



Network

News

January 2009

Happy New Year From The AECB

As this is the first network of 2009 on behalf of the AECB Directors I would like to wish you all a very peaceful new year.

I know that the current situation is making it very difficult for many of our membership and it looks as though things won't improve in the near future. At some point it would be interesting to know what specific effects the so called "credit crunch" is having on the green building market.

We have had a busy year developing the widely respected CarbonLite standards and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those of you who have put in a huge amount of time assisting with advice, checking figures and offering support. 2009 looks to be a very interesting year for us and we will be raising our profile at national events and working parties. There will be more courses based on the CarbonLite standards and hopefully other CPD events.

The local groups initiative has grown significantly and is proving very popular, if you would like to form a group in your area please contact Jo Saady who became a Director this year.

We have an exciting development with our 2009 conference being linked with Oxford Brookes University, there is more information below and will be on the web site www.aecb.net shortly.

Also, Eco Build this year will be huge with the AECB having a high visibility there both on the floor and with members giving presentations and running workshops. So if you are planning to come to the show do come and say hello.

Chris Herring

AECB Chair

AECB Annual Conference – Thursday 11th & Friday 12th June 2009 – Oxford Brookes University

We are very excited to be running our 2009 Conference in association with the Oxford Institute for Sustainable Development. We are convinced that their input will hugely inform and widen the debates. We have also confirmed that Wolfgang Feist director of the Passivhaus Institute will be one of the main speakers. We are now planning workshops and debate details but be assured this will be an excellent event. So put the dates in your diary now. On line booking will be available soon. This is a member's only event so if you are not already a member or your membership has lapsed join now.

AECB At Ecobuild 2009 3rd – 5th March – Earls Court

The AECB will be having a high presence at next years Ecobuild. Members will be giving presentations and we will be on stand 1582.

We plan to have a timetabled programme of specialists on the stand to answer questions on a range of subjects. We also want to use the event to promote the work of the AECB and the CarbonLite programme. We will be looking for volunteers to meet and greet the visitors and encourage them to join.

Building Refurbishment And Retrofit

The AECB have long believed that there is need for more information on all aspects of Eco Renovation. This can be a very complex area with every building having its own challenges. It is probably impossible to produce printed information that would cover all building types. So we are looking at ways of sharing information between practitioners. We have set up a new area on the forum, Building Refurbishment and Retrofit (www.aecb.net/forum/index.php?board=70.0) and would encourage you use this board and share information and experiences. It would also be good if anyone undertaking a renovation could blog the project. These could then be listed and act as a resource for future projects. If you know of or find useful blogs let me know and I will collate them and put the info on the forum. Geoff Stow has set up a simple blog on work he is doing on his home <http://insulatetimberwall.blogspot.com/>

Any other ideas you have disseminating information would be welcome. Geoff.biy@homecall.co.uk.

A To Zed Of Sustainability Wins For Dunster

The winners of the third annual RIBA President's Awards for Research were named this week, with Bill Dunster's ZEDfactory securing the prize for 'outstanding professional practice-located research' for The ZEDbook, a project charting ten years of zero energy design from the ground breaking Bedzed development onwards.

The judges described the book as presenting a body of work that has been constantly refined over the years to serve the profession and the cause of sustainability extremely well.

Source RIBA Practice Bulletin No. 470 — 6 November 2008

UK's Eco-Towns Set Tough Standards

Gordon Brown's eco-towns proposal comes under scrutiny once again with the publication of a set of tough standards for them to meet and sustainability assessments of each candidate.

The proposed planning standards include:

- Zero-carbon status for all buildings;
- 70% carbon savings on current building regulations for heating, hot water and lighting;
- Achievement of at least level 4 of Code for Sustainable Homes, which covers waste recycling, construction waste and water efficiency; and
- 40% green space within the development.

However, the controversial plans have already seen some candidates drop out and the new standards will rule out still more. The candidate locations have been graded A, B and C – with A being suitable, B being suitable subject to meeting specific planning and design objectives and C being suitable only with substantial and exceptional innovation.

