



Association Européenne de l'Installation Electrique  
European Association of Electrical Contractors  
Europäische Vereinigung der Unternehmungen für Elektrische Anlagen



Automation + Management  
für Haus + Gebäude

To: Members of the Industry, Research and Energy Committee & of the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety committee of the European Parliament  
EU Ministers of the Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council

## Open Letter: Bringing sustainability & smartness into European Buildings: Let's not miss the chance brought by the EPBD Revision

Our associations represent millions of jobs in Europe and a wide range of business players which provide, implement and/or use energy technologies and services in buildings.

We support the recently proposed recast of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) by the European Commission. We are, however, convinced that its impact can be improved, creating a win-win situation for Europe's society, from consumers to market actors and governments. A more ambitious revision of the EPBD will not only reduce building's energy consumption (currently responsible for 40% of final energy demand), but will also enable a more end-user focused, more decarbonized and more digital energy system.

We therefore urge EU Members States and the European Parliament to support an ambitious revision of the EPBD and to strengthen key elements of the Commission's proposal. We call the EU institutions to address the following points:

- 1) **Accelerate the energy renovation of the existing building stock**, considering the different building types (residential, non-residential and public buildings) by promoting tailor-made and technology-neutral incentive schemes (e.g. financing, deployment of smart technologies, national milestones for renovation strategies).
- 2) Foster the **deployment of Building Automation and Control (BAC) systems**, in non-residential and larger residential buildings, in order to ensure proper maintenance and improve efficiency.
- 3) **Promote the new smartness indicator of buildings** to support consumer empowerment and the development of buildings as part of the energy system.
- 4) **Go beyond energy savings provisions and adopt a holistic view**, by enabling a proper framework for the deployment of infrastructures (i.e. on-site renewable generation, smart metering, demand-side flexibility and electro-mobility) that will facilitate the buildings' **integration into a wider energy 'eco-system'** (e.g. smart grid & micro-grid, sector connection between electricity and thermal energy).

These four fundamental issues must be addressed, if we want to make the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive **both an energy savings tool and a growth and jobs opportunity**.

We strongly believe a common and ambitious EU Energy policy will be beneficial to EU Member States and should thus be supported, while taking in parallel at national level, the necessary steps to implement and achieve the targets set. The resulting business potential for European companies, both small and large, will benefit European citizens and society.

**Let's not waste our energy on low ambition but use it wisely to unleash the full potential of a strong EPBD; let's not waste the chance that the EPBD is giving us.**

Brussels, 6 June 2017



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## **Supporting organisations**

### **AIE - The European Association of electrical contractors**

The AIE – the [European Association of electrical contracting companies](#) - represents through its 15 national member associations about 125,500 specialist contracting companies employing about 1,200,000 workers in the EU-countries and beyond. The AIE represents companies from all sizes, the big majors and a majority of small and medium size enterprises. AIE member companies have an in-depth knowledge and high-quality expert skills to carry out all kind of electrical engineering and infrastructure works (high, medium and low voltage). The overall turnover of the AIE member association sector is approximately 137 billion Euros.

### **BEAMA**

[BEAMA](#) is the UK association for the electrical and allied industries. It has a role in maintaining the UK industry and increasingly expanding markets by developing and delivering low carbon and smart solutions. Improving the energy efficiency of all buildings is a key opportunity to deliver on climate change objectives, save consumers and building owners money and deliver growth of our industry.

### **CECAPI**

The objective of [CECAPI](#) is to promote and to develop the collective and common technical, industrial, economic and political interests of the European electrical installation equipment manufacturing industry. The scope of CECAPI covers all the equipment and components for electrical installations for residential and commercial use. It includes but is not limited to components for electrical installations and appliances, such as plugs, sockets, boxes, switches, fuses), cable management systems, home and building electronic systems products, intercom and video-intercom, circuit breakers and residual current devices for residential and commercial use.

### **EHPA**

[EHPA](#) is a Brussels based industry association which aims at promoting awareness and proper deployment of heat pump technology in the European market place for residential, commercial and industrial applications. EHPA provides technical and economic input to European, national and local authorities in legislative, regulatory and energy efficiency matters. All activities are aimed at overcoming market barriers and dissemination of information in order to speed up market development of heat pumps for heating, cooling and hot water production.

