



- EYE CATCHER: CYE2012 BASEL – state of play / candidates and experts: be prepared!
- EUROPEAN NEWS [Directive/Project]
- SECTOR RELATED NEWS
- FUTURE EVENTS: Light+Building 2012 Frankfurt
- PUBLICATIONS [Position Papers/Press Release]

01_Eye catcher: CYE2012 BASEL 13-18 April 2012 - [Program](#) – www.aie-cye.eu

01-01 CYE2012: THE CYE-LOGO HAS A GOOD REASON TO SMILE!

We are delighted to announce you the following 10 participating countries:

- > Austria | BEAK
- > Belgium | FEDELEC
- > Germany | ZVEH
- > Italy | ASSISTAL
- > Luxemburg | APEL
- > Norway | NELFO
- > Portugal | AECOPS
- > Spain | FENIE
- > Switzerland | VSEI
- > United Kingdom | ECA UK

The program [13-18 april] for nexts years' competition can be downloaded at:
http://www.aie-cye.eu/A_first_glimpse



The official registration is in the final stage announcing the names of candidates and experts.

The European Competition is an excellent tool to promote our profession and our young future electricians competing in local and national competitions, deserve to show the best of them on a European platform. These youngsters are our main concern during the competition.

02_European news [Directives / Projects]

02-01 WEEE: FINAL VOTE ON THE RECAST OF THE WEEE DIRECTIVE

On the 19th of January 2012, a European Parliament plenary vote has finally brought to an end an epic 3-year parliamentary debate on the update to Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) legislation.

Products and scope / Amongst other electro technical and electrical equipment, the WEEE Directive now also applies to photovoltaic (PV) panels, which represents an important challenge for PV panel producers in Europe. While the EU legislators have included in the Directive reference to already existing schemes, such as PV CYCLE, which can continue operating under the framework of the WEEE legislation, it will now be crucial for the PV industry to avoid an excessive variety of implementing measures at national level.

The PV industry calls on European policymakers to use the possibility foreseen in the Directive to set an individual collection target for PV panels. This would encourage separate collection of this product, whose composition and recycling techniques differ from those of other electrical and electronic equipment, such as TVs and radios.

Once Council formally approves the updated directive and it enters the EU law books, Member States will have 18 months to update their national legislation.

Collection and recycling / All Member States must increase their collection of e-waste, regardless of whether they already meet the current flat-rate target of 4kg per person per year. By 2016, most will have to collect 45 tons of e-waste for every 100 tons of e-goods put on sale three years previously. By 2019, this must rise to a rate of 65%, or alternatively they can collect a comparable figure of 85% of e-waste generated.

To help everyone play their part, Parliament successfully argued that consumers should be allowed to return small items (such as mobile phones) to any larger electrical goods shop, without needing to buy a new product.

Recycling rates will need to rise to 80% for some categories of goods.

E-waste exports / MEPs also negotiated tighter controls on illegal shipments, to prevent e-waste being processed in countries where conditions are often hazardous to workers and the environment. The burden of proof moves from customs officials to exporters, who must properly demonstrate in future that goods are being shipped for repair or reuse as appropriate.

Cutting red tape / Producers of e-goods will continue to contribute financially towards meeting processing targets. They will benefit from simplified registration and reporting requirements and will be able to appoint representatives instead of needing to establish a legal seat in each country where they operate. New measures will prevent double charging of registration fees within Member States.

The text adopted in the European Parliament on 19 January 2012 is available at the AIE secretariat eschellekens@aie.eu.

02-02 MEP's STATEMENTS ON THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY DIRECTIVE:

The purpose of the Energy Efficiency Directive is to save energy and boost growth, but the means through which it will simultaneously achieve both are still to be fleshed out.

“We are working hard to get compromises on this directive,” *British MEP Fiona Hall* (Liberal Democrats). The European Commission’s Energy Efficiency Directive proposal is widely seen as the only complete piece of legislation to date that encompasses not only the need to save energy, but also the economic need to stimulate growth and create jobs. Critics of the directive suggest it cannot work, but some studies do show that energy efficiency contributes to economic growth, however.

Still, finding funds for the necessary investments in energy efficiency is the key problem that is being debated right now in the European Parliament.