Of the 12 candidates only one –Rackheath in Norwich – has been given an A grade. All the rest have been graded B, except the Western Otmoor proposal in Oxfordshire, which received a C rating.

The eco-town proposals and standards are now open for comment from local communities until February next year. Following this consultation, the Government will draw up a final shortlist of eco-town sites. The successful candidates will still have to apply for planning permission and go through local planning processes.

For further information go to www.communities.gov.uk/ecotowns and www.directgov.uk/ecotownshaveyoursay

Welsh Businesses Sign Up To Green Building Charter

Wales is pledging to lead the UK in developing low/zero carbon buildings after signing up 43 organisations and businesses to a green building charter. Headed by the Sustainable Development Commission, the Design Commission for Wales and the Welsh Assembly Government, the members of the coalition are committing to support a transition to low/zero carbon construction as quickly as practically possible.

The UK Government has set a deadline of 2016 for all newly constructed homes to be zero carbon, but the Welsh Assembly Government is aiming for a 2011 target of zero carbon for space heating, hot water and lighting in new builds. The charter calls for all new housing funded by the Welsh Assembly or built on its land must meet The Code for Sustainable Homes Level 3 (or Code level 4 as soon as feasible) and non-domestic buildings must be up to the BREEAM excellent standard.

The coalition is also committed to increasing the energy efficiency of existing buildings in Wales in line with the regional government's aim of reducing annual emissions by 3% from 2011 onwards. The Sustainable Development Commission, headed by Jonathon Porritt, says that the move could make Wales an exemplar for the rest of the country.

For further information: <http://new.wales.gov.uk/>

UK Launches £6 Million Fund For Green Living

The UK Government has launched a £6 million Green Living Fund aimed at charitable and voluntary organisations supporting programmes that help individuals and communities live sustainably. The new fund was announced by Environment Secretary Hilary Benn during the launch of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)'s Third Sector Strategy.

The Energy Saving Trust will oversee the initiative, which will open for bids in 2008. Funds will be offered for two years from April 2009 to March 2011. Meanwhile, the Government has also outlined new amendments to its Planning Bill to strengthen its position on climate change and speed up decisions on renewable projects.

The bill aims to streamline the planning system by creating National Policy Statements (NPSs) for infrastructure projects, which will now have a duty to consider sustainability issues.

For further information go to www.defra.gov.uk

Royal Assent For UK Clean Tech Legislation

This week saw formal Royal Assent being given to new UK legislation on energy, climate change and planning aimed at boosting renewables and clean tech. The Climate Change Bill is one of the most ambitious in the world and commits the UK to an 80% cut in carbon emissions by 2050. Meanwhile, the Energy Bill included feed-in tariffs to help boost microgeneration. This week the Chancellor Alistair Darling also announced an extension of the Renewables Obligation, which provides incentives for firms investing in renewable energy projects, to 2037 as part of measures designed to boost the economy.

The final part of the puzzle – planning – is also being tackled with the new legislation, which is designed to provide fair, predictable and timely decisions on major infrastructure such as renewable projects. In coming years, around a third of the UK's electricity generation capacity will become obsolete. However, the current planning process can lead to very long decision times, particularly difficult for large renewable projects.

There is currently enough renewable energy projects stuck in the planning system to provide power for 1.5 million homes (around 2.7 GW). According to Chris Bennett of the National Grid, the new planning legislation will encourage renewables and power companies to engage with the local community sooner to help the passage of planning applications.

The new legislation will create an integrated planning system for major infrastructure so that decisions are made in under a year, says John Healey, the minister responsible for the bill. A speeding up of the process could boost the UK's attractiveness for renewables investment, which has slipped from a ranking of fourth in the world to sixth, according to Ernst & Young.

