

European Federation of Associations of Insulation Contractors

NEWSLETTER

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Fédération Européenne des Syndicats d'Entreprises d'Isolation

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CONTENT

I	Word from the President.....	p.3
II	Focus on France.....	p.5
III	New member of FESI.....	p.9
IV	Word from Kaefer.....	p.13
V	Conference in Gdańsk.....	p.15

WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear FESI Member

The Year 2024 is running into Autumn and therefore to our last meeting to be held in Gdansk beginning of October is going to happen soon.

Lot happened. Not just only that I was elected as the new President, also we are proud to welcome more and more news members to our association.

More members also means more fruitful discussions, more aspects and high level Know-How in our meetings. Also more shoulders to distribute the work packages we need to work down. This is positive and hopefully more Colleagues do find some time in their calendars to actively participate, even between our assemblies, in the various tasks we face.

The release of the DIN EN 17956 "Energy efficiency classes for technical insulation system" is a milestone for our branch. To think in efficiency classes A, B, C, etc. is meanwhile common, when building houses or buying a fridge or even a car, this will make our "world" more easy to understand, not just only for the experts. That a Class B system is better than a Class C system for our environment and also safes, even on short turn, money on the Energy bill, is meantime well known to all Europeans. Politicians, majors of towns and Controllers have now a much more simple way of understanding what we deliver.

But also the, in June 24 released, AGI Q06 will have an impact on us as contractors and training institutes as the design of e.g. insulated pipes with critical medias will change. Therefore our workforce will have to learn the new layouts.

WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

In EU we also start to see that the handling of used mineral wool will have to change. In our meeting in Gdansk, we will hear suppliers and heads of country associations reporting what is currently under development in companies but also what the legislative is aiming for. This will also impact heavily the day to day on site work in our branch.

Therefore, lot of good reasons, beside the impressive town and harbor of Gdansk, which we will visit as well, to sign up for our next FESI meeting beginning **09.10.2024** at 7 p.m with a welcome dinner and ending at 1 p.m **11.10.2024** after lunch. In between: lots of insights and topics we will discuss and present.

Looking forward to welcome you all in Gdansk!

Truly Yours

Thomas - Peter Wilk

FESI President

SYNDICAT NATIONAL DE L'ISOLATION (SNI)



SYNDICAT NATIONAL DE L'ISOLATION

GENERAL INTRODUCTION OF SNI

Syndicat National de l'Isolation (SNI) is the French trade association for insulation companies. It was founded in 1936, with the aim to create cooperation in safeguarding the interest and mutual relationship between insulation contractors. In 1976, this scope was extended to companies producing insulation material and training bodies. Currently, SNI covers seven professional sectors: building and industrial acoustics, refrigerated buildings, spray (acoustic, thermal, anti-condensation, passive fire-protection), mineral wool blowing in inaccessible attics, building outer insulation, industrial insulation, and treatment of on-site asbestos.

It committed to the following principles:

- ▶ continuously promote quality through independent third-party certification;
- ▶ protect employee health and improve work safety;
- ▶ participate in the energy transition (saving energy and reducing CO2 emissions) and the digital transition;
- ▶ implement recycling of site waste and end-of-life materials.

SNI is also a member of the French Building Federation (FFB) and is represented in department, standardization, certification, and qualification committees.

The current Président of the SNI is Mr. Patrice RENOUD

INDUSTRIAL INSULATION SECTOR

SNI represents nearly 100 actors, each of whom bring their expertise and knowledge to enhance the value of their professions in the industrial and construction sectors.

Industrial insulation allows:

- Limitation of heat losses
 - ▶ save energy;
 - ▶ reduce CO2 emissions;
 - ▶ ensure maximal temperature drop in connection lines to control process parameters;
 - ▶ maintain temperatures in vessels and tanks.
- Limitation of surface temperatures
 - ▶ maximum surface temperature for personal protection;
 - ▶ minimum surface temperature to avoid dew formation on cold insulation surfaces.

The arrangement for a European-wide cooperation within the insulation sector was put into effect in 1970 when FESI was started, with SNI being a founding member. The FESI office was established in Paris at the time.

Within FESI, Mr. Christian BONNET and Mr. Hervé DESCREUX are members of the board. They are also honorary présidents of SNI.



Mr.
Patrice RENOUD,
President
of SNI



Mr.
Christian BONNET,
member
of the FESI
board



Mr.
Hervé DESCREUX,
member of
the FESI
board

SPECIFIC RELATIONSHIP

1. QUALIBAT qualifications

Since 1949, QUALIBAT has had a public interest mission. The organization was born out of the desire of professionals to promote a selection of construction contractors that have demonstrated their skills and competence. The aim is to allow the customer to choose the ideal partner to work with.

The qualifications of QUALIBAT are issued independently by professional experts from different backgrounds and professions, all of whom work on a voluntary basis and with complete objectivity.

