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European Parliament
Committee Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE)
Rapporteur Mrs. Țicău Silvia-Adriana

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Frankfurt, 16/02/09

EuroWindowdoors position on the recast of Directive 2002/91/EC to improve the energy performance of buildings

Dear Mrs. Țicău Silvia-Adriana,

EuroWindowdoor is an umbrella organization of the European associations of fenestration and door sector FAECF, FEMIB, EPW and UEMV for the three frame materials metal, wood and plastic and the infill material glass. On a European scale EuroWindowdoor represents more than 50.000 companies and more than one million employees. The European window industry is mostly an industry which consists of small and medium sized companies, with local employees. In view of the construction supply chain, the window industry supplies local construction companies with building components and is thereby a part of a local supply chain with local employment.

We took notice of the draft amendment of the Energy performance of buildings directive (2002/91/EC) from November 11th, 2008 and want to take the opportunity to explain our position to the draft COD/2009/0223 until the deadline February 19th, 2009

EuroWindowdoor supports the current draft in most parts and definitely welcomes a tightening of the Energy performance of buildings directive (EPBD). The fenestration and door industry is prepared and in the position to provide the necessary products in due time.

Nevertheless we want to point out some items in the draft which are new and to be critically evaluated from our position. We therefore appreciate if you could take the following notes and proposals into account. If necessary we can provide you with even more detailed documents.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries.

EPW: European Plastic Window Association
FAECF: Federation of European Window and Curtain Wall Manufacturers' Association
FEMIB: Federation of the European Building Joinery Associations
UEMV: European Glaziers Association

1 Recital 10 „Calculation of energy performance of buildings”:

The physical laws are the same all over Europe. At local level only objective parameters, such as sunshine, degree days, etc. are relevant. These data are already standardised at European level. The current implementing measures with different calculation models de facto provide for barriers to trade, not only between Member States but also between regions. The single method will effectively allow for comparison at all levels thus doing away with the confusion of the current EPBD.

⇒ We therefore would like you to support the European wide introduction of a single calculation method with objective variables to take into account regional climatic differences based on a single market approach (Art 95).

2002/91 recital 10 (adapted)	
Commission Proposal	Amendment Proposal
(9) The energy performance of buildings should be calculated on the basis of a methodology, which may be differentiated at national and regional level,...	(9) The energy performance of buildings should be calculated on the basis of a methodology, which may be differentiated at national and regional level, single European harmonised calculation method with objective variables that takes into account regional climatic differences,...

2 Article 2, Definition (3) „Energy performance of a building“:

Relevant for the amount of energy needed for the typical use of a building are also passive solar gains (reduced heating) and shading (reduced cooling). Both are cost-reducing aspects for an increase of energy efficiency but are not mentioned.

⇒ Passive Solar gains and shading should be added to the listing

Article 2, (3)	
Commission Proposal	Amendment Proposal
(3) Energy performance of a building means the calculated or measured amount of energy needed to meet the energy demand associated with a typical use of the building, which includes inter alia energy used for heating, hot water, cooling, ventilation and lighting.	(3) Energy performance of a building means the calculated or measured amount of energy needed to meet the energy demand associated with a typical use of the building, which includes inter alia energy used for heating, hot water, cooling, ventilation, passive solar gains, sun shading and lighting.

3 Article 2, Definition (10) „cost-optimal level“:

The present definition refers to the price/cost only. The level of energy savings is not considered. But this is not the way for achieving energy savings because here the cheapest version must be used.

⇒ Better would be an optimum of performance and cost or to define the „efficiency“ of the measures. Please modify the definition.

Article 2, (10)	
Commission Proposal	Amendment Proposal
(10) Cost-optimal level means the lowest level of costs during the life-cycle of a building, which are determined taking into account investment costs, maintenance and operating costs (including energy costs), earnings from energy produced, where applicable, and disposal costs, where applicable.	(10) Cost-optimal level means a economical optimum between energy performance and costs lowest level of costs during the life-cycle of a building, which are determined taking into account investment costs, maintenance and operating costs (including energy costs), earnings from energy produced, where applicable, and disposal costs, where applicable.

4 Article 6, 1. „Alternative systems“:

„Alternative Systems“ are listed but without mentioning what these are „alternatively“ used for.

⇒ A note is missing saying that alternative systems are meant alternatively to conventional heating and cooling systems. Please add this note.

