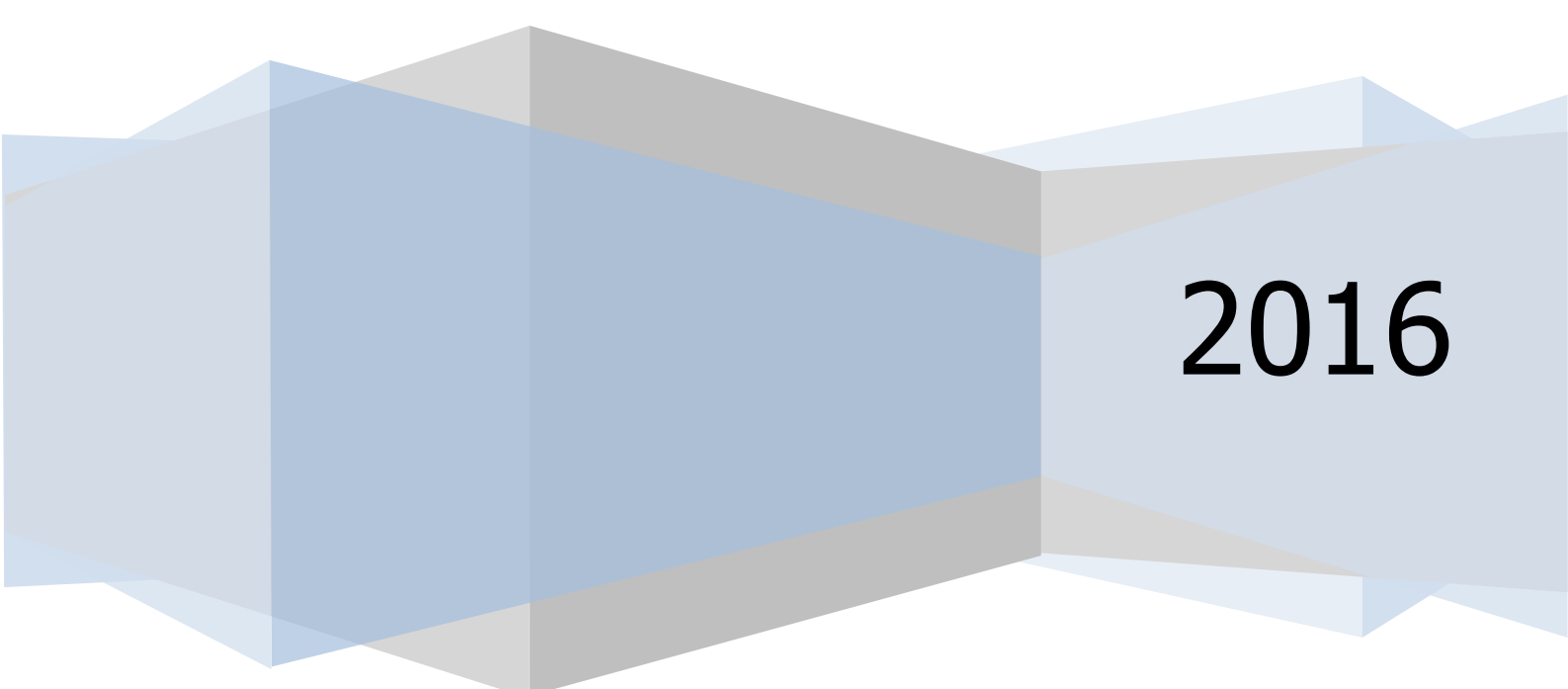




Sustainable Construction Charter

First Annual Report



2016

Sustainable Construction Charter - First Annual Report

Introduction:

EPIC is the Engineered Panels In Construction UK trade association, representing the interests of the PIR industry within the UK.

The PIR industry is part of a much wider community, uniting 240,000 companies and generating an economic value of approximately €207 billion.

EPIC are active members of various European and UK standards committees concentrating both on the technical aspects of PIR panels, as well as the wider environmental & sustainability issues.



Panels in use - Picture 1

This publication is the first in a series of annual reports, serving to summarise the agreed objectives, metrics & targets of the EPIC Sustainability Charter.

