

# ROUNDUP

October 2008

*The Technical Newsletter for CAB Members*



## INTRODUCTION

First the good news. As many of you know we have appointed Martin Ford, ex Sapa Profiles, to the new role of Technical Support Officer. Day 1 saw him join us at RIBA HQ for the Press launch of our 'Aluminium & Sustainability' report and this past week he has helped us man the CAB stand at Interbuild – just another typical month at CAB! Martin will be handling many of the day-to-day enquiries we receive and, with the Technical Committee team, developing our range of Guidance Notes and Setting the Standard publications.

Interbuild brought the usual wide variety of visitors to the CAB stand and it was good to see so many of you. Architects, existing and potential members, overseas companies and trade bodies' representatives were among those who picked our brains and sampled our wares (as it were) during the week.

The many reviews mentioned last time, CPD, Part L etc continue but there is little of substance to report as yet. The situation with Secured By Design changed dramatically last week – see below.

Finally the on/off saga of BS EN 14351-1 (window and doorset product standard) and whether or not the co-existence period with National standards will be extended for a further twelve months remains to be resolved.

## CURRENT TOPICS

### Sustainability

We were highly delighted with the take-up of our 'Aluminium & Sustainability' report at Interbuild. It is available for downloading as a pdf file from the public area of our web site so do use it and PLEASE encourage others to do so too. Our aluminium friends in Europe have been very complimentary about our efforts and I took the opportunity to promote it during a long distance telephone presentation to the USA Aluminium Association last month.

Now to the BRE Green Guide (GG). Following meetings between their top level staff and GG creators and ourselves, supported by European Aluminium Association(EAA) and International Aluminium Institute (IAI) experts, I am pleased to report that dialogue of a positive nature continues. As soon as we have any definitive results we shall report them to members, meanwhile do make us aware of any specific instances where you have been told that aluminium cannot be specified because of the GG.

The environmental gurus at DEFRA have been keen to hear how the window industry handles itself regarding sustainability matters and I recently sat in on what turned out to be a useful education session – for DEFRA and the DBERR (was DTT) delegates. While we are keen not to encourage the creation of more regulation etc it is necessary to ensure that those who tread the corridors of officialdom understand the realities of life in the construction industry.

Responsible sourcing and the development of a full British Standard is now moving ahead with the creation of BSI committee SDS/1/6 (one for the grandchildren!) on which I represent aluminium interests, again with support from the IAI and this time ALFED too. The plot is to have a full blown standard ready by end 2009 – we shall see.

## **Security and SBD**

Two days before we were to interview potential partners for the CAB SBD scheme we were stunned to hear that SBD had approved a new set of security test standards from Warrington Certification Ltd (part of Bodycote Warrington). More costs we said – more choice said SBD! Suffice to say that this was vigorously debated at the recent BSI Security panel meeting on 23 October and blow me if we didn't all agree that the sensible way forward was to develop (quickly) a PAS for commercial products that all approved test houses could offer. This must be the best way forward for all concerned and so we have put our draft scheme on hold until this option has been fully explored. Timescales are tight so we shall be aiming to produce something within three months if possible.

## **FAECF**

The October meeting was lively with many members keen to express their concern over the recently launched EC Green Procurement document, based as it is on North American and other non- European sources! Moreover it does aluminium no favours at all so I joined the fray on your behalf.

# **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 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.

### **SCOTLAND & NI**

Nothing to report this time.

## **STANDARDS**

### **BS 4873 Aluminium Window and Doorsets – Specification.**

This is still pretty much on target for publication next January, subject to a successful review of the public comments next month.

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

As with BS 4873 these are out for public comment and will, at least initially, be published as three separate standards early in 2009.

### **BS EN 14351-1 Windows & Doors Product Standard**

The issue of whether the co-existence period is extended for twelve months centres around the wish to include cascading ITT formally in the standard. This is a very important amendment in that it would allow systems companies to pass down their test results to fabricators thus saving the latter many thousands of pounds. Although the CEN committee (TC33) has approved the request it must be ratified by the Standing Committee for Construction; I hear that several members of that body feel there has been enough delay already so we await their decision with interest.

## PUBLICATIONS & REPORTS

Sustainability Report – ‘aluminium and sustainability’ – now on the Public part of our web site

## DIARY DATES

27 Nov 08	CAB Contractual Awareness Seminars	Warwick HRI Conference Centre
26 Feb 09	Regional Members Meeting & CAB Contractual Awareness Seminar	Royal Armouries , Leeds
April 09	CAB Marketing Conference	
21 May 09	Technical Conference	Stratford Manor Hotel
3 Jul 09	CAB AGM & Dinner	Forest of Arden Hotel, Warks
24 Sep 09	Regional Members Meeting & Aluminium in Renovation Awards	Nat. Motorcycle Museum, Solihull
25 - 28 Oct	Interbuild 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

See also [www.aluminiumarchitecture.com](http://www.aluminiumarchitecture.com)

*Attachments:*

*Acronym List*

*Standards & Publications List*

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