

**enterprise
europe
network**

Sustainable Construction

Sector Group Newsletter

Issue 10

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Business Support on Four Dimensions



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Sustainable construction is cool...



May the force of the agency be with you!

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the tenth issue of our newsletter timed to be available for Building Holland!

This is the first year that the Enterprise Europe Network is organising an International Brokerage Event during the **Building Holland fair**.

Building Holland is the innovative three-day event for the construction and property sector. Building Holland takes place annually in the RAI Amsterdam. More than 12,000 visitors and 150 partners come together and meet to share knowledge, network and do business. Thanks to its knowhow and unique network of professionals, the Fair organizer Sustainable Built, knows better than anyone the important issues in the sustainable construction sector. The mission of this event is to bring forward the chain and quality in the construction and real estate sector and help significant progress through three specific steps: communicate, activate and connect.

The main themes of the 2017 Building Holland are: Leisure & Retail, Logistics Real Estate, Homes, Schools, Offices and Healthcare Realty. These are all particularly important areas which are facing major social challenges for both the demand and the supply side of the market. Top speakers will be present during the three-day event and will be ready to provide participants with inspiration on these subjects. 12,000 decision makers will also be attending with the aim to put into practise the best solutions to meet these challenges.

The **Building Europe 2017 Brokerage Event** offers participants business contact with industry, design, science and sustainable construction professionals who are looking for potential partners in The Netherlands and other countries to ensure sustainable business development and growth.

On Wednesday, 12th April 2017, Enterprise Europe is organising a FREE-to-attend matchmaking event at Building Holland, the biggest exhibition for sustainable constructions in The Netherlands. The event provides the perfect forum for potential partners – both visitors and exhibitors - to pre-arrange meetings and capitalise on Dutch and European construction opportunities, energy efficiency, recycling and other related sectors. This is an excellent opportunity for suppliers, contractors, and distributors to discover new and innovative products and services from the international marketplace and meet construction professionals, such as architects, contractors, distributors, agents, builders' merchants, research centres, universities.

On Wednesday the 12th April 2017, a presentation of Enterprise Europe Network with emphasis on our sector group, will be given at the **Building Europe Congress: Sustainability and Contracting**. **On the 11th and 12th April 2017, there will also be an EEN stand at the Building Holland exhibition, which you are all invited to visit.**

This Newsletter is mainly focused on the Building Europe Brokerage Event organized by the Sustainable Construction Sector Group members, but also includes other interesting topics from frequent readers!!



Katerina TZITZINO
Director of International Affairs
Federation of Industries of Northern Greece
Sector Group Chair



NEWS FROM THE SG

Minutes of the sustainable construction group, Strasbourg, November 24th 2016

Fourteen members of the group took part in the meeting hosted by the EEN consortium « Grand Est ». The following points were covered :

1° Feedback from EASME – Katerina Tzitzinou on behalf of the PO

General figures on SGs show there are fewer but more active members than the average group. There are 28 registered members in SCSG, many of them new. There are fewer PA/ASO through SGs but slightly more PA/ASO per member. Overall the SCSG has one of the lowest PA/member ratio, but improvement is expected from 2016 activities.

Discussion on how to improve our figures :

- Reinventing the Brokerage Event principles. Why not think of “pitching meetings”?
- Different H2020 and COSME Calls. -> **Laurent will provide information on new topics available for the project.**
- Why not set up a task force about possibilities for our clients (SMEs but also clusters) to bid for some of these Calls?
-> **Task force: Katerina and Laurent**
- BCCs : why not try to use Ecobuild to make links with some foreign delegations and their respective BCCs? -> **To be considered - Valerie is taking care of this. -> Make links with EEN CH (Ernst-Jan Van Hattum) Katerina**

Some “performing” SGs (like Environment) have huge number of members and many events/activities taking place here and there but not necessarily all with many SG participants. This would explain the high number.