2. Training

For years, SNI and its member companies have anticipated and taken into account the training and recruitment difficulties in the industrial insulation sector, an emblematic sector of SNI.

In 2007, SNI created a certification to:

- Develop the skills of employees already in the company and help them to improve their know-how.
- Offer employees the opportunity for social promotion.
- Enhance the value of employees' qualifications in the eyes of the principal clients.
- Harmonize and improve the quality of the training offered.

CQP (which stands for Professional Qualification Certification) is a certification delivered by a professional branch for people able to manage complex projects and to transfer knowledge. It is the equivalent of the european level 2a.

It includes:

- A reference system of activities, which describes the work situations.
- A skills reference framework, which identifies the necessary skills and knowledge.
- An evaluation reference framework that defines the criteria and methods for evaluating acquired skills.

The SNI companies develop these reference systems for the insulation industry, to be deployed and implemented within the training organizations.

In addition, SNI approves the training organizations that are able to carry out the CQP examinations via an audit which concerns both the teaching resources and the trainer. The audit is re-evaluated every 3 years, which allows for amendments to be made if necessary and to keep up a high-standard level of training.

3. Current works of standardization

In the frame of the French standardization body, the SNI and other stakeholders, reviews the NF DTU 45.2 "Thermal insulation of circuits, equipment and accessories from -80 °C to +650 °C". This consists of 3 parts:

Part 1-1: Contract bill of technical model clauses between the end-user and the contractors

Part 1-2: The general criteria for selection of materials

Part 2: Contract bill of special administrative model clauses

SNI brought also in the specifications of cryogenic insulation with an operating temperature between -80 °C and -175 °C. The technical gases (special provisions) are the following: Nitrogen, Carbon dioxide, Hydrogen and Oxygen.

NEW MEMBER OF FESI



FROSIO based in Norway are happy to become a member of FESI. We hope we can contribute with our experience with insulation inspectors and in the future, operator certification for insulation fitters.

FROSIO is a member organization established in 1986 by the industry to meet a growing demand of qualified and certified personnel on all levels within management, production and inspection of work within corrosion protection and surface treatment.

In 2012, the industry saw the need for similar system for insulation, not the least for risk of CUI. FROSIO established a similar system for training and certification of insulation inspectors. Today over 12 000 inspectors have been certified according to our schemes for surface treatment and insulation worldwide. Our schemes are:

- FROSIO SCHEME- for approval and certification of surface treatment inspectors
- FROSIO Scheme- for approval and certification of inspectors for industrial insulatio

Many see the need for combining the two fields and are certified for both surface treatment and insulation.

FROSIO acts through formulation of quality requirements for surface treatment and insulation inspectors. FROSIO approval and certification scheme have achieved high international recognition and a FROSIO certified inspector is a specific requirement within different standards and specifications such as IMO (International Maritime Organization) for PSPC, VGB/BAW Standard for offshore wind structures and wind parks as well as NORSOK M-501 and NORSOK M-004.

NEW MEMBER OF FESFI



FROSIO is certified according to ISO 17024, Personnel certification for surface treatment inspectors, which set stringent requirements to quality assurance.



Relevant fields of operation for FROSIO inspectors are construction and/or operations/maintenance of ships, offshore windmills, marine and offshore installations, buildings, power stations, bridges or industrial plants, chemical/technical process industry and or paint/coating industries.

Our objectives are to elevate the quality level with all aspects of the surface treatment and insulation trades, and to act through formulation of quality requirements and development of education programs for surface treatment and insulation inspectors.

FROSIO reliability has focus on the importance of impartiality in carrying out its certification activities, managing conflict of interest and ensuring the objectives of its certification activities.

Our goals are to independent inspectors, qualified inspectors, to prevent the undermining of inspector's authority and to improve surface treatment and insulation work in general.

NEW MEMBER OF FESI



The level of the certificate is certificate based on experience and has three levels based on documented experience:

- ▶ LEVEL I - No experience
- ▶ LEVEL II - Minimum two years relevant experience.
- ▶ LEVEL III - Minimum five years relevant experience whereof two performing inspections

For insulation, relevant experience is defined as "work connected to production, planning or installation of insulation materials as well as inspection of such work".

FROSIO only does certification activities as there is a requirement in ISO 17024 to separate training and certification. For training we have approved training bodies that have met all our requirements for the scheme. After they have completed training FROSIO takes over and does all activities involved in certification, i.e. conducting examination, correcting the examination and issuing certificate.

FROSIO-GUID-CP, A Quality Management Guideline for Companies Working in The Field of Corrosion Protection was initiated in 2018. This certification scheme has the purpose requiring the company to assess, and quality assure corrosion protection activities, thus, increase productivity and product quality. Companies that have obtained this certification must have basic corrosion protection procedures, competency of personnel involved corrosion protection, defined responsibility, surveillance and perform corrective actions.