However, Friends of the Earth says the legislation falls short of what is needed. For further information go to <http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2007-08/planning.html> and www.foe.co.uk/

UK Government Think Tank Urges Action On Energy Usage

An annual MOT test assessing the energy performance of UK households and offices could be on the cards, if the Government takes on board recommendations from its think tank Foresight. According to the think tank's report, Powering Our Lives: Sustainable Energy Management and the Built Environment, urgent action is needed to improve the energy efficiency of existing buildings if the Government is to meet its target of an 80% cut in carbon emissions.

Although the Government has set targets for new homes to be carbon neutral, an estimated 70% of the housing stock in use in 2050 will have been built before 2000. The Foresight report proposes that households and businesses should have to undertake annual energy efficiency assessments like an MOT – with failing properties penalised through higher council taxes or insurance premiums.

Energy saving behaviour could also be encouraged by rolling out smart metering programmes for households and businesses. The report also suggests a move to decentralised energy sources, such as solar hot water panels, combined heat and power systems for blocks of flats, or power plants for city centre or rural communities. Decentralised energy sources sited close to the point of use would reduce transmission losses and improve efficiency, as well as encouraging renewable energy sources.

Housing Minister Margaret Beckett and Energy and Climate Change Secretary Ed Miliband have welcomed the report. The recently passed Climate Change and Energy Bills already include legislation on feed-in tariffs to provide real incentives for microgeneration technologies, he said.

For further information go to www.foresight.gov.uk

Energy Efficient Cement Could Radically Cut Emissions

The cement industry, which currently accounts for 8% of global emissions, could radically reduce its climate impact by implementing energy efficiency measures, according to a report from the World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF). The production of 1 tonne of cement currently leads to emissions of up to 0.95 tonnes of CO₂. The growth in the production and use of cement means that, unless action is taken, CO₂ emissions from the industry could exceed that of the whole of the European Union by 2030.

The report outlines steps that the cement industry, particularly in the developing world where there is large-scale growing demand, could take to cut up to 90% of emissions. There is potential for significant emissions reduction through energy efficiency measures in the production of cement and its more efficient use.

WWF report is calling on the industry to undertake measures including:

- Increasing the thermal efficiency of the kilns used to produce cement of cement;
- Using biomass to fuel kilns;
- Improving the electrical efficiency of cement plants through waste heat recovery systems;

- Increased use of additives and substitutes; and
- Fitting carbon capture and storage technology to larger cement plants.

As well as setting technical standards for the industry, governments of industrialised and developing nations need to establish policy frameworks covering emissions from building materials such as cement, says WWF. China is a good case in point, says Dongmei Chen, director of WWF China's climate change and energy programme. The country is a major user and producer of cement – holding a 20% share of the international market in cement plant technology. Dry kilns, which represent a much more efficient than shaft kiln technology, have grown from 12% of capacity in China in 2000 to 53% in 2005 and should reach over 70% by 2010.

WWF is calling from industrialised nations to lead the way in encouraging companies to implement energy efficiency measures and establishing a regulatory framework.

For further information go to www.panda.org/news_facts/newsroom/press_releases/index.cfm?uNewsID=151422

Water Companies Must Increase Efficiency, Says Ofwat

Water regulator for England and Wales, Ofwat, is calling for water companies to reduce usage by 40% from 2010 through improved efficiency. Average water consumption per head in England and Wales in 2007/8 was 148 litres per day – significantly higher than other European countries such as Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium. If water companies in England and Wales followed the example set Germany, where efficiency drives have reduced water consumption by 15% from 1990-2005, enough water to supply London, Birmingham and Cardiff could be saved.

Ofwat is demanding that water companies help customers save at least 23 million litres per day – an average of just 1 litre per day per property. On top of this, Ofwat is setting water companies targets to reduce leakage from pipes and increase water metering. Companies will be required to give households and businesses tips on using water sensibly and water-saving devices, but they will not be allowed to raise prices to cover the costs.

The Netherlands successfully reduced household water usage by 10% over a ten-year period by encouraging the adoption of devices such as water-saving toilets and shower heads. The country now has an average household usage of just 124 litres per person per day. The move is aimed at helping reach the Government's long-term target of reducing average water usage to 130 litres per person per day.