2° Presentation of new members

- Michael Roessler, Handwerk International BW (replacing Gabriele)

Consulting and matchmaking of construction companies going abroad, in particular France and Switzerland, for cross-border business, but also worldwide in countries like North Africa, Asia, ...

One of the biggest fairs in Stuttgart in sustainable construction R+T fair. Could be a good event to consider for organizing future B2B events as well as SG meetings.

But also interest in bilateral business missions, interest in CH in particular.

- Nikos Kanatsoulis, Mirtec, EEN Hellas

MIRTEC, Materials research & technology centre: dealing with a wide approach of materials (metals, ceramics, polymers and fibres)

Develop, characterise, test and analyse new materials and perform technology transfer. Also help certifying products according to main EC directives and regulations

Interest in developing new construction materials. Currently involved in the setting up of a cluster in building materials.

3° Presenting C-Energy 2020 and SGSC

- Energy NCPs have created a CSA called C-Energy 2020. MoU signed with the SCSG (as well as IESG)
- C-Energy 2020 includes a profile database facility which is complementary to POD. In particular may include several H2020 Calls, partnership offers not only requests
- <http://www.partnersearch.c-energy2020.eu>
- Synergy between EEN led events and C-Energy 2020 events
- C-Energy 2020 is also organizing webinars
- Focusing on WP topics which are the most relevant for the RP 2017.

4° Presenting the Pôle Fibres-Energievie

This cluster is a member of the “poles de compétitivité” network of cluster labeled by the French government. The network includes 71 clusters.

The Pôle Fibres-Energievie is a result of the merger of two poles, one on low-environment impact materials and the other on sustainable and positive energy. In total the cluster includes 200+ members (mostly enterprises, including SMEs in photovoltaics, materials, ...)

The cluster has participated in 376 labeled projects (which corresponds to a total of 152 m€)

The cluster participated actively in a number of International projects and collaborations working with International support organizations including EEN (CCI Alsace) and together with 2 other such French “poles” in Materials and Energy. It has also been involved in the “Astainable project” with the city of Astana in Kazakhstan to demonstrate new sustainable technologies

Partnerships with German-speaking countries and foreign clusters (AT, DE, CH). Organisation of forums such as Build and Connect.

5° Reporting of past activities

- E2Tech4Cities : Elena Angiolini

8 co-organisers, 17 supporting EEN, 66 participants, 15 countries, 147 transnational meetings. Less quantity, more quality. 4 on-going proposals for H2020

Next edition: 23 June 2017

- Timber Construction and Forestry : Roswitha Schipfer

43 participants, 38 bilateral meetings. Events becoming smaller in importance.

Other event in Vienna : B2B Future of Building ; 200+ participants, 600+ transnational meetings. Next year: 18-19 May 2017

- JTED 2016 : Pascale Triffoy

4th edition of cross-border French-speaking event. 37 participants. So decided to do a pitching session to make it more appealing. Only 2 non-BE companies participated, but 110 meetings were organized.

- Building Green Connection 2016 : Martin Hansen

80 participants (mostly DK) and 120 meetings. 2 SCSG partners but without companies.

- EeB-CA2 BE for stake holders : Sandrine Doretto (SEZ)

Brokerage event in Brussels within ECTP conference. 44 participants from 20 countries. 68 meetings, 8 co-operation agreed (?)

- Build & Connect 2016 : Caroline Kolb

Brokerage event organised during a sustainable construction forum hence the charging policy. 60 participants, 130 meetings. Participants from FR, CH, DE but also DK and GR thanks to representation by EENs.

6° Other

Following the Viking session organised during this session, a suggestion was made to transform this session into a pitching session from next meeting onwards. To be made well-known by Hans to the other partners well in advance. As from the next meeting, each member interested to present technologies and/or business profiles, will send in advance a presentation of 1-3 slides with pictures of the relevant technology/business opportunity. The profile will be presented and discussed in the meeting. The session will be renamed to **Viking Pitching Session**. All presentations will be sent to Hans Kamphuis well in advance. After the meeting, Hans will send to the group a list with the EoIs for each profile.

