

EUROPEAN COPPER INSTITUTE

2006

ANNUAL REPORT

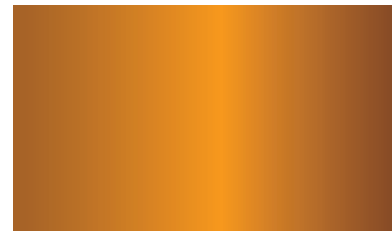


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ECI Mission: The European Copper Institute is a joint venture between the world's mining companies (represented by the International Copper Association, Ltd.) and the European copper industry. Its mission is to promote copper's benefits to modern society across Europe, through its Brussels office and a network of eleven Copper Development Associations.

ECI Vision: Inspiring the world about copper's essentiality for health, technology and the quality of life.



Chairman's Message

The first half of 2006 saw a dramatic increase in the market price of most commodities, including copper. Compared to the London Metal Exchange price of 3,684 \$/T in 2005, the average price rose by 83% to 6,727 \$/T in 2006.

This unprecedented increase generated considerable interest among opinion-formers. ECI pro-actively communicated the geographical and economic reasons for this rise. It also took the opportunity to explain how the recyclability of copper results in 41% of Europe's annual demand being met through recycling. Supported by expert interviews, ECI's key messages were reported by leading print, radio and television media.

Despite this price rise, extrapolations of preliminary data from the International Copper Study Group indicate that global demand for refined copper increased by as much as 2.5% in 2006, reaching an all-time record of 17 million tonne.

In part supported by a year-on-year growth in EU Industrial Production of 4.7%, the demand for refined copper within the European region is expected to increase by 11% to 5.3 million tonne, representing 31% of the world's total, up 2% on 2005.

While higher material costs have resulted in increased competition between materials in specific sectors of the downstream value chain, these headline demand figures demonstrate the contribution that copper products continue to make to sustainable economic development, modern technologies and higher living standards.

The upstream mining and refining industries have done much to overcome the shortfalls of 2005.

Production, from both mining and recycled feedstocks, is expected to increase by 6%, resulting in some re-build in commodity exchange stocks.

During 2006, ECI, along with its national Copper Development Association network, continued to manage a broad portfolio of projects aimed at communicating the many sustainability benefits of copper and its alloy products for Europe's industry and its citizens.

Excellent progress has also been made in building Member State acceptance of the results of the industry's voluntary risk assessment, which will enable the copper industry to meet its obligations under the recently approved EU chemicals legislation, REACH.

I would like to thank the International Copper Association, the European copper industry, and our many project partners for their funding and support and, on behalf of the membership, to thank the ECI and European CDA team for their many achievements throughout 2006.

Jörg Hanisch

Member of the Executive Board
Wieland-Werke A.G.





Chief Executive's Message

ECI's mission is to communicate the measurable social, environmental and economic benefits of using products containing copper to Europe's policy-makers, industries and citizens.

Major EU policy priorities during 2006 included health and environmental protection, energy and sustainability. The REACH Directive, adopted in December, transfers to industry the responsibility for showing that its operations and products do not pose inappropriate levels of risk to human health or the environment.

Since late 2000, the copper industry has voluntarily carried out a risk assessment on copper and copper compounds. While the draft dossier is in the latter stages of critical review by the EU's Member States, the main conclusion should be confirmation that copper production and its end uses are safe.

The recognition by scientists that copper surfaces can substantially reduce the lifespan of harmful pathogens such as MRSA provides a potential new opportunity for copper in the public health area. A trial is underway in a leading UK hospital to evaluate the reduction in bio-burden achievable through the use of copper and copper alloy products in a vast array of 'touch' surfaces and hospital equipment.

Since copper has the highest electrical conductivity of all non-precious metals, its use is critical in optimising the efficient production, distribution and use of electricity. With the EU's new energy blueprint calling for renewables to account for 20% of the supply mix by 2020, we should expect to see a pick-up in the demand for copper for high-efficiency components in wind turbines, solar thermal and photovoltaic installations.

