

CEN SECTOR FORUM GAS INFRASTRUCTURE  
NEWSLETTER



December 2009

Dear Members,

I am pleased to send you this annual Newsletter to keep you informed of some developments in our fields of activities.

And of course MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEWYEAR!

Yours sincerely

F. Dupin  
Secretary to CEN/SFG\_I

*P.S.: available in CEN/Livelink*

Note: Regarding the TCs, see reports (TC secretariats, CEN website).

### **SFG\_I: Working Groups**

#### WG CO<sub>2</sub> Emission Trading

A first draft for a guidance document has been circulated to the SFG\_I and Marcogaz members for comments which are very expected as far as the next meeting devoted to the finalisation is due to take place already in January. Further efforts are currently undertaken to contact the incumbent services of the Commission just at times of the revision of the Emission Trading Directive so that it becomes aware of the practical corrections/improvements that may be suggested.

The document has the double objective of evincing on one hand the skew situation in the EU countries in terms of equivalent measurements/calculations and making a proposal for a European range of limit values (frequency, accuracy). The latter is ambitious and prone to regulatory difficulties, given the legal national provisions in some Member States. Nevertheless it can be already assumed that this SFG\_I guide will hit the target and the WG experts are thanked for their contribution.

#### WG Energy Efficiency

This group has not yet been convened although the matter is continuously gathering momentum amid new and extensive regulations in this area. The "Zero Energy Buildings" objective will heavily impact on the distribution networks with regard to dimensioning and planning. In the same package the future of gas appliances in the domestic and commercial field is at stake and it should be remembered that they represent the principal share of gas consumption.

Therefore a first meeting around spring is to be scheduled, for which an agenda outlining scope and goals of the WG will be prepared so that experts of both, SFG\_I and SFG\_U experts, feel concerned and willing to bring a contribution. As an example the link between the product standards (e.g. boilers) and those of the building system (e.g. regulation) is to be established and then implications for the DSO. Moreover the general standards on energy management and services could be implemented in a gas-specific way by means either of guidance documents or annexes to the standards.

Aforesaid statements are just miscellaneous thoughts to be confirmed and completed the first time the experts will come together.

### **CEN Environment Advisory Committee SABE**

The EHD presentation has displayed the wide achievements of the environmental training for all tools (e.g. sessions, e-learning, downloads) as well as the objectives for 2010, along with a new programme featuring tailored workshops. It was good news that some experts from the gas sector have been participating in such sessions, recalling in this context that the SFG\_I guide has been a prime example in the CEN website.

The geological storage of carbon dioxide is obviously set to surface in the EU regulatory framework as exemplified by a directive adopted by the Council (3739/08; 8036/09 ADD 1) which lays down the conditions for the assessment of storage sites and the monitoring by the operators. Time will certainly come for TC 234 to reflect whether it might be a specific technology for natural gas and consequently a need for envisaging any action (see also below SFEM).

## Sector Forum Energy Management (SFEM)

The plenary meeting of June 2009 had been introduced by a presentation of DG TREN on environmental sustainability. There was a striking statement that the criteria set out by the Commission were becoming ever more stringent as the rise of energy saving was due to increase from 35% to 50% by 2017. The Member States were requested to their national Action Plan in accordance with a common template to ensure a harmonised implementation.

A further topic was the certificates "Guarantee of Origin" which would impose an informative notice for the consumer on the composition of the energy mix.

Progresses on all these issues were reported at the December meeting while new ones emerged.

Regarding the Task Force TF 189, to become a Joint Group CEN/CENELEC, to note:

— TF 189/WG "Terminology" has now completed its glossary for a first inquiry among the SFEM members to collect the comments which will be then discussed; the finalization of the document will ensue from them; it should be the basis for an ISO group due to start in January 2010.

— TF 189/ PT "EES" has worked out a first draft prEN 15900 laying down definitions and requirements for energy services. They will be performed by specialized companies in the form of advices to the customers who may be individuals or a building responsible or an industrial plant manufacturer. The crucial choice is related then to the type of energy (e.g. electricity or gas) while the vexed question would be whether an objective assessment takes place, free from any lobby influence. The procedure is run by means of energy audits, the activities of which are also subject to a normative document.

A set of 3 documents are now on the way of adoption:

- EN 16001 (Energy Management Systems) to come under the equivalent ISO 50001,
- EN 15900 (Energy Efficiency Services),
- CEN deliverable on Energy Audits to come.

A gas-specific implementation of them might be appropriate and both, SFG\_U and SFG\_I, will be approached in the view of a possible common WG.

Smart Metering is henceforth a matter having high topicality in the media and looming large with the national Regulators until the new created European Agency comes into full working capacity. A CEN/CENELEC committee, under the chairmanship of Marcogaz, has been set up, bundling the expertises (e.g. TC 237 and Marcogaz on the gas side) and avoiding so a scattering of the activities in numerous groups possibly generating discrepancies.

Finally to mention, what may have been the "breaking news" at this last SFEM meeting, is CO<sub>2</sub> capture for which TC 234 has been asked to consider a leading role. This item has been namely upgraded to the highest level in the priorities list of the forum. Eventually members and secretariat will have to think deeply over it as to whether it is belonging to the scope and set out some points of argumentation, irrespective of the decision taken.

## CEN Mandate "Gas Quality" M/400

Under the umbrella of BT/WG 197, in charge of mandate M/400, the activities towards a "unique" gas quality, it means an agreed Wobbe-Index range, are at the stage of the testing programme (1<sup>st</sup> phase) aimed at identifying the critical point in terms of safe operating of the selected appliance types. Evaluation and comparison of the test results, co-ordination of the work packages (WPs) and interim reports are the pillars of this huge task.

## **Construction Product Directive (CPD) and Gas Appliance Directive (GAD)**

DG Enterprise fortunately seems to concede that the position of the gas industry excluding valves and hoses as defined in the TC 236 standards from the CPD mandate M/131 is based on a sound argumentation. Support comes from the extension of the GAD scope to the components so that the gas risks will be covered. To move the harmonisation of the standards from one directive to another, independently from the rules to follow, might take time, at least until the revised GAD be published.

## **SFGas Utilisation**

Apart of the above mentioned issue of energy efficiency, emissions are of course subject to some works in terms of calculation and measurements at appliances. The basic documents TR 1404, dating back to 1994, is being revised and updated, in first place as a methodology referred to in the Ecodesign/Labelling directive and more generally as a flagship of the gas industry eager to bring the best contribution to reducing the GHG impact.

TC 238 has completed the revision of EN 437, the standard devoted to testing appliances, thus guaranteeing their safe operating, and not least considered a principal tool of the first phase of mandate M/400. It has been notably extended to the countries recently having entered the EU.

## **Marcogaz European Forum Gas (EFG)**

Madrid (June 2009) has been a real challenge for the Spanish colleagues (SEDIGAS) who had to consider the date having been put forward to avoid an overloaded autumn (IGU and national conferences). They succeeded in offering adequate facilities, accommodation and conference centre being all in the vicinity of the airport. As usual the topics have addressed all current matters in the field of utilisation, supply and research and large room given to the podium discussion subsequently to the contributions.

SFG\_I members are invited to have a look at the presentations (Marcogaz Website - [www.marcogaz.org](http://www.marcogaz.org)).

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