



Weighing in with some common sense

BASEC is bringing in new controls on imperial and metric cable lengths to facilitate trade in either system, following the European Union (EU) ruling that Britain can continue to use imperial measurements. At the same time, BASEC (British Approvals Service for Cables) is warning installers and specifiers to avoid the pitfalls of mixing the two measuring systems together at the engineering level. [More...](#)

Committee gets together

The BASEC certification committee has met to discuss various issues which affect the process of BASEC certification, to review new schemes and amendments, and to scope out some of its work for the longer term on behalf of the organisation. Members of the committee are pictured at their meeting in London.



ECA steps in to help with wiring regulations

The ECA has announced a series of free seminars across the country to help contractors and those responsible for contracting electrical work to understand and prepare for the new 17th edition of the wiring regulations, which is due to come into force in 2008. [More...](#)

Euro experts visit UK

BASEC recently hosted a meeting of the HAR OSM committee - the European group responsible for the practical aspects of testing and approving harmonised cable under the European HAR scheme. They also visited BASEC's laboratories at BSI before going on a tour of London. Members of the party are pictured during their visit. They had the opportunity to discuss a range of cable issues during their visit.



Energy costs initiative pays dividends

Homeowners can now ask for a free A-G energy rating for their boiler with advice to help cut fuel bills, when the engineer visits. Heating and hot water bills are the biggest energy costs households face each month, yet many people are unaware the average boiler is 'E' rated and could produce over 50 per cent more heat - making the recommended improvements could cut fuel bills by hundreds of pounds and reduce carbon emissions. [More...](#)

Online tool assesses crisis plans

A new online assessment tool, developed by BSI British Standards, and sponsored by Marsh, a leading insurance broker and risk advisor, will allow organizations to determine the adequacy of existing crisis plans and develop confidence in their strategies. [More...](#)



See benefits of environmental commitment

One of the greatest benefits of conducting an assessment for a product's environmental aspects is the opportunity to identify other spin-off environmental improvements and cost savings, says BASEC. Raw material, energy and water use can be controlled, and process scrap can be minimized, bringing immediate financial benefits, says Dr Jeremy Hodge, Chief Executive of BASEC. [More...](#)

Merger on the cards

The CORGI Trust and The Electrical Safety Council (ESC), two leading charities responsible for promoting gas and electrical safety, have announced that they have begun discussions about a possible merger. The combined charities would aim to be the most influential and respected body in the UK for gas and electrical safety issues. [More...](#)



Distributors catch up on major issues

The latest Electrical Distributors Association Forum held in Cardiff allowed members and affiliates to catch up with the most recent developments and included presentations on the 17th Edition of the Wiring Regulations, Energy Efficiency, Sustainability and Profit Opportunities in the Buildings Market and Energy Efficient Lamps. [More...](#)

Smart wholesaler scoops award

Winner of the Wholesaler of the Year award at this year's Electrical Industry Awards sponsored by BASEC was EPH, who impressed the judges with its excellent sales and growth figures as well as its innovative staff development programme. BASEC Chief Executive Jeremy Hodge is pictured presenting the award at the event in London. [More...](#)



Events for your diary

Green Roofs and Building Services, 31 October- Society of Chemical Industry, 14-15 Belgrave Square, London. This one-day conference aims to bring you up-to-date with the range of tools and techniques for planning, installing, delivering and maintaining green roofs.

17th Edition Wiring Regulations Seminar, 17th November - Manchester Town Hall, Albert Square, Manchester. Topics include overview of BS 7671: 2008 Design principles, summary of new material inclusions, explanation of the many important technical changes and information about guidance documents, courses and City & Guilds qualifications.

Energy Certification for Buildings: 19-20 November - The ICO Conference Centre, 22 Berners Street, London. With the imminent introduction of Energy Display Certificates (EPC) and Display Energy Certificates (DEC) for non-domestic buildings, it is essential that you are fully aware of how the implementation of the certificates will affect you and what your roles and responsibilities are under the new scheme.