### **EPEE - the European Partnership for Energy and the Environment**

[EPEE](#) represents the heating, cooling, refrigeration, air-conditioning and heat pump industry in Europe. Founded in the year 2000, EPEE's membership is composed of 40 member companies, national and international associations. EPEE member companies realise a turnover of over 30 billion Euros, employ more than 200,000 people in Europe and create indirect employment through a vast network of small and medium-sized enterprises such as contractors who install, who service and maintain our equipment. EPEE members have manufacturing sites and research and development facilities across the EU, which innovate for the global market.

### **ESMIG**

[ESMIG](#) is the European voice of smart energy solution providers. Its members provide products, information technology and services solutions for Electricity, Gas, Water or Heat metering, data transfer or and security, display and/or management of energy consumption and generation at consumer premises

### **Eu.bac**

[Eu.bac](#) is the European Building Automation and Controls Association. It represents the major European manufacturers of products and systems for home and building automation. Its vision is a world where energy efficient, sustainable, healthy and comfortable buildings are achieved through the optimal application of home and building controls, automation systems and services.

### **FIEEC**

[FIEEC](#) is the French industry Federation gathering 22 trade associations in the electrical, electronic and digital sectors (consumer, intermediary and equipment goods) It represents 3 000 companies (among which 87% of SMEs and mid-cap companies), 400 000 employees and a turnover of 100 billion euros in France, among which 46% for the export.

### **Gimélec**

[Gimélec](#) is a French trade association representing 182 companies that provide electrical and automation solutions for the energy, building, industrial, data centers and infrastructure markets. Gimélec members employ 68,000 people in France where their turnover amounts over €12 billion - 60% of which comes from exports. Responding to ambitious EU and French energy efficiency and CO2 emission reduction objectives, Gimélec member companies contribute to a sustainable industrial policy by manufacturing products, equipment, systems and solutions to: manage industrial processes in a secure and energy-efficient way, manage the energy performance of buildings, develop smart grids, roll out electric vehicles, connect renewables to the grid, promote resource efficient digital infrastructures.

### **Orgalime**

[Orgalime](#) is the European federation representing the interests at the level of the EU institutions of the European mechanical, electrical, electronic and metal articles industries as a whole. Orgalime's member federations directly or indirectly represent an industry employing over 10.9 million people.

### **SEDC – Smart Energy Demand Coalition**

The [SEDC](#) is the European business association dedicated to making the demand side a smart and interactive part of the energy system. It represents businesses and organisations active along the entire value chain, including technology providers, electricity suppliers, energy service companies, power utilities, consultancies, research institutes and other stakeholders in the field.

### **SERCE – Syndicats des Entreprises de Génie Electrique et Climatique**

The [SERCE](#) is a French trade association, created in 1922 that represents the French electrical engineering and HVAC companies. Its network of 230 companies, from SMEs to global players represents a turnover of approximately Euro 16,9 billion and 135.000 employees.

### **SolarPower Europe**

[SolarPower Europe](#) is a member-led association representing 200 organisations active along the whole value chain. Its aim is to shape the regulatory environment and enhance business opportunities for solar

### **VDMA**

The [Association of Building Automation and Controls Manufacturers](#) within VDMA (Mechanical Engineering Industry Association) represents 55 companies active to enhance energy efficiency and comfort in buildings. VDMA represents 3200 mostly small and medium sized companies making it the largest industry association in Europe. The association represents the shared financial, technical and scientific interests of the engineering industry vis-à-vis national and international authorities and business groups.

### **ZVEI**

The [ZVEI](#) is the German Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers' Association, one of the most important manufacturers' associations in Germany. It represents the interests of a high-tech branch with a very widely varied and extremely dynamic product portfolio. Over 1,600 companies have opted for membership of the ZVEI. They employ around 90 percent of the employees and staff of the electrical industry in Germany. Its members include global players, medium-sized and family-owned companies. The sector has 849,000 employees in Germany plus more than 677,000 employees all over the world. In 2015 the turnover was approximately Euro 178,5 billion.