Next Meeting: Amsterdam 13 April 2017.

BUILDING HOLLAND SPECIAL



Building Holland is taking place in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, while you are reading this newsletter ! It will cover a period of three days from the 11th to the 13th of April.

This international trade show will provide a proper platform to the building and construction industry professionals and will give them an opportunity to get aware of the latest trends and techniques which will help in the improvement of building and construction industry. They can share their knowledge and experience with each other by attending this expo. Building Holland will give an opportunity to the exhibitors to discover new business opportunities with the builders and technical and professional experts related to building and construction industry. Products and services related to building and construction industry will be displayed by the exhibitors in this international trade show.

The Enterprise Europe Network is organising a B2B matchmaking event. Here are some of the profiles you could meet on the 12th of April :



A German provider of infrared-carbon heating systems is looking for distributors. The advantages of the system are that it is: Environmentally friendly, Suitable for people with allergies, Maintenance free, Easy to process and provides heat at the touch of a button, Highly efficient and Universally applicable



A German company is looking for service agreements in the area of green building certifications. They propose the entire certification process from pre-assessment to the certificate. They are LEED Accredited Professional, BREEAM Assessor, DGNB Auditor and have expert knowledge in planning and building practice



A UK firm is looking for companies distributing energy saving devices. Their magnetic fuel conditioning system offers a quick return on investment. It is easy to install without changing the existing boiler or power units.

The system does not require any maintenance. It cuts fuel consumption, power and heating costs and reduces the carbon footprint.



A Czech company is offering certified timber frame - sandwich panels for the construction of low energy and passive houses and cooperation for building companies focused on wooden houses and passive houses on the basis of commercial agency agreement

NEWSFLASH

Build up and Build up skills merger

The BUILD UP and BUILD UP skills projects informed about their merger. The objective is to combine the content and practical knowledge of energy efficiency in buildings of both initiatives into a single platform.

The connection of these initiatives offers additional training and skills to European stakeholders in energy efficiency, regular EU exchange meetings, strengthening of users competencies by accessing platform content like: EU Exchange Meeting outcomes, news, events, reports, national pages and much more on <http://www.buildup.eu>.

BUILD UP Skills is a strategic initiative contributing to the objectives of two initiatives of the Commission's 'Europe 2020' strategy — 'Resource efficient Europe' and 'An Agenda for new skills and jobs' The aim is to increase the number of qualified workers across Europe to deliver building renovations which offer high-energy performance.

For more information : BUILD UP, the European Portal for Energy Efficiency in Buildings, <http://www.buildup.eu>, <http://www.buildup.eu/en/node/52527>

Sector Group rolling plan: announcing our upcoming events

The rolling plan for 2017 is now available. The main events for the coming months are :

Building Europe 2017, Amsterdam on April 12th - Contact: Hans Kamphuis

The future of Building, Vienna on May 17th - Contact: Roswitha Schipfer

4E² Tech4Cities – Energy & Efficiency Technologies for Cities, Brussels on June 23rd - Contact: Elena Angiolini

Euromat 2017, in Thessaloniki on September 22nd - Contact: Nikos Kanatsoulis

For more information: <http://een.ec.europa.eu>

Contributions by Magda Drholcova and Martin Forst



OUR EVENTS AND MISSIONS



Promising one-to-one meetings at Ecobuild, London, March 8th 2017

On 8 March 2017, for the seventh year running, the Enterprise Europe Network team at University of Greenwich organised the very popular free matchmaking event during Ecobuild.

The event took place on the main exhibition floor enabling visitors and exhibitors alike to make maximum use of their time at this major international sustainable construction trade show. Over 150 companies had booked one-to-one meetings with potential business partners coming from all over the world: more than 20 countries were represented.

As well as those signed up to the matchmaking there was a buzz of interest from visitors passing the stand asking how they could take part next year.