Tap the money or this is wishful thinking

The MEP working on this directive in the European Parliament, *Claude Turmes (rapporteur of the Directive)*, has already tabled a key amendment that spells out how energy savings will be financed in a way that will not hamper growth. “Without the necessary financing mechanisms the measures proposed in this directive will be wishful thinking and will not create numerous jobs and trigger innovation,” Turmes (Greens, Luxembourg) said in his report.

“There are many different ways of financing these already, but there is a lack of understanding how these work. We need to make them available and publicize around Europe how the financial mechanisms work,” said *British MEP Fiona Hall*.

The current proposal focuses on binding measures such as the 3% renovation of public buildings and the 1.5% energy savings obligation scheme for energy companies. Implementing any of the measures requires initial capital. A recent [study](#) on the effectiveness of energy efficiency investments made by Germany's KfW banking group showed that every €1 that went into the promotion of energy-efficient construction and refurbishment in 2010 returned €4 to €5 in revenue.

But the financial crisis makes it harder to put together the needed minimum investment in technologies that would increase energy efficiency and provide financial returns in the medium to long-term, analysts said. Energy efficiency measures might pay off in the long run, for instance, but companies would see losses on their annual balance sheets.

Different views and statements

There where the wording ‘energy savings’ has been altered in the proposal of the Directive into ‘ENERGY EFFICIENCY’ being wider than only savings, current discussions in the ITRE Committee of the European Parliament are focusing on whether or not we need binding targets and/or binding measures. Some MEP’s feel the 3% renovation target for buildings is not realistic, other MEP’s think

that renovation can also include energy efficiency services and smart metering and therefore go beyond building renovation. The 1.5% energy efficiency obligation for energy distributors on the other hand is felt as ambitious but fundamental.

Other concerns are addressing the strengthening of the provisions regarding metering and billing whilst protecting the consumers data, the exemption for SME's to carry out an energy audit, the implementation of certification schemes and the use of existing schemes in Member states..

Next steps:

- **28 Feb. 2012:** Parliament committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) votes on the Energy Efficiency Directive.
- **28 Mar. 2012:** Expected parliament plenary vote on the energy efficiency directive.

> View the [Energy Efficiency Directive](#) and related [AIE's position paper](#).

02-03 ENERGY ROADMAP 2050: a secure, competitive and low-carbon energy sector is possible

On 15 December 2011, the European Commission adopted the Communication "[Energy Roadmap 2050](#)" [182 KB] .. The EU is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 80-95% below 1990 levels by 2050 in the context of necessary reductions by developed countries as a group. In the Energy Roadmap 2050 the Commission explores the challenges posed by delivering the **EU's de-carbonization objective while at the same time ensuring security of energy supply and competitiveness**. The Energy Roadmap 2050 is the basis for developing a **long-term European framework** together with all stakeholders.

What role has energy efficiency and renewable energy?

Renewables move centre stage. The share of renewable energy (RES) rises substantially in all de-carbonization scenarios, achieving at least 55% in gross final energy consumption in 2050 up 45 percentage points from today's level at around 10%. The share of Renewables in electricity consumption reaches 64,8 % in a High Energy Efficiency scenario and even 97% in a High Renewables Scenario.

The Energy Roadmap 2050 is also ambitious when it comes to energy efficiency: It shows that we need to reduce energy consumption by 2050 by a minimum of 32 percent to maximum of 41 percent compared to the peak in 2005/2006, according to the different scenarios.

Investments cost a lot of money. Is it not cheaper if we forget about de-carbonization?

The analysis shows that costs will rise anyway and will be roughly at the same level as if we were not to do anything. If we continue current policies, the total energy system cost - including fuel, electricity and capital costs, investment in equipment, energy efficient products - could represent 14.6% percent of European GDP in 2050 (compared to 10,5% in 2005).

If we continue with current policies, we may not have to invest as heavily in infrastructure as in the de-carbonization scenarios (high efficiency, high renewable, delayed CCS, low nuclear and diversified supply technologies), but we the face higher fossil fuel costs as gas and petrol prices are estimated to rise due to an increase in worldwide demand. By contrast, in the case of the de-carbonization scenarios higher upfront investment is needed but less fossil fuel.

