

# April 2020



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## Covid-19 crisis

**The European construction sector calls for urgent measures to protect workers' health, support economic activity and accelerate the recovery**

March 2020

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- DigiPLACE online information session - online 29 April
- DigiPLACE workshop - Hannover 30 June
- Adaptation to climate change in standardisation - Brussels 5-6 october

## TWEET OF THE MONTH



huge thanks to everyone and @\_fredenlund @SuButcher @SykesChris @PatriciaLM @AidanMercer Enzo @gs1 for attending today's webinar. <https://t.co/IYA6CwKxq9> fill in our survey and help shape the next webinar in few weeks time @IBM @ConstructionEU @coBuilderNorge @buildingSMARTIn [pic.twitter.com/tvoZzCzj1a](https://pic.twitter.com/tvoZzCzj1a)



At the risk of sounding callous in looking for opportunities in a crisis that threatens human lives, how we recover from this situation will impact people's livelihoods and lives for years to come.

Shift to Remote Working. Building Capabilities for the New Normal. Offsite, Modular, DfMA, BIM

— Paul Surin (@PaulSurin) March 27, 2020

## PUBLICATION OF THE MONTH

Dear readers,

First and foremost, we hope that you and your loved ones are all well and our thoughts go out to our colleagues in Spain and Italy, looking forward to meeting them again soon. As you can see from the publication of the month section, we initiated a letter addressed to the EU Institutions and I want to personally thank all those individuals and associations who got involved in such a short space of time. The Commission has already reacted positively, and I will gladly report back with more details in the May edition of our newsletter. In the meantime, do share with us data you would have on the economic impact of COVID-19 on the industry as this will certainly help the EU Institutions frame a dedicated recovery action plan.

Wishing you all well in these strange and challenging times.

Christophe Sykes

Director General

## COVID-19 industrial clusters response portal

European Cluster Collaboration Platform (ECCP) launched COVID-19 industrial clusters response portal. This platform was created to support the efforts of industrial clusters addressing challenges posed by the COVID-19 epidemic in Europe. [Read more...](#)

## CEN/CENELEC meetings

CEN/CENELEC informed that all meetings scheduled to take place until 30 June 2020 will be held virtually or be



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postponed. This applies to all types of CEN-CENELEC meetings (e.g. Committees, Working Groups, Task Forces, governance meetings, etc.). Online meetings can be organized with the support of the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre.

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## Building logbook project

EASME launched recently a tender to develop the project "Study on the development of an EU framework for buildings' digital logbook (B-LOG)". In addition to the mapping of existing initiatives on this filed the project will suggest recommendations to the EC on how to strengthen this tool. BPIE is already collecting inputs from construction experts in a preliminary survey to assess the situation and challenges. Additional stakeholders' consultations will follow soon. [Read more...](#)

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## Circular economy principles for building design

EC published recently this document providing principles for circular design of buildings. The document is aligned with the voluntary reporting framework to improve the sustainability of buildings Level(s). In particular, this document contributes to Level(s) Macro-objective 2: Resource efficient and circular material life cycles dealing with the reduction of waste, the optimisation of material use, and the reduction of environmental impacts of designs and material choices throughout the life cycle. [Read more...](#)

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## Adaptation to Climate Change in Standardisation

CEN-CENELEC is organising a workshop on 'Adaptation to Climate Change' next 5 and 6 of October bringing together stakeholders involved in standards for the infrastructure sector (construction, energy, transport, ICT). The agenda already includes Antonio Burgueño, Convenor of CEN/TC 350/WG 6 'Civil Engineering works' and Gerard Stallenberg, Convenor CEN/TC 234/WG 12 'Safety and Integrity management'. Those of you involved in Eurocodes may be interested in this work. The event is not listed in the CEN-CENELEC website but you can register by contacting [marc.balder@nen.nl](mailto:marc.balder@nen.nl)

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## Industry4Europe reaction to the EU industrial strategy

The sector Associations of the Coalition will now carefully review and assess all individual measures proposed by the European Commission. Industry4Europe wants to thank the Commission for its hard work and for identifying 7 main pillars of the Industrial Strategy that echo those recommended by the Coalition. [Read more...](#)

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## General Assemblies of international associations in 2020

For those of you running international non-profit associations based on Belgian law, please note that the

Federal Minister of Justice may soon publish a special decree allowing the postponement of our General Assemblies and filing of our accounting reports by up to 10 weeks after the usual limit date. For most associations, this will mean a deadline of 7 September 2020.

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