Before the matchmaking event all the registered companies posted an on-line profile of their business together with a description of the kind of business they were hoping to meet. This allowed the registered companies to tailor their meetings by requesting appointments in advance which were accepted or rejected. This year more than 500 meetings were pre-arranged, but in the busy networking area many impromptu meetings also took place with the support of our team and our Network partners who were on hand to assist their clients.



Participation in the Ecobuild matchmaking forum provides the perfect opportunity for anyone involved in sustainable construction whether they be contractors, housebuilders or architects to discover some of the latest product innovations and design technologies. This year, the products included building systems, a flood protection coating for concrete, stone, wood & brick walls, energy efficient windows and doors, an insulated foundation system saving 50% in labour and materials, and a wide range of paints, adhesives, and insulation for roofs, floors, lighting systems. On the structural side, offerings included lightweight concrete/polystyrene material for loadbearing applications and a hybrid, closed-panel building system offering

exceptional thermal performance. The participants' catalogue is still available on www.b2match.eu/ecobuild2017.

At the end of an incredibly busy day a number of the attendees congratulated the team for the organisation of the event, commenting on how successful their meetings had been. They were confident that they would be co-operating with companies they had met on the day very soon.

Enterprise Europe Network's primary role is to encourage and facilitate cross-border co-operation between businesses and research organisations; matchmaking events like the one at Ecobuild are the perfect forum to achieve this goal. Every year dozens of matchmaking (or brokerage) events take place across Europe at a wide range of international trade shows and events, so there is something for everyone.

For more information : <http://www.enterprise-europe.co.uk/content/events/>.

Article by Valérie Pondaven



TECHNOLOGY FILE

Mobile asphalt hot mix machine for road repairs



A German inventor has created a machine that delivers a high quality hot mix asphalt by using solid cold bitumen (without requiring liquid emulsion or hot hazardous bitumen), designed to operate as a mobile mixing plant. This allows the user to be fully independent from traditional hot mix plants, which makes it very safe to operate and to use. It can use recycled asphalt removed from existing roads and it can produce colored asphalt as well. Weight cells and temperature sensors allow the production of the exact amount of fill without wasting any material. Batches of any size are possible to mix, from a wheelbarrow size to a capacity of up to 3 tons. Using a unique oil burner technology, the furnace is resistant to wind gusts allowing the heater to operate while travelling

to the worksite. The machine is capable of heating materials to temperatures of up to 250 °C. Since the high temperatures required can be maintained at all times at the construction site, it is possible to produce an A1 quality mix and sealing of a pothole. The vessel can be tilted backwards to fully discharge the mix so that cleaning is fast and easy.

In comparison to the traditional way of repairing roads, this new hot mix machine offers the advantage of being a mobile solution. Independent from traditional static hot mix plants, the mobile mix machine can be taken to rural and remote areas to repair streets and driveways. Thus it is an ideal solution for the time-saving and cost-effective repair and maintenance of potholes.

The technology can be used in any weather, even in winter, when most stationary mixing plants are not in operation. The insulation of the heating vessel which uses a highly-efficient material, leads to a reduction of heating time and less energy waste. Sensors with digital readouts monitor the temperature constantly, so that the mixture keeps a high quality. Furthermore, no liquid emulsion or hot hazardous bitumen is used, as opposed to traditional mixing plants. Small deposits can be left inside the machine and be re-heated the next time the machine is used. This cleaning process is much faster and simpler than in traditional designs where the heating vessel must be cleaned completely before using it again.

The inventor is looking for industrial partners who have an interest in producing this new technology. The inventor is offering a manufacturing agreement as well as a commercial agreement with technical assistance.



For more information : Katharina Fuchs, ZENIT ZENTRUM FUR INNOVATION UND TECHNIK IN NORDRHEIN-WESTFALEN GMBH , e-mail: kf@zenit.de

Article by Katerina Tzitzinou



INSPIRATION

Thatching as a modern sustainable construction material

At first sight there is very little the two buildings in the pictures below have in common. If you look closely though, you will see that they both use reed thatch as a major material!