For further information go to www.ofwat.gov.uk/

Europe Unveils New Plan To Boost Energy Efficiency

The European Commission (EC) has outlined a host of proposals to update its energy strategy, boosting energy efficiency and security in the region, while reducing emissions. The new measures are needed to reduce Europe's reliance on energy imports, which currently make up over half of the region's usage, help address rising prices and ensure that the region meets its 20-20-20 targets, said Commission President José Manuel Barroso.

Europe's 20-20-20 targets aim to achieve 20% improvement in energy efficiency, 20% renewable energy and 20% greenhouse gas emissions reductions by 2020. Energy efficiency is at the forefront of the region's action plans, according to the proposals. The region already has energy efficiency legislation and programmes in operation, but these needed to be ramped up.

Under the new proposals energy efficiency standards that have become the norm for appliances would be applied to other energy-using products in the industrial and commercial sectors such as water pumps and lifts, energy-related items like windows and even car tyres. Buildings, which consume 40% of the region's energy, are singled out for improvement. The scope of existing energy performance certificates will be extended – they will now have to be included in advertising for sale or lease properties, as well as be included in the sale or lease documents.

Under the proposals, all buildings undergoing major renovation will have to meet certain efficiency standards, even those under 1000 m², which had previously been exempt. A major awareness campaign, Build-up, is planned for launch in 2009 to improve knowledge of the potential savings that can be achieved through efficiency measures in the buildings sector.

The efficiency of energy supply is also addressed in the proposals by plans to encourage the uptake of cogeneration combined heat and power (CHP) plants. The proposals also focus on the energy network in Europe, which is coming under increasing scrutiny as the development of renewables accelerates.

Meeting the 20% renewables target by 2020 will require a massive overhaul of Europe's energy network so that it can handle distributed and fluctuating energy generation supply. The costs of updating Europe's electricity network and generation capacity could top €1 trillion, according to EC estimates. To address this issue, the proposals cover five key initiatives including a super grid connecting offshore wind farms in the North Sea and other that provide for grid integration across country borders.

Further information go to http://ec.europa.eu/energy/strategies/2008/2008_11_ser2_en.htm

South West Directory Of Woodland Products And Services

Interested in woodland products and services across the South West? Then take a look at the new online directory of forestry-related businesses and organisations at www.woodland-directory-sw.org.uk. The website contains over 420 listings all readily accessed through user-friendly browse and search facilities. Major categories include timber suppliers and buyers, wood construction, specialist architects and engineers, woodland management, equipment and machinery and training providers.

Other useful services include a free classified ads section for traders, forestry information and guidance, and an events page.

It's free to register, just visit the website and complete the online form. Listings can be continuously updated and expanded to ensure only the latest product information is displayed.

The Directory was produced with funding from ConFor, the Woodland Renaissance Partnership and the Forestry Commission and covers the counties of Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, West of England, Dorset, Wiltshire and Gloucestershire.

British-Made Chair, Using 100% Recycled PlayStation Consoles Launched.

London-based Pli Design Ltd have launched its latest eco-friendly product, a chair made from 100% recycled games consoles. The British manufactured 'Reee chair' has a plastic seat and back made entirely from recycled PlayStation2 computer games consoles. With 100% of the plastic coming from a single source of recycled consumer products, the chair is the first of its kind in the country.

Each chair uses 2.4 kg of recycled plastic and the chair parts are designed to be recycled again and again. Unlike most recycled plastics, which are usually made from a variety of recycled sources, the plastic in the chair is 100% computer games console. The chair is also completely sourced and manufactured in the UK. In an era of increasingly expensive raw materials and growing concerns about the carbon footprints of new products, the chair is a breath of fresh air. Recycled plastic requires a fraction of the energy to produce, compared with 'virgin' plastic that comes straight from the oil barrel. UK-sourced materials and manufacturing means the chair travels a fraction of the distance from factory to customer, compared to a chair made in Asia.