02-04 EC CONSULTATION RENEWABLES: AIE sends a collective response to EC

The legislative framework as regards renewable energy is laid down in the Renewable Energy Directive which sets an obligatory target of 20% renewable energy in final energy consumption as well as a 10% target in transport for 2020. Given the long-term perspective of investors it is necessary already now to look beyond that year. Against the background of the EU's ambition to move towards a reduction of 80-95% of GHG emissions in a 2050 perspective, it is clear that a further strong growth in renewables will be needed beyond the 2020 targets.

The consultation of the European Commission has the aim of soliciting the view of interested parties to assess in how far the orientations of the current policy framework remain valid in the medium term - i.e. until 2030. Interested parties are requested to consider the specific questions addressed in the consultation document.

The AIE Task Force Renewables introduced on 6 February 2012, under chairmanship of Jonathan Coosen a collective response on behalf of AIE, [available on the AIE website](#). The deadline of the consultation is now ended.

02-05 EC CONSULTATION AND EU GREEN PAPER ON SOLID STATE LIGHTING (SSL):

The European Commission adopted on 15 December 2011 the [new EU Green Paper on Solid State Lighting \(SSL\)](#) named "*Lighting the Future, Accelerating the deployment of innovative lighting technologies*". Further to the involvement of the AIE in the EC working group on LEDs, the AIE has been explicitly invited by the European Commission to introduce its comments and suggestions to the consultation.

In its Green Paper the Commission proposes measures to speed up the deployment of this innovative and eco-friendly SSL lighting that saves energy and money while offering a good quality of light, and to foster the global leadership position of the European lighting industry.

The European Commission also launched simultaneously a [public consultation](#) on this new Green Paper on the future of LED-based lighting which will run until 29 February 2012 to collect feedback on the Commission's ideas: http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/digital-agenda/actions/ssl-consultation/index_en.htm

Key questions for the public consultation include:

- Which actions would help to overcome existing barriers and accelerate LED deployment in Europe?
- How to ensure good quality and safe LED products on the European market that meet consumer expectations?
- How to reinforce cooperation of the lighting sector with architects, lighting designers, electrical installers and the construction and buildings sectors?
- How can the EU best support entrepreneurship and competitiveness in the lighting sector?

AIE MEMBERS are all invited to respond either directly (with AIE in copy) or to the AIE secretariat at eschellekens@aie.eu by 27 February 2012 latest. Eventually a conference call will be organized between in experts in week 7.

02-06 ONLINE ACCESS TO NATIONAL BUILDING TYPOLOGIES:

TABULA workshops within framework IEE project



For experts on energy efficient buildings we would like to inform you about a recent online publication on building typologies. Building typologies serve as a basis for the design of building stock models and the calculation of energy saving scenarios.

For this purpose national building typologies have now been elaborated in the framework of the IEE project TABULA for a number of European countries. The typologies consist of a common classification concept for the residential building stock according to age and size.

To each building type an example building is assigned which is defined by its physical parameters. Showcase calculations of the energy performance and the possible energy savings can be performed by use of the TABULA Web Tool. This web based online software enables a comparison between different countries with a simple and transparent reference procedure. In addition to the standard calculation an adaptation to the typical level of measured consumption provides realistic assessments of energy costs and savings. Statistical data for the different building types are supplementing the typology information as far as available.

At the TABULA "country pages" you will find the respective national information for the countries Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy (middle climatic zone), Poland, Serbia (first building type overview), Spain (overview for regions Alicante and Valencia), Sweden and Slovenia.

> **Direct access to country pages:** <http://www.building-typology.eu/country.html>

02-07 DRAFT REPORT ON EUROPEAN STANDARDISATION

The draft report of the European Parliament on the review of European Standardisation has been published. You can find it at the following link:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?type=COMPART&mode=XML&language=EN&reference=PE478.420>

As far as SMEs relevant issues are concerned, these are preliminary considerations:

1. The report mostly focuses on the participation of SMEs at national level (see amendments 4,5, 31, 33, 34). Several “SME friendly” provisions are introduced by the draft report, though only the national activities are promoted.
2. No reference is made to voting rights for the European organisations representing SMEs, nor to the so called “effective membership” in the ESOs .
3. The requirements to be fulfilled by the European organisations representing SMEs become more demanding (see amendment 65).

Next Steps: **The deadline for the other MEPs to present amendments to the draft report was 7th February 2012.**

02-08 NEW WEBSITE OFFERS EASY ACCESS TO INFORMATION ON EUROPEAN STANDARDS:



cencenelec.eu

The European Committee for Standardization (CEN) and the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC) have joined forces to launch a new website – cencenelec.eu – which went online for the first time on the 18th January.

