

# [ CT2 – Inspections ]



Warsaw, 10-11 December 2007 | Lyon, 19-20 May 2008 | Prague, 1-2 December 2008 |

Berlin, 15-16 June 2009 | Amsterdam, 21-22 January 2010

## Summary

The range of topics for the Inspections core theme in the period from December 2007 until January 2009 covered:

- Exchange of experiences on boiler inspections and the Article 8 Option B (campaigns);
- the impact of regular inspections of boilers;
- considerations on a harmonised European profile for boiler inspectors;
- ways and means to further motivate users to improve their old heating systems;
- methodologies for AC inspections, including support from the HARMONAC SAVE project, profiting from the large amount of experimental data collected and analysed therein;
- combining EPBD inspections with safety and CFC regulations;
- training for boilers and AC inspectors;
- discussion and analysis of EN standards;
- Improvement of inspection schemes, including the potential for interaction between building certification and inspections.



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Action II ◀

## [ CT2 – Certification ]

### Lessons learned

The lessons learnt, during the period December 2007 until January 2009, can be summarised as follows:

- Many MS are still at an early stage in the implementation of their inspection approach, in relation to AC systems especially.
- The future of inspections seems to take a “third” route, combining options A and B of Article 8 of the EPBD, as many Member States have opted for a mixture of inspection and information to users.
- The main difference between Member States’ approaches lies in the mandatory or voluntary approach (but the mandatory approach is often more connected to safety, CFC, regular maintenance, or logbook record keeping).
- Communication campaigns are no longer implemented in a conventional manner, but combined with e.g. the promotion of voluntary inspections, the use of check-up lists aimed at giving advice to end users, the offer of small incentives, etc.
- Differences among MS on inspection schemes, methodologies, type of systems (heating and AC), and training for inspectors are still significant. The harmonisation in training for inspectors implies a harmonisation of the content of the inspection report and its recommendations, and the grades of inspection schemes (pre-audit, inspection, audit, advice).

### Important recommendations

Important recommendations are already detected:

- A database on inspected boiler and AC performance and a quality control system on inspection reports is seen as vital.
- The content of the inspection report should be more addressed to the non-technical final recipient. Seasonal thermal efficiency and system efficiencies could be a more useful parameter to report, and benchmarking with respect to the most efficient technologies of great use. Low-cost improvements should be a priority.
- An interaction with certification seems both valuable and feasible (producing the inspection report and certification together, using certification information during the inspection and vice versa).
- Inspections on site should represent for A/C the last step in the framework of the so called “graded inspection” scheme (pre-audit, audit, inspection on site), expected to reach a higher level of cost-effectiveness.
- Maintenance data obtained from service personnel are useful and probably reliable enough for a pre-inspection phase. Energy consumption data could be used for benchmarking, both for boilers and A/C.
- A harmonised profile for boiler inspectors will be probably feasible over a relatively short period, but, until this harmonisation is reached, a possible gradual approach is to favour exchanges between countries having similar approaches, facilitating the possible exchange of experts.

For more detailed information, see the [extended summary](#) report on this topic (soon to be available)