



GLASS FOR EUROPE

Europe's Manufacturers of Building, Automotive and Transport Glass

[Glass for Europe](#)

Avenue Louise 89
1050 Brussels
+ 32 (0)2 538 43 77

PRESS RELEASE

Glass for Europe welcomes the political agreement on the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive and calls for timely and effective implementation.

Brussels, 18 November 2009 – Glass for Europe, Europe's trade association for manufacturers of building, automotive and transport glass, welcomes the political agreement on the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive reached by MEPs, Commission and Member States, just a year following the Commission's original proposal.

As manufacturers of high-tech, energy efficient glass, Glass for Europe would particularly like to congratulate MEPs and the Swedish Presidency for losing no time in taking the opportunity to have an immediate, positive and practical impact on Europe's commitment to improve its energy efficiency improvement standards. Once again, and mere weeks before the start of the Copenhagen Climate Conference, the European Union has demonstrated strong leadership in tackling climate and energy efficiency targets.

The removal of the 1000m² thresholds, the requirement for replacement elements including windows to meet cost-optimal standards and the requirement for all new buildings to be "nearly zero-energy" by the end of 2020, are warmly welcomed as ambitious measures to improve Europe's energy efficiency.

"This Directive has a tremendous role to play in reaching the EU's energy efficiency targets. 40% of the EU's energy today is consumed through the heating, lighting and cooling of buildings", said Bertrand Cazes, Glass for Europe Secretary General. *"Our industry has been working towards this result for years, researching and marketing high-tech glass products which have a direct impact on energy efficiency. We are now looking forward to working on implementation with the Member States to promote the objectives of the Directive".*

The European Commission monitoring role will be essential in order to benefit from the full effects from the Directive, and to improve it even further come 2017.

ENDS

About Glass for Europe

Glass for Europe is the trade association for Europe's manufacturers of building, automotive, and transport glass, all derived from the base material known as flat glass. Flat glass is the basic material that goes into end-products that we see (and see through) every day: It is used to make windscreens and windows for automobiles and transport, and windows and façades for houses and buildings. It is also used, in much smaller quantities, for many other applications like interior fittings and decoration, furniture, "street furniture" (like bus stops for example), appliances and electronics, solar energy equipment, and others. Glass for Europe has currently four members (AGC, Pilkington, Saint-Gobain Glass and Şişecam) and works in association with Guardian. In total, these companies employ over 16, 000 people across the EU and have an annual production capacity of around 11.500.000 tonnes of float glass.



GLASS FOR EUROPE aisbl/ivzw

Avenue Louise 89, 1050 Brussels - T. +32 (0)2 538 43 77 - F. +32 (0)2 537 84 69
info@glassforeurope.com - www.glassforeurope.com - VAT: BE 0418 828 479