This new joint website **complements** the existing websites of CEN and CENELEC by providing easy access to **general information about European Standards**. It is intended to serve as a starting point for anyone who wants to learn about or participate in the European standardization system.

Elena Santiago Cid, the Director General of CEN and CENELEC, has recorded a special video message for the new CEN CENELEC website. In this message she says: “We hope that the new CEN CENELEC website will be a useful source of information for everyone who wants to know about standards – what they are, why we need them and how to use them. We also want to make it easier for people to learn about how standards are being developed and how various stakeholders can contribute to this process.”

02-09 2012 EUROPEAN YEAR OF ACTIVE AGEING:

Europeans are living longer but are having fewer children and by 2060 there will be only two working adults for every person over 65, compared with four now. The 2012 European year of active ageing and solidarity between generations aims to raise awareness about the rapidly ageing EU population, promote an age-friendly environment and find new solutions to turn ageing into an opportunity.

Old age is often associated with illness, dependency and exclusion from employment, family and society, but with the number of over-60s rising by 2 million a year in the EU and an increasingly healthy older generation, the European year aims to change this mentality and help develop an active ageing culture.

"Active ageing can be successful only in a society built on solidarity and cooperation between generations," said German Christian Democrat **Martin Kastler**, who drafted a report on the year." Maintaining vitality, respecting dignity, enhancing involvement in society as well as volunteering...and removing barriers between generations are the main aims of the European Year."

Ageing population*

- 17.4% of EU population over 65 in 2010 vs 13.7% in 1990
- 30% over 65 by 2060
- percentage over 80 seen rising fourfold by 2060 vs 1990

*source: European Commission Third Demography Report (April 2011)

03_ Sector related news

03-01 'CALL' FOR STANDARDISATION EXPERTS

Further to the cooperation agreement of AIE with NORMAPME, the AIE has been informed by NORMAPME of a call for **2 new paid experts** in standardisation technical committees (TCs). The relevant TC's for the AIE members are:

CLC/TC 9X Electrical and electronic applications for railways
CLC/TC 17B Low-voltage switch gear and control gear including dimensional standardisation
CLC/TC 22x Power electronics
CLC/TC 23BX dc; plugs and socket-outlets and switches for household and similar fixed electrical installations
CLC/TC 26A Electric arc welding equipment
CLC/TC 26B Electric resistance welding
CLC/TC 34Z Luminaires and associated equipment
CLC/TC 37A Low voltage surge protective devices
CLC/TC 40XB Resistors
CLC/TC 44X Safety of machinery: electrotechnical aspects
CLC/TC 79 Alarm systems

CLC/TC 82 Solar photovoltaic energy systems
CLC/TC 108X Safety of electronic equipment within the fields of Audio/Video, Information Technology and Communication Technology
CLC/TC 111x Environment
CLC/TC 116 Safety of hand-held motor-operated electric tools
CLC/TC 206 Consumer equipment for entertainment and information and related sub-systems
CLC/TC 210 Electromagnetic compatibility
CLC/TC 215 Electrotechnical aspects of telecommunication equipment

If you are interested to introduce an expert candidature for one of these TC's, please send an email to eschellekens@aie.eu by **7th March 2012**.

Applications shall include:

- An expression of interests signed by an SME association
- A detailed English CV of the candidate expert

03-02 REDYNAMISING Working Group 2 –

'Information and Communication' of the PV Technology Platform



On 31 January 2012, WG2 of the European Photovoltaic Technology Platform (PVTP) under leadership of the AIE has presented a clear action plan with milestones and deadlines to the Steering Committee of the PVTP www.eupvplatform.org

The main aim of the WG2 has been defined as to create synergies between several stakeholders and partners working on the same PV issues such as the campaign Your Sun Your Energy, the AIE task force RES, EPIA, European projects and the WG2 of the PVTP with the objective to **raise awareness, inform and communicate** on photovoltaics.

The following tools and suggestions will be worked out by WG2 in cooperation with different partners before the 30th of June 2012:

- 1) Update the Frequently Asked Questions
- 2) Develop a PV press & information kit (market data, power point presentation, video...): dissemination to press/ companies/ magazines
- 3) Promotional information leaflet for citizen / installer
- 4) Video for installers as the target group
- 5) Collect and promote availability of training material for trainers/ installers (use existing material from PV TRIN, INSTALL+RES ...)

