



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



To: EU Ministers of the Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council; European Commissioner in charge of Climate Action and Energy; European Parliament's rapporteur in charge of the EPBD

## Open Letter: It is time to enable the transition towards the building stock of tomorrow

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. Ahead of the third informal trilogue on the EPBD recast, we would like to remind of the importance for the EU to take the necessary measures that will both improve buildings' performance and enable the energy transition.

We are convinced that an ambitious revision of the EPBD will not only reduce buildings' energy consumption, which are currently responsible for 40% of EU's final energy demand, but will also enable a more end-user focused, more decarbonised, and more digital energy system.

We therefore call on EU Member States and the European Commission to support the ambitious revision of the EPBD put forward by the European Parliament, with the vote of Bendt Bendtsen's report in the ITRE Committee on 11<sup>th</sup> October. We call on the Council and the Commission to support the following issues:

- 1) **Ambitious long-term renovation strategies with clear milestones to boost the 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) **Mandatory deployment of Building Automation and Control (BAC) systems** in large non-residential buildings, in order to ensure proper maintenance, bring major energy savings, reduce CO2 emissions, improve health of occupants and create thousands of jobs.
- 3) **Promote the new smartness indicator of buildings** to support consumer empowerment, ICT integration, and buildings' ability to interact with the energy system and deliver flexibility.
- 4) **Go beyond energy savings provisions and adopt a holistic view of buildings' involvement in the energy system**, by enabling a proper framework for the deployment of infrastructures (i.e. on-site renewable generation, smart metering, demand-side flexibility and electro-mobility, storage) 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 critical issues must be properly addressed if we want to **make the EPBD recast a success for Europe's climate and energy goals, as well as an opportunity for growth and jobs**. We strongly believe that an ambitious EPBD recast will be beneficial to EU Member States and should therefore be supported. The resulting business potential for European companies, both SMEs and large companies, will benefit European citizens and society. For instance, an ambitious framework on BACs deployment would create between 200.000 and 300.000 direct jobs, and 3.7 million indirect jobs by 2030.

Let's not miss the opportunity offered by the EPBD to bring sustainability and smartness into European buildings. Waiting another ten years is a luxury that our planet cannot afford!

Brussels, 14 December 2017



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Automation + Management  
für Haus + Gebäude

## **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.

### **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.

### **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.

### **smartEn – Smart Energy Europe**

Smart Energy Europe is the association of market players driving digital and decentralised energy solutions. Established with an initial focus on demand-side flexibility, the association has developed into the central platform and influencer for smart energy innovation, with members already providing integrated solutions in the market.

### **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.