POSITION PAPER

Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) review

CEIR voting recommendations

for the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

Brussels, 9 August 2017

CEIR calls for the support of Members of the European Parliament to make energy efficiency a reality with benefits for all European citizens and the environment.

To this end, the EPBD should encourage the installation of thermostatic radiator valves and hydronic balancing in buildings.

Consequently, in view of the vote in the ENVI Committee on the draft Opinion Report of Rapporteur A. Jäätteenmäki, CEIR asks you to support amendments 92, 213 and 288.

CEIR – the European Association for the Taps and Valves Industry – gathers together a large number of European manufacturers of sanitary, building and industrial valves.

Buildings are responsible for 40% of energy consumption in the EU and space heating constitutes the largest share of energy consumption in the residential sector: 78% of total final energy use.

CEIR fully supports the EPBD objective to reduce the energy consumption of buildings. To achieve this objective, we firmly believe that thermostatic control valves should be further exploited.

The systematic use of thermostatic control valves will result in substantial energy savings. This will reduce energy costs for citizens and contribute to achieving the EU energy efficiency target. Indeed, the systematic replacement of simple valves leads to a reduction of 13%-19% of energy dedicated to heating.

In addition, CEIR strongly supports mandatory hydronic balancing of newly installed or replaced heating systems. Furthermore, hydronic balancing of existing heating systems should be further incentivised.

Hydronic balancing is essential to ensure the energy efficiency of a building and also the comfort of its occupants. The installation of balancing valves results in the appropriate temperature in each part of a building in a cost-effective manner.

In fact, the correct energy balance of a building is a prerequisite for the correct operation of its thermostatic valves. Without balancing valves, some radiators receive an excessively high flow of heat, while others are insufficiently supplied. This results in a substantial waste of energy, thus decreasing the expected energy performance of the building. It also overloads the generator that is forced to work for longer periods, resulting in wear and tear and possibly failures of the heating system.

Furthermore, the costs related to hydronic balancing in a building and the installation of balancing valves are quickly recovered thanks to significant energy savings. While costs are estimated at between €2,000 to €4,000, energy savings are estimated to be from 15% to over 20%. Therefore, the payback period of such costs is estimated at less than 6 months.

Finally, hydronic balancing and installation of balancing valves can also lead to significant energy savings in non-residential buildings in the tertiary sector, such as public offices, hotels, restaurants and shops.

About CEIR

The European Association for the Taps and Valves Industry (CEIR) was formed in 1959 as the European federation of national manufacturer associations. CEIR gathers together a large number of European manufacturers in the field of valves and fittings. CEIR is composed of 13 national associations and 13 European corporate members: CEIR represents over 350 taps and valves manufacturers. CEIR supports the principles of a free economy and private enterprise in Europe as well as on a global basis. CEIR represents the common economic, technical and scientific interests of the European valve industries, towards international authorities and in economic and commercial circles.

Transparency Register ID no: 54018122087-6

Contact persons:

Alessandro Maggioni
Thermostatic Radiator Valves WG Secretary
Email: maggioni@anima.it

Anne Claire Rasselet
CEIR Secretary General
Email: anne-claire.rasselet@orgalime.org