The Reee chair was conceived at the Eden Project in Cornwall where Pli's staff were discussing the possibilities for reusing high-quality plastic from waste electronics products with other manufacturers, including Sony Computer Entertainment, at the annual Eden Project suppliers conference. The idea to produce a quality chair for contract, education and domestic markets was born and Pli brought in Sprout Design, a specialist sustainable design consultancy, to develop the concept into a finished product. With funding from London Remade, the London Development Agency's waste and recycling initiative, Pli developed the original prototype into a production-ready model and the Reee chair went into full-scale production in July.

The Reee chair is on sale at the Eden Project's visitor shop in Cornwall and through selected retailers and contract suppliers across the country.

For more information go to www.plidesign.co.uk

Events

Earth Building UK [EBUK] – University Of Bath – 16th January 2009

The launch of the UK's first national association to support and promote the use of earth construction in the UK

A group of individuals drawn from construction, academia, architecture and engineering are launching a UK network association at University of Bath on 16th January 2009. The association will pool knowledge and experience of building with earth. One of the first objectives of the group will be to ascertain the size of the industry, its annual value and growth to become an effective lobbying body. EBUK has also attracted the country's biggest brick manufacturer Ibstock as a member.

Although the UK has a tradition of earth building, many people in the industry do not realise the recent growth and uptake of this material. Over the past ten years earth as a construction material has begun to appear all over the country in buildings of all types from public [e.g. The Eden Project, Cornwall] and commercial [e.g. River Green Developments, Durham] to private houses. Architects and engineers, university faculties, contractors, researchers and consultants have started to use materials with low carbon footprints to produce a new generation of sustainable buildings. A wide range of different technologies is being used from unfired clay bricks to earth plasters, load bearing structures to humidity controllers and heat sinks – all of which are the territory of earth building. Ibstock and other well known industries have recognised that the rising cost of energy has had an impact on their production and now produce a wide range of unfired products.

The formation of EBUK builds on several recent publications including the 'Rammed Earth Design and Construction Guidelines' and 'Earth masonry - Design and Construction Guidelines' which examine many aspects of designing and building with earth in the UK. Funding by the DTI for such publications shows that this technology is getting serious recognition from more than just the building industry.

For more information please visit: www.bath.ac.uk/ace/ebuk-meeting

No More Hot Air: Reducing Heat Loss From Our Buildings – 11th February 2009, Lewis Media Centre, London.

As energy prices rise and a necessary shift towards greener living continues, this event examines new Government legislation which seeks to reduce the unnecessary loss of heat energy from our homes and buildings. With forty-seven percent of the UK's CO2 emissions created from heat alone, the Department of Business Enterprise & Regulatory Reform (BERR) were prompted to published a Heat Call for Evidence at the start of 2008. This will be followed by a General Heat Strategy due to be published in 2009, by the new Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC).

The UK Government also introduced legislation, in April 2008, requiring energy certificates for all buildings (domestic and non-domestic), in line with the European Directive for the Energy Performance of Buildings (EPBD). These measures, designed to tackle the energy efficiency of buildings, took effect on 1 October 2008. Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) are required when a building is constructed, sold or rented and apply to domestic premises.

This conference hears from experts in the field on how assessments can take place and heat loss from buildings can be reduced, as well as examining the potential for local energy distribution. Find out how your organisation can reduce its energy bills by reducing heat loss and explore your obligations under the new legislation and policy.

For more information go to www.eventsforce.net/heatenergy

Ecobuild 2009, 3 - 5 March 2009 At Earls Court, London

The credit crunch has really hit home but the UK still needs to build new homes and to refurbish its existing stock to high environmental standards. So visit Ecobuild 2009 to find sustainable solutions for all types of build. The Ecobuild website www.ecobuild.co.uk already has details about some of the many free seminars that will be available so check it out and pick the ones you don't want to miss.

And remember, the AECB will be there, promoting our members and highlighting the very successful AECB CarbonLite programme. So come and see us while you're there too.