An increasing number of regulators, architects and developers are promoting the sustainability agenda, with the conservation of natural resources, the importance of end-of-life recycling and the useful lifespan of construction products being key considerations. Copper is a strong contributor to all of these: it is estimated that 80% of the copper ever mined remains in use today; 41% of European copper demand is met through recycling; and copper products used in architecture, water, heating and gas installations all have life spans measured in decades, if not centuries.

Resource conservation is also driving innovation. To give just one example, the combination of increased performance and miniaturisation in consumer electronics - such as mobile phones, computers, MP3 players and flat screens - is achieved through the use of high-performance copper alloys.

Lastly, I am pleased to welcome five new members, Corporación Metalúrgica Catalana, Diehl Metall, Luvata, Metallo-Chimique and Montanwerke Brixlegg.

John Schonenberger

KEY ACTIVITIES & ACHIEVEMENTS

“Promoting the sustainability properties of copper topped ECI’s agenda in 2006”

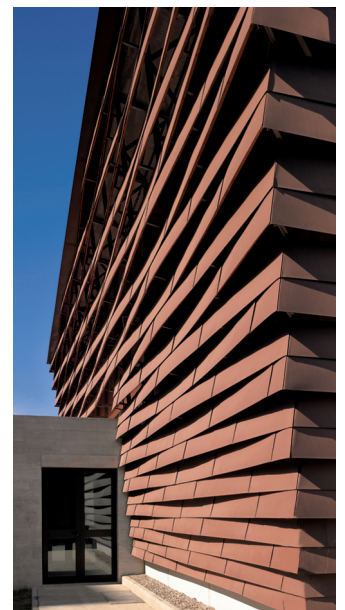
Increasing legislative, as well as voluntary, pressures on specifiers and designers, to reflect sustainability considerations more fully in products and services, places a greater burden on material suppliers to provide relevant performance data. With the industry’s strong support, ECI has developed life-cycle and recycling data for copper, as well as comprehensive information about the technical performance characteristics of the main families of copper alloys. Web-based technologies are being used to make this information widely available to end-users.

Supported by higher economic growth rates in the east of the region, ECI has increased its efforts to promote the benefits of copper products in both improving electrical energy efficiency, and providing healthy and long-lasting piping and fittings for drinking water, heating and gas installations. Programmes are now active in Hungary, Poland, Romania, Russia, Turkey and the Ukraine. The United Nations Global Environment Fund and the EU’s Intelligent Energy Europe programme are co-funding the energy efficiency work.

ECI continued to build European Commission and EU Member State acceptance of the results of the industry’s voluntary risk assessment. This comprehensive assessment paves the way for confirmation that the production and use of copper products is generally safe for Europe’s environment and its citizens. The human health section is essentially complete, with the environmental section expected to be finalised during the third quarter of 2007. This risk assessment will provide the backbone of the industry’s registration dossier under the EU’s new chemicals management directive, REACH, which was formally adopted in December.

During the early part of 2006, strong growth in demand led to an unprecedented rise in the price of copper. ECI pro-actively communicated the geographical and economic reasons for this growth, as well highlighting the strong contribution made by copper recycling to meeting this rising demand. ECI’s pan-European media activities reached 350 million contacts in 2006, compared to 195 million in 2005. Key coverage was notably achieved in the Financial Times, Bloomberg, BBC World and TV5Monde. ECI also won an award in France for its recycling information campaign.

Supported by more than 130 partners from across the industry, engineering consultants and academia, ECI’s Leonardo ENERGY platform is using innovative web-based tools to both raise awareness and deliver a broad range of educational messages on issues such as electrical energy efficiency, electrical safety, power quality and renewables. In less than twelve months, the site’s registered user base has grown to 10,000 policy makers, designers, specifiers and other professionals from around the world, and is now averaging over 2,000 visitors per day.



