can expect products coming in from other EC member states to have been tested, and for tender specifications to increasingly call for appropriate certification.

**You have been warned!**

### **BS 8902 Responsible sourcing sector certification schemes for construction products – Specification**

As mentioned above this standard is available for comment on the BSI draft standards web site.

## *PUBLICATIONS & REPORTS*

Martin Ford has released new CAB Guidance Notes (CGN) – shortly to be posted on the relevant part of the members' web site – and also produced two useful reference documents (attached). As I have mentioned before please send any ideas for CGN treatment to him.

## *DIARY DATES*

21 May	Technical Conference	Stratford Manor Hotel, Warwick
3 July	CAB AGM & Dinner	Forest of Arden Hotel, Warwickshire
24 September	CAB Technical Committee Regional Members Meeting & Aluminium in Renovation Awards	National Motorcycle Museum Solihull, (M42 Jct 6)
18 - 21 October	Interbuild & Glassex 09	NEC, Birmingham

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

*Attachments:*

*Acronym List*

*Standards & Publications List*

*AiA ezine editorial*

*Technical Conference Programme*

*CGN reference docs (x2)*

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