An education toolkit for kids and teachers has been suggested but need further thought.

03-03 EU SMART GRID TASK FORCE

Building on the consolidated stakeholder groups in the Task Force and their excellent results achieved during the last two years, the Commission is designing the new plan of work for 2012 which will re-activate early 2012 the European Task Force for Smart Grids. As background, the mission of the Smart Grids Task Force (SGTF) is to advise the Commission on policy and regulatory frameworks at European level to co-ordinate the first steps towards the implementation of Smart Grids.

On 1 February 2012, the Task Force had a meeting to endorse the proposed Plan of Work for 2012 and to launch the Working Expert Groups. The expected policy framework will be focused on the period 2012-2020.

4 working experts groups are mentioned below with a defined work programme, you can obtain at the AIE secretariat. For the AIE the most important one is working group 3 on 'smart grids deployment' which work programme is defined as follows:

- Analyse **the interfaces and interactions among all actors** and provide recommendations on best practices and regulatory options to build partnership models for the roll out of infrastructure and services, such as Smart Metering roll-out, demand-side management processes of Smart Grids and the roll out of broadband networks.
- Develop a market reference model which provides the framework for new business options, such as **demand response programmes and energy services and other products attractive to customers**, based on both technical and price signals reflecting intra-day trading
- Clarify which **data could be transmitted** via existing (or future) telecom network infrastructures and which data might need to have a dedicated connection/network for the purpose of Smart Grids

You are invited to express your interest if interested to participate in the working groups to eschellekens@aie.eu. AIE being a member of the Steering Committee of this SGTF, we will introduce the experts/representatives directly to the European Commission.

04_ Future events <http://www.aie.eu/aie/page/Events>

04-01 CYE2012: See 'Evecatcher' in this Newsletters' first page.

04-02 LIGHT + BUILDING 2012:

The AIE President, Janne Skogberg together with AIE's General Secretary, Evelyne Schellekens will be attending the Light and Building Exhibition on 16 and 17 April next in Frankfurt. At this occasion, they will meet with representatives of the Electrical Contractors' association of Slovenia, take the opportunity to encounter the Presidents of different European associations of the electrical value chain, meet with lighting industry representatives and participate in the hand-over of the KNX-Award for Youngsters.

Highlights of the last event for you at their website.

> <http://light-building.messefrankfurt.com/frankfurt/en/besucher/willkommen.html>

05_ Publications

05-01 Extra AIE Web page ‘Brochures’ under Publications: new Uploads!!

<http://www.aie.eu/aie/page/Brochures>

05-02 KNX Newly developed ETS4 eCampus tool - online for free –

With the introduction of the new Engineering Tool Software KNX ETS4, several features for creating KNX projects were improved.

KNX ETS4 eCampus is the systematic implementation of the flyer “ETS4 for beginners”. The training is primarily directed at newcomers who wish to gain an insight into building automation with KNX without having to spend time or money first. KNX ETS4 eCampus is based on an object-oriented learning management system which has been tried and tested all over the world. The two-level learning concept, consisting of the transfer of knowledge about ETS4 and practical online simulation exercises, was developed in consultation with leading KNX training facilities. From December 2011, it will be available in “English” and “German” with other languages also at a later stage.

KNX ETS4 eCampus can be used **free of charge** after entering the registration data in the KNX online shop (www.knx.org).

European Association of Electrical Contractors

“ELECTRICITY SURROUNDS US – TOUCHES EVERY ONE OF US, EVERY DAY, EVERYWHERE.

Who we are:

The European Association of Electrical Contractors – AIE – comprises 20 national associations representing 175,000 contractors, a workforce of nearly 1.000,000 and a turnover of Euro 75 billion.

Monitoring the EU agenda/Directives relevant for the electrical sector, the AIE points out the key strategies and main priorities for the modern electrical contractor. With the increasing complexity of technical installations, the private consumer and house owners are becoming more and more dependent on the knowledge and creativity of the electrical contractor. He is an expert adviser who is able to explain to the client the possibilities and advantages of new technology in a technical and environmental way. Kindly visit our website: www.aie.eu or contact us at info@aie.eu.