Subsequent reports will detail performance, and offer benchmarking criteria and methodology. However, this initial report effectively sets the scene and establishes the base criteria for onward measurement.

EPIC has a key role to play in the development of sustainable construction strategies, as its member companies supply a range of energy efficient products to the UK construction industry.

Indeed, PIR insulated panels are designed using one of the highest performing and most efficient insulations, uniquely contributing to the energy efficiency of the building envelope and considerably reducing carbon emissions

from heating/cooling during a building's in-use cycle.



Panels in use - Picture 2

EPIC have therefore developed the Sustainable Construction Charter (SCC) in cooperation with stakeholders to both develop and promote its continued progress in this critical area.

During the development of the charter, the EPIC members recognised that sustainability is a key function of modern building design and construction, and as such have developed 7 core commitments that go beyond current regulations.

All EPIC 'Producer Members' have formally committed to incorporate these principles into their normal business and working practices.

Furthermore, by signing the Charter declaration, companies are also then committing to pass a performance audit. This has been designed to ensure that signatory companies are complying with the charter and taking actions to improve their overall sustainability performance.

The table below summarises the 7 key commitments that all EPIC member companies have signed-up to, and also indicates the appropriate metrics and measures that will be applied against each.

Where appropriate, interim/initial targets have been indicated. However, more in-depth targets will be set following collation of the first years' data.

Charter commitments, metrics & targets:



EPIC members are committed to participating fully and contributing towards Government 2020 & 2030 climate change targets established by the Department of Energy & Climate Change of an 80% reduction in carbon emissions by 2050 based on 1990 levels, with the recent carbon budget target set at 34% reduction by 2020 based on 1990 levels.

Commitment	Metric	Initial/Interim Targets
Annual reporting on carbon & sustainability performance, with companies having active management systems and processes in place to monitor, control and reduce: • Energy & natural resource use • Waste to landfill • Transport impacts and associated carbon emissions	Annual reporting procedures to be established, with associated metrics, targets and methodology to reduce: • Production kWh & kgCO₂ • Production kg waste • kgCO₂ transport emissions	First EPIC report to be published as an interim document in 2016, detailing the metrics to be used year on year, linking to wider Government targets
Undertaking studies/technical reports and developing products that improve the quality & sustainability of the built environment	Number of technical reports undertaken & summary of product development	Provide an historical summary of work undertaken to date within the 2016 report
Maintaining relevant targets and aspirations, linked to wider industry & Government objectives	Establish metrics & targets and maintain awareness and link as matters develop	Indicate the agreed metrics within the 2016 report in terms of waste, water, production kWh & CO ₂ , and transport CO ₂
Hold 'UKAS' BS EN ISO 9001 certification, and as a minimum be working towards 'UKAS' 14001 certification	Number of production facilities holding 'UKAS' BS EN ISO 9001 & BS EN ISO 14001 certification	Target 100% certification
Participate in and contribute towards the EPIC 'Annual sustainability report'	Companies to supply annual data to EPIC by February for the previous calendar year	2016 report to detail metrics and targets where appropriate, with second report in 2017
Undertaking effective local community liaison activities	Number of local community activities, sponsorship arrangements and events within the calendar year	Summarise historical activities/events within 2016 report
Submit to a robust auditing process	100% compliance with audit criteria	Summarise the agreed auditing activities

Table 1 - Commitments, metrics & targets summary

EPIC milestones:

EPIC was established in 1991 to represent the PIR rigid urethane insulated panel industry in the UK, providing up-to-date technical information and regulatory guidance for specifiers and building specialists.

EPIC is now the main dissemination service for all issues relating to insulated panels used in construction, and we continue to work closely with all stakeholder groups to ascertain their needs and provide solutions moving forwards. Given below is a summary of progression of the association since its incorporation as a not-for-profit organisation in 1991:

