

EVIA presents the Ventilation Performance Assessment Tool (VPAT) at ISH

Yves Lambert, lead of the EVIA Task Force on the Ventilation Performance Assessment Tool (VPAT) was pleased to present for the first time to the public EVIA's Ventilation Performance Assessment Tool (VPAT) during ISH, the world's leading trade fair for HVAC + Water, in Frankfurt, in Germany.

This presentation is the result of an eight-year project in collaboration with EVIA members, the consultant VHK and the University of Ghent.

Initially, Mr. Lamberts stated that the project idea came up from the realisation that benefits of ventilation systems are still little known and that Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) levels can be far from adequate and large differences in ventilation performance between systems and dwellings exist. The COVID-19 pandemic and the current energy crisis show the importance of good indoor air quality and the low energy consumption that ventilation systems offer. IAQ is now even more relevant as buildings are converted to airtight and zero energy consuming constructions.

Therefore, EVIA-members decided to develop a Ventilation Performance Assessment Tool (VPAT) to compare the various ventilation systems and create an "Indoor Air Performance label". EVIA chose to base the ranking on EU standards, so that the ranking results relate to an EU-wide acknowledged benchmark for ventilation performance.

Mr. Lambert explained that the resulting label is meant to inform the consumer on the ventilation performance, a concept which can be defined as "the ability of a ventilation system to exchange the right amount of air in the right place at the right time". To ensure a solid scientific base for calculations, promote and disseminate ventilation performance as the key feature of residential ventilation systems, an assessment method for determining the actual ventilation performance of Residential Ventilation Units was made with the support of the consultant VHK and the University of Ghent.

EVIA members will now have the possibility to use this VPAT label which will determine to which extent the ventilation system can remove and/or dilute pollutant concentrations in various rooms, both during absence and mainly during presence when exposure occurs.

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About EVIA

The European Ventilation Industry Association (EVIA) was established in Brussels in July 2010 to represent the views and interests of the ventilation industry and promote energy efficient ventilation applications as well as an adequate indoor air quality in buildings. EVIA has 48 member companies and 6 national associations across Europe, representing an annual turnover of over 7 billion Euros and employing more than 45,000 people in Europe.

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