International Small Wind Conference 2009, 22nd – 23rd April – BRE Watford.

In 2009 the UK will play host to BRE and BWEA's inaugural international conference, for a technology which is seeing unprecedented market growth the world over. Small wind systems are taking off in a big way. Driven by government policy, planning, building regulations, climate change and increasing fossil fuel prices, microgeneration technologies are increasingly becoming an integral part of national, householder or business approaches to energy use and onsite generation.

Two days of seminars, workshops, demonstrations, educational sessions and networking opportunities will bring all constituents of the global sector together with focus given to renewable energy policy, international markets, technology awareness, technical research, and educational issues.

The conference will attract attendance from the international microgeneration industry, national Government, policy makers, the financial sector, the construction sector, academia, the media, as well as consumers and businesses interested in generating their own clean green renewable energy!

To register your interest for ISWC2009 and receive further information, contact Caroline McGill at events@bre.co.uk. Go to www.iswc2009.com/index.jsp for full information.

Care & Repair Annual Conference, Friday 24th April 2009, The Dunblane Hydro Hotel

We are delighted to announce that the Annual Care & Repair Conference and Exhibition 2009 will take place on the 24th April and will once again return to the Dunblane Hydro Hotel. The Conference brings together over 150 Care & Repair staff, Local Authorities, Health Partners and Voluntary Organisations to discuss the current issues around delivering a high quality service to older and disabled householders.

Running alongside the Conference, the Exhibition showcases the very latest products and services in the home healthcare and rehabilitation market from the latest housing maintenance products, mobility products, walking aids, stairlifts and hoists to beds & mattresses, baths and showers and much more. Go to www.bigbrightstar.com for details.

Sustainabilitylive! 2009 – NEC, Birmingham 19-21 May 2009

A great live event is the best way to meet new leads, generate new business and build your market network. For a growing business an exhibition is a must attend and is by far the most rewarding marketing medium currently available to your organisation.

Sustainabilitylive! encompasses 5 industry leading events:

- BEX (Brownfield Expo)
- ET (Environmental Technology)
- IWEX (International Water & Effluent Exhibition)
- NEMEX (National Energy Management Exhibition)
- SB (Sustainable Business - The Event) New

Making the UK's largest gathering of suppliers and buyers tackling the resource and sustainable issues facing UK Companies Today! Go to www.sustainabilitylive.com/ for the latest information and booking.

Greener Homes and Buildings 2009

Following on from the success of 2008, the dates for the new exhibition have been announced.

- Friday 5th June 2009 – Trade and Professional Day
- Saturday 6th June 2009 – Public Day
- Sunday 7th June 2009 – Public Day

The event will be held at the Royal Welsh Showground, Builth Wells in Mid Wales. Full details are at www.ghb.org.uk

Sustainable Innovation 09 – Towards a Low Carbon Innovation Revolution, 26th-27th October 2009

Farnham Castle, Farnham, UK. Organised by: The Centre for Sustainable Design (www.cfsd.org.uk)

Conference Announcement And Call For Papers.

Sustainable Innovation 09 will provide a platform to discuss the future opportunities and challenges related to the design, development and commercialisation of low carbon innovation, technologies, products and services. Sustainable Innovation 09 will include invited and refereed papers from academics, consultants, entrepreneurs, investors, technology providers, designers, sustainability, environment and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) managers as well as other business functions. The event will be a unique learning experience, networking space and an opportunity to think. Delegates will come globally from large companies, entrepreneurs, as well as academia, government and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). The conference is supported by an international Advisory Board.

Sustainable Innovation 09 welcomes conceptual and research-based papers covering sustainable innovation, technology, product and service design and development. Papers focused on low carbon solutions and sustainable innovations are particularly welcomed:

Submission details – conference papers: please email to SI09@ucreative.ac.uk, up to 500 words describing your proposed paper by 2nd March 2009. The paper will then be sent to the Advisory Board for evaluation and authors will be given feedback by the end of April 2009. The highest rated papers will be invited to present at the conference. Please only submit abstracts if you have a budget to attend the conference.