Article 6, 1.	
Commission Proposal	Amendment Proposal
...For new buildings Member States shall ensure that before construction starts the technical, environmental and economic feasibility of the following alternative systems is considered and taken into account...	...For new buildings Member States shall ensure that before construction starts the technical, environmental and economic feasibility of the following alternative systems to conventional heating and cooling systems is considered and taken into account...

5 Article 6, 1. (a) „Decentralised energy supply systems based on renewable energy“:

We expect various different understandings of what is part of „decentralised energy supply system based on renewable energy“. As for our point of view it includes solar collectors, PV-systems, Transparent Insulation (TI).

⇒ We consider a clarification as useful and ask for naming the products in a sample-listing.

Article 6, 1. (a)	
Commission Proposal	Amendment Proposal
(a) decentralised energy supply systems based on renewable energy	(a) decentralised energy supply systems based on renewable energy, e.g. solar collectors, PV-systems, Transparent Insulation (TI)

6 Article 7 „Existing buildings“:

It is undisputed that the largest energy savings potential comes from existing buildings. The Directive however is limited to measures when these buildings are renovated anyway. But there are no benefits for demanding useful and economical measures. In this context we refer to the EuroWindow position paper „The European house needs better windows“ from January 2009

(s. enclosure), which illustrates the enormous savings potential by replacing old windows and which is demanding legal rules for promotion.

⇒ We therefore ask for addition in this article by demanding the Member States to establish benefits for useful and economical measures of renovation.

Article 7	
Commission Proposal	Amendment Proposal
Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that when buildings undergo major renovation, their energy performance is upgraded in order to meet minimum energy performance requirements in so far as this is technically, functionally and economically feasible...	Member States shall introduce incentives for renovation of energy inefficient buildings and shall take the necessary measures to ensure that when buildings undergo major renovation, their energy performance is upgraded in order to meet minimum energy performance ...

7 Article 13 and 14 „Inspection of heating/air-conditioning systems“:

In the draft of the Directive inspections are still limited on the Technical building systems. We are of the opinion that the building envelope also should be part of a regular inspection (airtightness, energy efficiency of the building parts, technical state of the art), because maintenance and improvement of the energy efficient building envelope should have priority to the Technical building equipment. An energy efficient building envelope needs less power/energy from the Technical building equipment. If the building envelope is optimized after the Technical building system the result is less efficient.

⇒ We ask for addition of an article regarding the regularly inspection of the building envelope.

Article 14 a “Inspection of the building envelope” (new, renumber articles)	
Commission Proposal	Amendment Proposal
none	Member States shall lay down the necessary measures to establish a regular inspection of the building envelope. The inspection shall include an assessment of the energy efficiency of the building parts, technical state of the art and the air tightness of the building.

8 Article 15 „Reports on the inspection of heating and air-conditioning systems“:

Regular inspection of the building envelope (airtightness, energy efficiency of the building parts, technical state of the art) should be reported like the inspection of heating and air-conditioning systems.

⇒ We ask for addition of the title of article 15 for inspection of the building envelope.

Article 15	
Commission Proposal	Amendment Proposal
Title „Reports on the inspection of heating and air-conditioning systems“	Title „Reports on the inspection of heating, and air-conditioning systems and building envelope“

9 Annex I, 3. (e) „Built-in lighting installation“:

When the built-in lighting is always to be considered then also the natural lighting must certainly be considered, otherwise the results are not correct and the artificial lighting is over-evaluated.

⇒ The natural lighting is missing in 3. and should therefore be moved from nr. 4. (d) to 3. (e)

Annex I, 3. (e) and 4 (d)	
Commission Proposal	Amendment Proposal
<p>The methodology shall be laid down taking into consideration at least the following aspects:</p> <p>...</p> <p>(e) built-in lighting installation (mainly in the non-residential sector)</p> <p>4. The positive influence of the following aspects shall, where relevant in this calculation, be taken into account:</p> <p>...</p> <p>(d) natural lighting.</p>	<p>The methodology shall be laid down taking into consideration at least the following aspects:</p> <p>...</p> <p>(e) natural lighting (daylighting) and built-in lighting installation (mainly in the non-residential sector)</p> <p>4. The positive influence of the following aspects shall, where relevant in this calculation, be taken into account:</p> <p>...</p> <p>(d) natural lighting.</p>

10 Annex I, 3. (g) „Passive solar systems and solar protection“:

The term „solar systems“ is misunderstandable and gives the impression that special Technical systems are meant (e.g. TI systems). But to be considered are all passive solar gains, also those by sun entry through the glazing.