MARKET TRENDS & DEVELOPMENTS

“Copper’s outstanding durability, recyclability and electrical conductivity are key drivers in the construction and energy sectors”

The upturn of the last 18 months’ in global commodity and energy prices has sharply increased the attention paid by policy-makers and decision-makers to sustainability, especially in areas like construction, energy supplies and transportation. Copper’s outstanding conductivity (40% better than its main competitor), the long life cycle of its products (measured in decades, if not centuries) and the fact that it can be recycled 100% without any loss of performance, makes it a true material of choice across a broad range of applications.

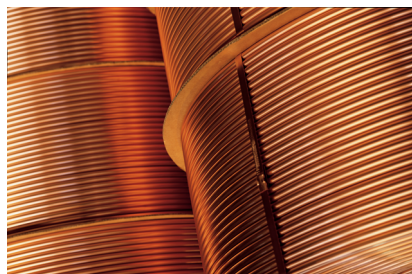
Two-thirds of copper demand is used in the generation, distribution and use of electricity and is consequently closely linked to capital investment in infrastructure, manufacturing capacity and residential housing. Growth rates are therefore expected to be higher in the eastern countries of the European region in the short term.

Recent updates of EU energy policy have highlighted the need to increase the use of renewables, with the aim of ensuring they supply 20% of the energy mix by 2020; to improve national grid inter-connections in order to maximise the benefits of market liberalisation; and to replace ageing infrastructure in order to achieve maximum energy efficiency benefits. Given that 90% of the environmental impact of electricity investments is in the usage phase, copper needs to maintain its position in these long-term investments.

Faster growth in the demand for wires and cables, plus associated system components, will also result from the introduction of higher standards aimed at improving the reliability and quality of electricity supplies to industry.

A recent audit confirmed that there has been a 20% increase in the intensity of copper use per square metre of commercial building space since 2002. The renovation of ageing residential installations is also expected to increase, with new, safety-driven legislation in France, Belgium and parts of Spain expected to extend further throughout the EU.

The need for continued improvements in protecting human health also offers growth opportunities for copper. Laboratory studies have demonstrated its ability to dramatically reduce the lifespan of harmful pathogens, such as MRSA (Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*) and *Clostridium difficile*, on ‘touch’ surfaces. A trial is now underway in a leading UK hospital to compare copper surfaces with established materials. Following the move away from using lead in drinking water piping systems, the copper industry has developed new technologies to replace the lead content in the alloys used to produce taps and valves. Eco-Brass now offers a safe, lead-free alternate.



AUTOMOTIVE & BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

“Despite higher prices, decision makers continue to value copper’s performance properties”



Nigel Cotton, Manager

Automotive

ICA's CuproBrazed Technology had a breakthrough year. With strong membership support and an emphasis on factory footprint and performance enhancement, a well-known Tier 1 supplier has built a green field production site for automotive radiators in North America. Further developments are expected in 2007, including the extension of the superior heat exchange technology to charge air coolers and e-cooling.

As part of recent EU End of Life Directive activities, ECI participated in meetings with key industry players on the future recycling of copper and copper alloys.

Collaboration with the publisher, Wiley, led to the publication of "Copper in the Automotive Industry", an authoritative book for automotive engineers which provides a detailed description of the characteristics and properties of copper and copper alloys.

Building Construction

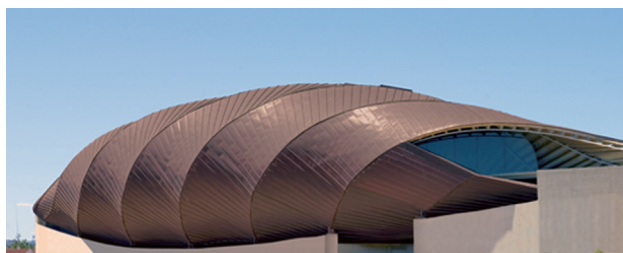
Copper applications faced challenging conditions in the construction sector. Despite the healthy growth in investment in this sector, demand was impacted by the higher relative cost of copper based installations in sectors like heating and architecture. Towards year end, the industry launched new, thinner walled tubing products. These will improve economic considerations for the value chain, while at the same time retaining the key performance attributes for copper, such as durability, recyclability and its importance for human health.