Year	Milestone
1991	EPIC formed by the UK Insulated Panel Manufacturers to inform architects, contractors and building users about the practical and performance benefits of using insulated panels
1992 to 1996	First EPIC guides on the performance and detailing of insulated panels. National conferences and feature articles to increase the awareness of the benefits of using Insulated Panels
1997	On behalf of the UK, EPIC takes the Chair and secretariat of the CEN committee to prepare a European Standard for Sandwich Panels
1997 to 1998	EPIC commissions Europe's largest fire test programme on the performance of Insulated Panels in fire - Management by Arup Fire: tests by Warrington Fire Research
1999 to 2002	Presentations to Insurance Companies and Fire Services on the results of the fire tests and the performance of insulated panels in fire
2000	Introduction of zero ODP panels by EPIC Members
2002	First major EPIC Guide on the Amendments to the Building Regulations - AD-L2 and Technical Standards (Scotland)
2002	Major EPIC Guide on Fire Safety, Specification and Insulation (2002)
2004	All panels manufactured by EPIC Members now both zero ODP and LPCB/FM certificated
2005	EPIC Guide on the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order (2005) and Insulated Panels
2006	Completion and publication of European Standard EN 14509 - Sandwich Panels under EPIC Chairmanship
2009	EPIC Guide on the Identification and Disposal of Insulated Panels
2011	EPIC Guide to the Fire Safety and Performance of Insulated Panels in Fire - major update and revision
2012	Completion of First Revision of European Standard EN 14509 - Sandwich Panels under EPIC Chairmanship
2013	All EPIC members adopt electronic CE Marking in accordance with the Construction Products Regulation (CPR)
2014	EPIC guide (4 th edition) published on Conservation of Fuel and Power Buildings Regulations 2013/14, updated from previously publications in 2002, 2007 & 2011)
2015	EPIC guide published on Energy Conservation Regulations 2014 (Revised for Scottish regulations, section 6)
2016	Sustainable Construction Charter launched

Table 2 - Milestones

The journey so far:

The Sustainable Construction Charter (SCC), launched in January 2016 after consultation with stakeholder groups and member companies, is the latest development project in EPIC's sustainability journey.



Panels in use - Picture 3

EPIC members were extremely keen to participate and to also demonstrate their existing progress and undertakings, both in terms of product specification/performance and production controls.

Insulated panel performance is second to none in terms of energy conservation and its positive impact on carbon emissions from in-use buildings.

Indeed, the PIR Panel production processes have seen massive reductions in carbon emissions (i.e. embodied carbon), with energy consumption (kWh/m²) falling dramatically over recent years due to more energy efficient processes being adopted by EPIC members. This directly correlates to kgCO₂/m² reductions over the same period.

The exacting information is being collated as we speak and will be presented in the second annual report in 2017.

Similarly, performance in terms of water use, waste to landfill and transport emissions will also now be reported, with the following metrics having been established:

- kWh & kgCO₂ per production unit
- kg waste per production unit
- kgCO₂ transport emissions

EPIC member companies have sought to achieve the highest levels of quality and environmental certification, with all current producers/manufacturers holding UKAS accredited BS EN ISO 9001 & BS EN ISO 14001 certification.

The EPIC Charter requires members to maintain this level of certification and to comply with the revised 2015 standards as they become available.

As part of the requirements of BS EN ISO 14001, members actively record any environmental issues arising both internally and from external sources. In addition, member companies also engage with the local community, and with stakeholders that may be affected by their operations.

One example of this was when more than 30 volunteers from Kingspan Panels swapped their usual Friday at work for a day giving back to the community as part of Business in the Community's 'Give & Gain Day', during which St. Winefride's Catholic Primary School in Holywell, UK had their 'Forest School' area revamped. After months of planning, volunteers from Kingspan created the outdoor learning environment in the playground in just one day, which included a bird viewing station, a playground map of the world, raised beds, a new sand pit, blackboards and an upgrade to the seating areas, all greatly benefiting the 152 pupils in attendance at the school.



Kingspan project - Picture 4

Kingspan has also worked together with Cross Cause to help relieve the plight of the less fortunate in Romania and Eastern Europe. Kingspan provided insulated panels to roof all the buildings that provide residence, education, therapy and medical care at the Cross Cause centres.



The next steps:

We are actively collating data and have already undertaken the initial EPIC SCC audits to ensure that all members comply with the requirements of the Charter.

Our next step in the sustainability journey is to establish baseline levels, benchmarking criteria and methodologies for improvement.

This will be summarised further within the 2017 SCC report to follow...

Members List:

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