⇒ We suggest to amend the word „solar systems“ into „solar gains“ or alternatively specify windows as an example for a solar system.

Annex I, 3. (g)	
Commission Proposal	Amendment Proposal
<p>The methodology shall be laid down taking into consideration at least the following aspects:</p> <p>...</p> <p>(g) Passive solar systems and solar protection</p>	<p>The methodology shall be laid down taking into consideration at least the following aspects:</p> <p>...</p> <p>(g) Passive solar gains systems and solar protection</p>

11 Annex II „independent control systems for energy performance certificate and inspection reports“:

We see quite an advantage in a moderate control of the issued certificates. However, the measures demanded here are hardly to be implemented useful and cost-efficient. Testing of the input data (paragraph 1. (b) or full check of input data of the building (paragraph 1. (c) can often only be performed under laboratory conditions. This is however not necessary, because the procedures of Construction Products Directive (CE-labeling, in future Construction Products Regulation) with the conformity system ensures the usability.

⇒ Procedures in 1 (a) and 2 (a) are sufficient. We suggest to delete 1. (b) and (c) and 2. (b) and (c).

Annex II	
Commission Proposal	Amendment Proposal
<p>1. The competent authorities or bodies to whom responsibilities for implementing the independent control system have been delegated by the competent authorities shall make a random selection of at least 0.5 % of all the energy performance certificates issued annually and subject these to verification. The verification shall be carried out at one of the three alternative levels indicated below and each verification level shall be carried out at least for a statistically significant proportion of the certificates selected:</p> <p>(a) validity check of input data of the building used to issue the energy performance certificate and the results stated in the certificate;</p> <p>(b) check of the input data and verification of the results of the certificate, including the recommendations given;</p> <p>(c) full check of input data of the building used to issue the energy performance certificate, full verification of the results stated in the certificate, including the recommendations given, and on-site visit of the building to check correspondence between specifications given in the energy performance certificate and the building certified.</p> <p>2. The competent authorities or bodies to whom responsibilities for implementing the independent control system have been delegated by the competent authorities shall make a random selection of at least 0.1 % of all the inspection reports issued annually and subject these to verification. The verification shall be carried out at one of the three alternative levels indicated below and each verification level shall be carried out at least for a statistically significant proportion of the inspection reports selected:</p> <p>(a) validity check of input data of the technical building system inspected used to issue the inspection report and the results stated in the inspection report;</p> <p>(b) check of the input data and verification of the results of the inspection report including the recommendations given;</p> <p>(c) full check of input data of the technical building system inspected used to issue the inspection report, full verification of the results stated in the inspection report including the recommendations given and an on-site visit of the building to check</p>	<p>1. The competent authorities or bodies to whom responsibilities for implementing the independent control system have been delegated by the competent authorities shall make a random selection of at least 0.5 % of all the energy performance certificates issued annually and subject these to verification. The verification shall be carried out at one of the three alternative levels as indicated below and each verification level shall be carried out at least for a statistically significant proportion of the certificates selected:</p> <p>(a) validity check of input data of the building used to issue the energy performance certificate and the results stated in the certificate;</p> <p>(b) check of the input data and verification of the results of the certificate, including the recommendations given;</p> <p>(c) full check of input data of the building used to issue the energy performance certificate, full verification of the results stated in the certificate, including the recommendations given, and on-site visit of the building to check correspondence between specifications given in the energy performance certificate and the building certified.</p> <p>2. The competent authorities or bodies to whom responsibilities for implementing the independent control system have been delegated by the competent authorities shall make a random selection of at least 0.1 % of all the inspection reports issued annually and subject these to verification. The verification shall be carried out at one of the three alternative levels as indicated below and each verification level shall be carried out at least for a statistically significant proportion of the inspection reports selected:</p> <p>(a) validity check of input data of the technical building system inspected used to issue the inspection report and the results stated in the inspection report;</p> <p>(b) check of the input data and verification of the results of the inspection report including the recommendations given;</p> <p>(c) full check of input data of the technical building system inspected used to issue the inspection report, full verification of the results stated in the inspection report including the recommendations given and</p>

correspondence between specifications given in the inspection report and the technical building system inspected.	an on site visit of the building to check correspondence between specifications given in the inspection report and the technical building system inspected.	
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We would be grateful if you would take note of our concerns which we would be happy to discuss further at the appropriate time.

Yours sincerely

EuroWindow
The Chairman



Kurt Emil Eriksen