For more information on Sustainable Innovation 09 please contact: Martin Charter, Director, The Centre for Sustainable Design, University for the Creative Arts, UK, phone 01252 892772, email mcharter@ucreative.ac.uk, or visit www.cfsd.org.uk

Courses

The Green Register Courses.

The Green Register is an independent, self-funded organisation whose principal goal is to promote sustainable building practices across all disciplines of the construction industry. This is achieved by providing training and networking events in locations around the UK.

Courses are held across the country and throughout the year. Full information about the courses on offer and the register is available at www.greenregister.org.uk

Publications

Green Building Bible – 4th Edition Published

With Energy Performance Certificates, the Code for Sustainable homes and the new BREEAM standards having been introduced in the last year, the fourth edition of The Green Building Bible continues to be an important reference source.

The new 4th edition comes in two volumes, with Vol 1 taking the reader through the whole sustainability field in a way which allows you to dip in and out according to the varying interests and competence of the readership. Those new to the area will find a structured and interesting guide through the issues, while more experienced practitioners will find a thorough reference source of the goals, current directions and practical solutions to the challenge of low energy and sustainable building. The book is structured as a series of articles by experienced and knowledgeable contributors on a comprehensive range of related topics.

Whether you are an environmentally aware home-owner looking for ways to reduce your personal carbon footprint or a national building company looking to understand current thinking and comply with the latest standards, this book should provide you with or lead you to the information you need.

Starting with the primary facts of 'green' or ecologically aware living and outlining the goals to which we must aspire in order to ensure the healthy futures of ourselves and the planet, the book goes on to outline the trends and directions in the building industry while alerting the reader to the dangers of 'greenwash' solutions. Specific technologies, materials and building methods are outlined in Vol 1 and the more detailed, technical information is in Volume 2.

Available at £9.95 each or £17 for both books, www.greenbuildingbible.co.uk or tel 01559 370798

ACR+ Publishes: Campaign Handbook For The Reduction Of Municipal Waste

In the framework of the 2008 pilot edition of the European Waste Reduction Week, ACR+ is pleased to publish the first edition of its Campaign Handbook for the Reduction of Municipal Waste (in English and in French).

The Handbook results from the work accomplished by the Association and its members since they launched the European Campaign for Waste Reduction in 2007. Its main purpose is to form the cornerstone of an extensive structure that has to be built to promote public action on waste reduction. Primarily intended for those local and regional authorities that are responsible for managing municipal waste, it highlights a series of voluntary actions that could be put forward in this field.

This publication fits into the context of the pilot edition of the European Waste Reduction Week. The pilot edition is taking place from 22 to 30 November 2008 with participants such as: the Brussels-Capital Region, the Grand-Porto Region, the Region of Barcelona, the City of Dublin, the Region of Gipuzkoa, the Walloon Region, North London, the Region of Pamplona (Spain), as well as a large number of French cities in the framework of the French Waste Reduction Week organized by ADEME, and a number of Italian cities under the coordination of Rifiuti 21 Network1.

The Campaign Handbook is available free of charge to all ACR+ Members. It may be bought by other interested stakeholders. The table of contents is accessible to all on the ACR+ website.

See www.acrplus.org/technical-reports

Vacancies

Assistance Needed

Architectural Designer needs experienced architectural/building assistant to work part time in Monmouth, Wales. Interesting work designing new £3.5m local meditation centre and innovative ecological housing in London; Flexible working (full/part days) involving construction system research, detailing, scheduling works, minor works contracts, and generally helping. CAD literacy helpful but not essential, technology savvy and industry experience vital. Will suit building professionals as well as architectural.

Good salary for right person, start immediately, ring Simon Clark 07737 762313 or constructiveindividuals@gmail.com.

If you have any news, events or courses you would like to publicise in Network then please email details to network@aecb.net, or post to Chris Lord-Smith, y Graig, Llidiart-y-Waen, Llanidloes, SY18 6JT.