



Special points of interest:

- The FAS Training Programme in Building Control/ Building Regulations will start on 22nd May 2003 and run for six weeks at the City West Conference Centre, Saggart, Co. Dublin. The programme is aimed at all people involved in the building control area and has proved very useful for staff in both the public and private sectors. Details of this course are available from:

Debbie Glennon

FAS Environmental Training Unit, Baggot Street, Dublin 4.

Tel. (01) 6070995.

Information is also available at: www.fas.ie.

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IBCI Building Control Conference 2003

The Irish Building Control Institute is pleased to announce that its building control conference will take place this year in Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan on the 10th and 11th June. The theme of the conference is ***"Building in Our Changing Climate"***.

The conference will afford an opportunity for those involved in building control throughout the state to consider the effects that climate change will have on the performance of our buildings and the challenges it presents to designers and builders.

The conference will be held over two days in the Nuremore Hotel, Carrickmacross. Lunch and

refreshments will be provided on both days, with the conference dinner on Tuesday evening. A trade exhibition will also be held in conjunction with the conference.

Day 1 will introduce the topic of climate change and emerging weather trends, developments in European legislation, building control in Norway, their experience with performance based regulations and information on high performance insulating materials.

Day 2 will include presentations on recent changes to the building regulations and the Technical Guidance Documents, developing trends in drainage design

through the use of case studies and common defects associated with poor detailing of ventilation, insulation and site drainage.

There will be ample time for discussion and debate.

A distinguished panel of speakers are participating in the conference:

Mr. Noel Ahern T.D., Minister for Housing and Urban Renewal will address the conference on the opening day.

Chris Sanders works with BRE Environment, UK. He is Convener of the CEN Working Groups developing European standards on

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Membership Subscriptions for 2003

It appears that some IBCI members have not yet paid their subscription for 2003.

The subscription is a nominal sum, just €20, but helps to fund the day to day activities of the IBCI. Our thanks

to those of you who have already paid.

To those that have not yet forwarded their payment, a reminder letter has been sent to you by post. Council ask you to forward your payment as possible.

Why not enclose your payment when returning your booking form for the IBCI Conference.

(See page 3 for conference booking form)

IBCI Building Control Conference 2003

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moisture and climatic data and Chairman of the BSI committee revising BS5250. He is involved with the UK Climate Impacts Programme and the BRE programme investigating the effects of climate change on future buildings.

Jay Stuart is a Research Architect with the Energy Research Group at UCD. The Group is currently involved in a number of EU funded projects.

Olav Berge is Director General of Norway's National Office of Building Technology and Administration. He represents Norway on the EU Standing Committee on Construction and the Inter-Jurisdictional Regulatory Collaboration Committee. He is also Vice-chairman of the European Consortium of Building Control.

Joe Beggin is Technical Manager with Kingspan Insulation Division.

Patrick Minogue is a Senior Adviser in the Construction Section of the Department of Environment and Local Government. He is an expert on Part L and Part M of the building regulations.

Noel McKenna is a Lecturer in the Infrastructure and Built Environment Department of Dundalk Institute of Technology. He is also a Chartered Consulting Engineer and Chartered Building Surveyor.

Eamonn McMahon is a Lecturer in the Infrastructure and Built Environment Department of Dundalk Institute of Technology. He is also a Chartered Consulting Engineer.

Conor Taaffe is a Civil Engineer and is Customer Liaison Manager with Homebond.

The cost of attending the conference is €300. A booking form is printed on page 3 of this edition of IBCI News. Booking forms are

also attached to the conference brochure that is being circulated at present. The booking form may be photocopied as required and a separate form should be filled out for each participant. Booking forms should be returned to:

Irish Building Control Institute
P.O. Box 3667,
Ballsbridge,
Dublin 4.

For further information contact:
Tom Johnson , Conference Coordinator.

Tel: (01) 6723468

Fax: (01) 6773829

The conference is the main forum for Building Control in Ireland and it is recommended that all IBCI members and persons involved in Building Control should attend. The content should also be of interest to everyone involved in the design, specification and construction of buildings.

