



# connection

ISSUE 2000 **3**

INFORMATION BULLETIN FOR HUNTSMAN POLYURETHANES RIGID FOAM CUSTOMERS

## FROM THE EDITOR

*The need for better communication between architects and manufacturers, as well as other key influencers, is critical in the future development of the international market for composite panels. Our lead story in this issue of connection will focus on the long-awaited launch of a unique reference book, "Die Sandwichbauweise", aimed at addressing this issue. We will also provide you with an update of the latest study on cost-effectiveness in building. You may recall that in connection 1 1999, we looked at a new industry project group, EuroACE, whose aim was to raise the profile of building energy efficiency. In a follow-up to this, we discuss the results of a second study undertaken by the group to examine the cost-effectiveness of building measures. For further information regarding any of the topics covered in this issue, please speak to your commercial/technical contact at Huntsman Polyurethanes.*  
Regards,

Werner Van Peteghem - Marketing Executive

## LAUNCH OF REFERENCE BOOK

Summer 2000 sees the launch of a new reference book on architecture, the first of its kind in the world!

"Die Sandwichbauweise" is an initiative by Huntsman Polyurethanes, aimed at providing more comprehensive information on the European composite panel market and its use in construction and design. Composite panels in architecture - two metal sheets with a rigid polyurethane foam core - have seen remarkable growth over recent years, as it is an energy-saving building technique which enables light, flexible and creative design and construction. Yet, no such book has been available until now.

The launch of "Die Sandwichbauweise" has been greatly welcomed by industry, and is viewed as a major stepping stone in bringing together key influencers and helping them to better understand one another's requirements. Huntsman Polyurethanes conceived the idea of the book following a survey amongst architects, which revealed a lack of knowledge about composite panels and a desire for more comprehensive information to be readily available.

Written by Rolf Koschade, with input from eight of the foremost European composite panel manufacturers and some of the leading experts in this field, "Die Sandwichbauweise" is a complete reference tool for all those involved in building with composite panels, from architects to designers and building engineers.

The book will be launched on 20th July during a press conference in the spectacular setting of the Bauhaus-Archiv Museum of Design, Berlin. In his foreword of the book, Mr. V. Sgoutas, president of UIA (International Union of Architects), states:

"This publication highlights different applications of composite panels. It is obvious that the use of composite panels acquires a totally different dimension when it is combined with the creative flair of the specific architects whose works we see presented. The UIA salutes the initiative to publish this book. We feel certain that it will lead to a greater appreciation of composite panels and the materials that constitute them. It will thus not only be a book on architecture but also a reference book, in short a useful tool for fulfilling future briefs."



Also at the event will be a video reportage, in which three prominent architects will talk about the buildings that they have created in Europe using composite panels. One such building is the impressive technical college in Jurançon, France, which is also pictured on the cover of the book.

The book, which has involved almost three years of research, is an enormous achievement for the polyurethane industry. It is comprised of approximately 400 pages, of which 40 per cent are in the form of high quality images, drawings and graphics, and includes a special chapter showing 75 European buildings with information about the architect and the building.

Whilst Huntsman Polyurethanes has been the major driving force behind this book and provided most of the financing, it is a stand-alone publication which shows no signs of partiality. "Die Sandwichbauweise" provides unbiased, in-depth information on a wide range of topics, the contents of which are summarised below:

- Scientific aspects of building with composite panels
- Base principles of the composite panels building technique
- System components
- Manufacturing
- Materials
- Planning and construction
- Engineering
- Applications and design examples
- Ecology
- Construction physics
- Regulations, legislation, European harmonisation
- Reference list images
- Literature index

Published in German by Verlag Ernst and Sohn, the book is priced at 198 DM (101,2€). The ISBN number is 3-433-01554-6. An English-language version, published by John Wiley and Sons, is expected to be on sale by the end of the year, for which a separate press conference will be organised.

The reference book on building with composite panels is firmly addressing an urgent need expressed by key influencers in the value chain like architects, designers and building engineers, to bridge over the communications gap. This initiative, as well as the formation of regional marketing alliances like 'EPIC – Engineered Panels in Construction' (UK) and 'Galileo – Kreatives Bauen mit Sandwich™' (Germany), forms part of Huntsman Polyurethanes strategy to work in partnership with the industry.

## EUROACE

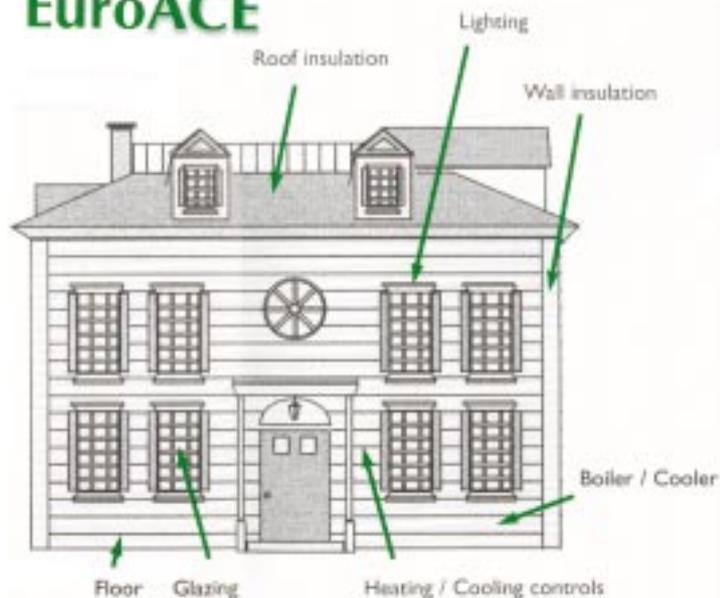
New industry group EuroACE – The European Alliance of Companies for Energy Efficiency in Buildings – has just completed its second study to assess the potential for the saving of carbon dioxide emissions in European building stock.

You will remember that the first study – undertaken by management consultants CALEB – concluded that the European Commission's estimates for potential savings of 20 – 25 per cent of current building energy consumption were realistic and called for an energy efficiency programme to begin in 2000. The Commission acknowledged that such a programme was possible but, in discussion with EuroACE, asked for further guidance regarding the relative cost-effectiveness.

The aim of the second study, CALEB 2, therefore, was to

examine the cost implications of energy efficiency measures in the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions from the building stock. The investment and the lifetime costs and savings per tonne of CO<sub>2</sub> saved annually were compared with a range of alternative carbon saving measures. These included comparisons with a variety of non-fossil fuel electricity generating options, different types of combined heat and power (CHP), fuel switching and motor vehicle efficiency.

## EuroACE



The study concluded that energy efficiency initiatives in the building sector are amongst the most cost-effective measures available to policy makers seeking to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Major refurbishment initiatives are far more cost-effective than piecemeal retro-fitting. EuroACE concludes that a successful EU energy efficiency plan ensures better building stock throughout Europe, additional employment, an improved economy, and the first steps towards combating the threats imposed by climate change.

The study, as well as all press releases, can be found on the EuroACE website [www.euroace.org](http://www.euroace.org).

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**Congealed  
thinking  
is the  
forerunner  
of failure...  
make sure  
you are  
always  
receptive to  
new ideas.**

**George Crane**