NEW MEMBER OF FESI



FROSIO Scheme for approval and certification of surface treatment operators is our most current scheme. The scheme has scope stating that the scheme provides rules for the professional qualification and approval for certification of surface treatment operators to ensure professional application of surface treatment works. The scheme specifies options for approval, the requirements to be met, and how to maintain them.

Currently the scheme is for surface treatment operators, but our goal is to expand it for insulation operators.

We at FROSIO look forward to our participation and contribution to FESI.

WORD FROM KAEFER

THE TECHNICAL CHALLENGE OF CUI

Corrosion Under Insulation affects a significant percentage of insulated metallic process equipment, particularly carbon and stainless steels, posing a major threat to asset integrity, health and safety, and operational excellence. Historically, CUI has been a leading cause of equipment failure in the oil and gas and petrochemical industries, often resulting in hazardous and costly incidents.

Traditional methods of managing CUI rely on risk-based inspection (RBI) schemes, which are often inefficient and costly. These methods involve extensive inspections based on empirical risk assessments and past experience, much like looking for a needle in a haystack. Studies show that up to 70% of these inspections fail to detect any damage, highlighting the inefficiency of the current approach.

PUTTING THEORY INTO PRACTICE: SUCCESSFUL DEPLOYMENT IN NORWAY

We just recently implemented this technology in Norway, installing hundreds of sensors on a heated and insulated outdoor pipe system. The project, delivered to the client's high satisfaction, is now providing valuable data that will be monitored over the next months. This deployment not only demonstrates the effectiveness of our solution but also showcases our ability to execute complex projects in diverse environments. We're also in advanced talks with several international operators where KAEFER already provides core services.



PUTTING THEORY INTO PRACTICE: SUCCESSFUL DEPLOYMENT IN NORWAY

We offer a comprehensive solution based on Internet of Things (IoT) smart devices, equipped with LoRaWAN. LoRaWAN (Long Range Wide Area Network) is a low-power, wide-area networking protocol, designed to wirelessly connect battery-powered devices to the Internet over long distances, enabling permanent monitoring and data flow to advanced analytics for better decision support. blu's services include planning, installation, documentation, training and ongoing support.

The cooperation between blu and the local KAEFER business unit provides cost-effective installation, support and robust problem-solving capabilities, ensuring the highest levels of safety and quality for our clients' facilities.

LOOKING AHEAD

Our Norwegian team, made up of experienced field staff and offshore operations experts, is poised for growth. We aim to multiply our annual revenues by 2027, and we will focus on strengthening our capabilities and the end-to-end offering for the benefit of all KAEFER companies. The integration of artificial intelligence (AI) and sophisticated analytics will further enhance our predictive capabilities and potentially revolutionise RBI modelling.

Stay tuned as we continue to protect your assets with the highest standards of safety and quality, and drive innovation in the fight against CUI with our advanced technology solutions.

<https://kaefer.com/blog/cui-management-with-blu/>



Dear FESI members, see you soon in Gdańsk!

10 October 2024

Conference organized by FESI

- 09:00 - 09:15** Words from President of FESI: Thomas – Peter Wilk
- 09:15 - 09:35** Presentation of FROSIO: “International certification organization – scope of activities”: Ole Straete
- 09:35 - 09:55** Presentation of ROCKWOOL: “Impact EU target to decrease landfilling of recyclable building waste” – John Quicken
- 09:55 - 10:15** Presentation of THERMAFLEX: “Thermaflex: Pioneering Sustainable Insulation Solutions” – Lech Skomorowski
- 10:15 - 10:35** Presentation of SCHWARTMANS: “New technology in sheetmetal work”: Thomas Pitsch
- 10:35 - 10:50** Open discussion and questions to the speakers.
- 10:50 - 11:10** Coffee break
- 11:05 - 11:20** Presentation of New European Standard EN 17956: Andreas Guertler
- 11:20 - 11:25** Questions and Answers to the above topic
- 11:25 - 11:40** Mandatory Insulation Scans in the Netherlands – is this a good concept for Europe? – Andreas Guertler
- 11:40 - 11:45** Questions and Answers to the above topic
- 11:45 - 12:00** Vereniging Isolatiebranch Nederland: New law “decrease landfilling of used mineral wool in the Netherlands” – Gerda Stijf (online)
- 12:00 - 12:05** Questions and Answers to the above topic
- 12:05 - 12:20** PSWIP activities, PN-B-20105 norm: Wojciech Puch
- 12:20 - 12:25** Questions and Answers to the above topic
- 12:25 - 12:40** RTC/TTC, summary from workshop in Zurich and open discussion: Michael Kelly, Kasia Kłosok
- 12:40 - 13:00** RTC Championship: Kasia Kłosok and Andreas Vestergaard
- 13:00 - 14:00** Lunch
- 14:00 - 16:00** General Assembly