

ICP Europe Technical Forum Meeting notes – December 9, 2015

The fourth Technical Forum Meeting was held on December 9, 2015. Once again, the ICP Technical team provided an update on progress with the development of the ICP Europe protocols. Key areas for discussion were the changes made to the second drafts of the Targeted protocols, an overview of the Apartment Block protocols, and a summary of progress on Annex A (the index of national resources).

A short summary of the background to the ICP and the Technical Forum was given to set the scene. The Technical Forum continues to grow, with diverse representation from many types of organisations from across the EU and also internationally.

The Large and Standard Tertiary protocols are now complete. These updated versions are available on the ICP website. The ICP Technical Team emphasised, however, that all the documents will evolve over time in order to continually improve them. Future changes will be made as the protocols are used on more and more projects (they are already being used on pilot projects), as feedback is given by project developers and QA providers, and as new standards and resources become available.

The Technical Team then moved on to explain how the second drafts of the Targeted protocols have been modified since the previous draft. The key change has been to limit these protocols to measures with no interactions, apart from lighting projects (where there may be interactions with heating and cooling loads). Further changes have also been made which also apply to all of the protocols. These include the Operational Performance Verification Specialist no longer needing to be a third party, provision of guidance for projects where monthly data is not available, requiring energy price details for building owners and tenants where savings are to be shared, and requiring tenant outreach for Tertiary projects as well as Apartment Block projects. Tenant outreach involves notifying tenants of improvements made to the building, and any changes in behaviour that are required as a result. Finally, the Team asked the Technical Forum to consider whether they thought the current Targeted Tertiary and Targeted Apartment Blocks protocols should be replaced with a single protocol for improved simplicity and flexibility.

The Large and Standard Apartment Block protocols – which have been released in first draft – were introduced. The structure of these protocols is the same as the Tertiary and Targeted protocols. The content is also similar but there are some critical differences which are addressed in the protocol documents. The main difference is associated with difficulties in obtaining baseline utility data for residential properties, particularly where tenant utility data is needed - the protocols highlight where these difficulties arise and how they might be addressed. Another issue identified in the protocols and unique to residential properties are landlord/tenant split incentives. Tenant outreach was also described in more detail.

Next, an update was given on the Annex A national resources research ('cross protocol' annex to the protocol documents), including which specific European countries the Team is looking for support from. The team continued to request assistance from technical experts across the EU to support this work.

The presentation concluded with a timeline for issuing the next revisions to the protocols. The Team highlighted the need for comments on the latest drafts - comments can be provided through the website [here](#), either using the version available in Google Docs, or by downloading the protocol document in Word format and emailing comments directly to the team.

The following are main questions and answers from the webinar:

- Kristof Descheemaeker, CO₂ Logic: *Has the ICP project had a lot of success in the US? Significant progress has been made already with ICP in the United States, which has been in use for several years - four projects have already achieved Investor Ready Certification.*
- John Hatton, Alpheon: *How much input have you received from the community - enough, about right or more needed? How many pilots are using the protocols? (sorry if I missed this at the beginning)?* ICP has received good input from a number of people/organisations, but more input is always very welcome. We will continue to improve the protocols as they are used more and more. Currently, there are three pilot projects and programmes across Europe, with more in the pipeline.
- Liz Reason, Green Gauge: *Is one of the reasons that there is a gap between expected and outturn performance because construction teams/installers are not trained to understand what they're supposed to be achieving?* Yes, this is definitely a factor and something that the ICP process is aiming to solve with the development of tools that ensure that the original performance objectives are retained at all stages of the project. This is one of the main drivers for the need for a process like this.
- Liz Reason, Green Gauge: *I think that additional training is likely to be needed which would need to be face-to-face, rather than just reading a written document.* The ICP Europe Training and Certification program is now on initial phases of design, with the overall objective aiming at proving a standardized and effective approach to this challenge. Training is planned for the first half of 2016.
- Vasileios Chrysfidis, ProDessus: *Is it possible to minimise the number of protocol documents for simplification purposes?* We agree that it is better to keep the number of protocols to a minimum.
- Vasileios Chrysfidis, ProDessus: *How is the life span of materials and equipment taken into account? Is the methodology for carrying out Life Cycle Cost Analysis defined in the protocols?* Life span of materials and equipment is taken into account as part of Life Cycle Cost Analysis, which is suggested in the protocols as an option where there are benefits of the proposed retrofit other than energy cost savings. The protocols refer to ISO 15686-5:2008 Buildings & constructed assets – Service life planning - Part 5: Life cycle costing.
- Vasileios Chrysfidis, ProDessus: *Will the implementation of a protocol in one EU Member State be automatically recognised as 'official' and suitable for investment from organisations in other Member States?* Projects that meet the requirements of the ICP Europe process will obtain the Investor Ready Energy Efficiency™ label, which recognises the full accomplishment of the system application. Although this does not guarantee energy performance, it is intended that this will provide market confidence in the energy savings and performance risk in general, thus facilitating investment in energy efficiency projects across Europe.

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