



PRESS RELEASE  
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## Energy Performance Certificates: boosting awareness of efficient buildings' benefits. EuroACE and VELUX Quiz the Commission and stakeholders

*As part of the EU Sustainable Energy Week High-Level Policy Conference, EuroACE organises on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2014 a joint event with its member company the VELUX Group, entitled "Quizzing the Stakeholders: Making Energy Efficient Buildings More Visible and Attractive". Emphasis is placed at this year's Quiz event, now a firm fixture in EUSEW, on the potential of Energy Performance Certificates to raise awareness about the multiple benefits and importance of increased energy efficiency in buildings.*

According to the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD – to be reviewed before 2017), Energy Performance Certificates must be issued for all buildings that are rented, leased or sold, and must be displayed in public buildings of over 500m<sup>2</sup>.

***"Buildings are a huge drain on energy consumption in the EU, making EU Energy Dependence Day<sup>1</sup> earlier and earlier every year"*** explains Adrian Joyce, Secretary General of EuroACE. ***"Citizens can see this energy consumption through the Energy Performance Certificates in their homes, in their offices, in their children's schools. We need to raise awareness about this wasteful energy consumption, as this is the first step for taking action to renovate our buildings and release the multiple benefits locked up in our building stock!"***

The Energy Performance Certificate of one building is particularly in the spotlight during EuroACE/VELUX Group's Quiz event: the **Commission's Charlemagne building**. A **giant-size poster** this week on its façade presents **its energy rating** and the **related actions to reduce the energy consumption of Commission buildings** (see [www.renovate-europe.eu](http://www.renovate-europe.eu))

In addition to **improving energy security, reducing energy bills and creating local jobs**, increasing the energy efficiency of the building stock in the EU also has the potential to **release significant health benefits** for EU citizens.

***"Energy efficiency and healthy buildings shall go hand in hand"*** says Ingrid Reumert, Vice-President, Public Affairs & Sustainability, the VELUX Group, speaking at the EUSEW Quiz event. ***"We spend 90% of our time indoors and we know from research that a good indoor climate, daylight and fresh air are essential to our general wellbeing, health, learning abilities and productivity."***

Reumert went on to report on recent findings that shows homeowners are motivated to undertake energy renovations by their wish to have greater comfort and healthier indoor climates. ***"Putting homeowners needs centre stage will trigger energy efficient and high quality renovations. There is a need to create incentives by making attractive legislative framework that integrate energy efficiency and a healthy indoor climate."***

As the Commission and Member States brainstorm around effective ways to drastically reduce the energy dependence of the EU, buildings feature increasingly centre stage, as the **building sector represents the largest energy consuming sector in the EU at 43%**, with an energy savings potential of 61% and 38% in residential and tertiary buildings, respectively, by 2030<sup>2</sup>.

Learn more about the event: [www.euroace.org](http://www.euroace.org)

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<sup>1</sup> Speech by Adrian Joyce at the Athens Informal Ministerial in May 2014 : <http://www.euroace.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=6t2o7alVbo%3d&tabid=40>

<sup>2</sup> Analysis of a European Reference Target System for 2030 (Fraunhofer ISI, October 2013)



### **About EuroACE**

The mission of EuroAce is to work together with the European institutions to help Europe move towards a more efficient use of energy in buildings, thereby contributing to the EU's commitments on carbon emission reductions, job creation and energy security. For further please see <http://www.euroace.org/>

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### **About the VELUX Group**

The VELUX Group creates better living environments with daylight and fresh air through the roof. The VELUX product programme contains a wide range of roof windows and skylights, along with solutions for flat roofs. The Group also supplies many types of decoration and sun screening, roller shutters, installation products and products for remote control. The VELUX Group, which has manufacturing companies in 11 countries and sales companies in just under 40 countries, represents one of the strongest brands in the global building materials sector and its products are sold in most parts of the world. The VELUX Group has about 10,000 employees and is owned by VKR Holding A/S, a limited company wholly owned by foundations and family. For more details, visit [www.velux.com](http://www.velux.com).

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### **VELUX ModelHome 2020**

In 2009, the VELUX Group launched the project ModelHome 2020, a vision for climate-neutral buildings with a high level of livability. It is part of the VELUX strategy to take an active part in developing sustainable buildings – buildings for the future. For further information, see [http://www.velux.com/sustainable\\_living/demonstration\\_buildings](http://www.velux.com/sustainable_living/demonstration_buildings)

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