Publication of EU Directive 2002/91/EC on the Energy Performance of Buildings

The EU Directive 2002/91/EC on the energy performance of buildings was published in the Official Journal of the European Communities on 4 January 2003.

The stated objective of the Directive is "*to promote the improvement of the energy performance of buildings within the Community, taking into account outdoor climatic and local conditions, as well as indoor climate requirements and cost-effectiveness*".

The Directive has far-reaching implications for the owners, operators and developers of buildings in the

European Union.

The Directive lays down requirements regarding:

- the general framework for a methodology of calculation of the integrated energy performance of buildings,
- the application of minimum requirements on the energy performance of new buildings,
- the application of minimum requirements for the energy performance of large existing buildings that are subject to major renovation,
- energy certification of buildings, and,

- regular inspection of boilers and air conditioning systems in buildings and, in addition, an assessment of heating installations in which the boiler is more than 15 years old.

The Directive raises major issues that will need to be resolved at national level. Not least of these is the large number of "*independent experts*" that will be needed to meet the Directive's building certification and plant inspection requirements.

This topic will be discussed at the IBCI Conference in June.

IBCI Website

After some initial problems, the IBCI website is finally up and running. At the moment, the site is simple in format, but it is hoped that in time it will evolve into a valuable tool to help the Institute provide

information to members and to the general public.

The website can be viewed at www.i-b-c-i.ie and members are invited to view the site and make suggestions as to

its contents and presentation.

Anyone wishing to make a comment can use the info link to email their contribution to the webmaster.

DOE&LG Redefines Inspection Targets and Revises Statistical Return Form

Earlier this year, the DOE&LG issued a circular letter outlining revisions to the statistical returns that are made by building control authorities twice each year.

The reason given for the changes is to achieve uniformity in the returns from each authority, thereby making the information gathered more relevant and useful to all parties concerned. The DOE&LG requested that the new format be used for the returns for the second half of 2002.

One significant change in the new format is that the inspection targets have now been redefined in terms of the number of buildings covered by valid commencement notices rather than the number of developments as had been the case. This effectively increases the number of inspections required to be carried out to meet the redefined inspection targets. Perhaps by as much as three or four fold.

Some building control officers have expressed concerns about increasing the numbers of inspections required to be carried out without an increase in staff. The worry is that the quality of inspections will suffer at the expense of quantity.

IBCI Conference Booking Form

Name

Job Title

Employer

Address

Telephone

Fax

E-mail

Conference Fee €300

Local Authority Order No.
or

Amount enclosed €

Cheques should be crossed and made payable to:

**Irish Building Control Institute
P.O. Box 3667,
Dublin 4.**

For further information, please contact:

Tom Johnson, Conference Coordinator

Tel (01) 672 3468

Fax (01) 677 3829

Please photocopy as required and fill out a separate form for each participant

Reminder

Have you paid your subscription for 2003?

Council thanks all those who have paid their subscription, but if you've forgotten, please forward it now.

The Irish Building Control Institute



**IBCI
Building Control
Conference
2003**

"Building in Our Changing Climate"

10th and 11th June 2003

**Nuremore Hotel
Carrickmacross,
Co. Monaghan**

**IRISH BUILDING
CONTROL INSTITUTE**



**P.O. Box 3667,
Ballsbridge,
Dublin 4.**

If you would like to contribute an article to the IBCI Newsletter, or comment on anything contained in this issue, please write to:

**IBCI News,
P.O. Box 3667,
Ballsbridge,
Dublin 4.**

Or visit our website at:

www.i-b-c-i.ie

Initiatives for the European Year of People with Disabilities

In this, the European Year of People with Disabilities, the Department of the Environment and Local Government have issued a circular letter to local authorities outlining initiatives that the Minister wants undertaken to ensure that appropriate provision is made for people with disabilities.

The letter asks building control officers to pay special attention to the compliance of non-residential buildings with the requirements of Part M and to implement stricter enforcement in this area.

The letter requests BCO's to dedicate the month of May to this work and to submit a statistical return to the Department covering their progress in June.