Thatched roofs in particular were long associated with twee cottages in Normandy or East Anglia or with traditional windmills in Holland. Today however several groundbreaking buildings are appearing in the traditional homelands of thatching that have very little in common with their forbears.



Despite being one of the world's most ancient building material, thatch has excellent insulation properties, is naturally waterproof, has a long lifespan (up to 150 years) and is locally sourced from renewable materials.

Several materials can be used for thatching the most effective being water reed and wheat straw. The technique for thatching is basically the same for all materials. It involves fastening the thatch together in bundles which are attached to the support beams. Successive layers are added until the necessary thickness and water tightness is achieved.

Thatch roofs can withstand high winds and heavy rain, provide good thermal insulation, have a positive carbon footprint and are easy to repair and refurbish. The drawbacks are the labour intensity and skill needed, the costs of the material as well as the potential fire hazard (though modern techniques – including fire retardants, fire-boards, sensors and sprinklers- do reduce this risk significantly). Similar considerations apply to vertical wall covering.

This technique is less well known particularly in France or the UK but in Holland, and to a lesser extent in Denmark, this is the latest development. Members of the Dutch Federation of thatchers are using increasing amounts of reed as vertical wall covering because of its protective qualities and long service life.



The office for Amsterdam’s canal cleaners is a prime example of this use of thatch. Designed by Atticka Architecten, this office building floats in Amsterdam harbour, creating a base for the city’s water-cleaning service.

The floating structure has three stories, two above water and one partially submerged. Its floor area of 875m² makes it the “biggest ark in the Netherlands according to the architects. Office space is on two levels in half of the building, the double level canteen occupies the other half. Technical facilities, including locker rooms are on the lowest level. Two box windows with pre-rusted corten steel frames project at right

angles from the upper floor and glazed doors lead out onto the mooring platform on the first level. Heating and cooling is achieved via a thermal exchanger that takes temperature from the water and works like a “reverse underfloor heating system”. Energy to power the building is drawn from solar panels on the roof.

Beyond the intrinsic qualities of the material used, the energy saving heating and power generation systems chosen, this project has another interesting feature.

The building is currently docked in the northern part of Amsterdam harbour which is currently deserted but redevelopment is planned. When this occurs, the area will no longer be a suitable location for rubbish collecting boats and their infrastructure so the canal cleaners office will simply be towed to a new mooring more in keeping with its function!



Another example of thatching on a modern building is the Enterprise Centre of the University of East Anglia in Norwich that recently won the UK Guardian Sustainable Business Award (environment category).

The building was built by Morgan Sindall and answers virtually all sustainable construction certifications: BREEAM Outstanding, PassivHaus, etc. The entire design and construction process was monitored using special software to measure the building's total carbon footprint.



Built on an E plan to allow in as much daylight as possible, the two story building is fundamentally based on a glulam timber structural frame. The real innovation however lies in the pioneering vertical cladding system. This is an assembly of prefabricated thatched panel cassettes that the design team believes to be a world first. This system was developed by Morgan Sindall and Architype: it is a way of using a traditional material in a modern and flexible way.

Each cassette is made of a timber frame filled with tightly packed straw and covered in a locally sourced water reed thatch. It took an average of 4 hours to manufacture each of the 294 panels used. They were assembled indoors during the winter months which is traditionally a quiet period for thatchers.

“Vertical thatching is not new. Although it’s not familiar to this part of the country, it’s certainly been used in places like Holland”, design manager Stuart Thompson is quoted as saying “but the use of prefabricated thatch panels constructed off site and as part of a unique cassette cladding system is the first of its kind anywhere in the world”.

What is also significant is that at £11m, the cost of the building is similar to that of an equivalent university building using regular materials. And this answers one of the issues facing most sustainable construction projects, namely how to keep costs under control and enable people who certainly want to live or work sustainably but haven’t been able to because sustainable buildings are just too expensive to build.



Article by Martin Forst

Sources: sustainablebuild.co.uk; building.co.uk; dezeen.com; thatchers.eu; riet.dcom; treehugger.com; guardian.co.uk

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