



How can Hungary fulfil the directives of the European Union?

Building engineering and the New Széchenyi Plan

The European Union is placing primary importance on energy efficiency, and as a consequence the requirements of the building energetic have become more strict. Regarding the directives, all public buildings will become low energy buildings by 2018, and all new buildings must be nearly zero energy buildings by 2020. The decreasing energy consumption of the buildings and the increasing use of renewable energy - sun, wind, earth heat - is the goal of these regulations. Therefore the number of the energy efficient building renovations and the market of the renewable energies has an opportunity to increase in the future.

The status of Hungarian buildings is much lower than EU-standards, which is why their transformation and modernization means huge potential for the energetic service sector. Nowadays we use 40% of our whole energy consumption in buildings (one third of this amount is non-residential buildings - industries, schools, hospitals etc.) and two third is caused by heating and cooling. The heating of the buildings is the biggest CO2 emission factor.

The importance of the buildings' energetic modernization bolsters up the fact that in this sector, energy-saving can be reached in the most cost-effective way. The European Union focuses on the energy management in buildings, because this is the field in which climate-saving targets can be reached most efficiently.

In 2011, the government plans as part of the New Széchenyi Plan to create a comprehensive building energy program aimed at the modernization of energy in buildings, energy efficiency and renewable energy sources. The proposed programs wish to integrate into a unified framework the energy efficient development of renewable energy use in buildings, energy-efficient renovation, and new construction of the residential, public and other buildings. The complex energy program for buildings consists of several elements: subsidies standards, regulations and the awareness of complex knowledge-transmission.

The New Széchenyi Plan provides a good opportunity for the development of the sector, since new projects mean significantly more orders for enterprises. The investment is expected to place high demands on workforce, which effects employment in a beneficial way.

In relation to the prescribed EU goals, the CEP Clean Energy & Passive House Expo will take place for the third time in Budapest, focusing on energy efficient buildings and renovation, zero-energy and passive houses, energy consultancy, building automation, engineering and facility management. The exhibition and the parallel conferences have been part of the sustainable architecture. The event will be organized from the 19th -20th of October, 2011 in the Material Event Center, with the basic concept of "Construction and interior design all in one place", everything that may be required from the basement up to the roof of a building.

For further information: www.cep-expo.hu

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