Building on work done in 2005, ECI's plumbing campaign developed promotional materials and launched cooperative programmes with local actors and stakeholders in three new markets - Turkey, Romania and the Ukraine.

Demand growth for copper products has been achieved in plumbing, heating and gas applications.

The Building Construction programme maintained high standards in communications and marketing. Promotional tools included training courses for young plumbers and architects, trade press advertising, publications and newsletters, school education kits, and environmental workshops. Significant fabricating members' contributions increased the impact of this programme and ensured that projects were tailored to meet the needs of the local market. Work on alloy suitability under the European Acceptance Scheme, for Materials in Contact with Drinking Water, was successfully undertaken.

The Solar Thermal market grew significantly, up by 20-30%. Copper maintained its very strong position in the solar thermal collector market. Further growth is expected as the renewables road map, the energy package, and the heating and cooling directive make their way through the EU's co-decision procedure. Rising fuel costs and security of supply issues have focused the attention of academics, politicians and the general public on developing job-rich renewable technologies. ECI has actively participated in the solar industry's associations and the European Solar Thermal Technology Platform.



COMMUNICATIONS

“ECI’s media relations messages reached a record audience of 350 million”



Christian de Barrin, Manager

Media Relations

ECI’s pan-European media relations programme continued its high-profile campaign in Eastern and Western Europe, reaching an audience of 350 million in 2006, compared with 195 million in 2005. The unprecedented rise in copper prices provided ECI with an opportunity to communicate the essential role played by copper recycling in meeting global demand and building a sustainable future. Amongst more than 800 press cuttings in leading print, radio and television media, key articles were notably published in the Financial Times (Copper Supplement), Bloomberg, the Frankfurter Allgemeine, Le Monde and aired on the BBC’s World Service. In France, ECI and the French CDA won a Golden Rock award for its recycling information campaign.

In close interaction with the market development programmes, targeted communications were delivered on the role of copper in the home of the future, the automotive sector and in solar energy. Media events included an automotive launch with Saab and Mazda in Switzerland, the recycling of end-of-life consumer products in France and Italy, on solar energy in Spain, and on exploiting copper’s thermal conductivity in the tubing for ice rinks in Sweden.

Corporate and e-communications

In addition to member newsletters and more corporate publications, ECI began building key partnerships, including one with the global TV channel TV5Monde, which resulted in a twelve-minute feature on copper. Other partnerships led to targeted exhibitions directly related to copper markets. The first was signed with FIMBACTE in France, where ECI cooperated with the French CDA to launch a national roadshow where key copper eco-construction projects are presented, with other industrial partners, to decision-makers in major French cities.

In the e-communications area, ECI’s website was revised to enable it to be referenced by search engines. A Google Advertising campaign continued and was extended to 15 EU countries.

External Relations

ECI has continued to coordinate information campaigns in Sweden, in close cooperation with its local external relations partner, to counterbalance local market threats. At a European level, ECI has entered into a contract for a new service which should help it to more efficiently track EU copper-related issues. This new service will be open to all ECI members in early 2007.

2007/2009 Communications Strategy

ECI launched a media impact study in Belgium, France, Germany, Spain and Sweden which confirmed the current success of its pan-European media relations programme and helped to identify new avenues for communications. Using these, along with a review of other communications programme activities from the past five years, ECI, with support of its members, led the development of a new communications strategy for 2007-2009. A key action for early 2007 will be an opinion survey, conducted in nine EU countries, to better understand the perceptions and priorities of policy makers, regulators and other stakeholders towards copper. This will help to direct future policy and to define priorities within this new strategy.



ELECTRICITY & ENERGY

“Copper’s outstanding conductivity offers many opportunities under the EU’s new energy policy”



Hans De Keulenaer, Manager

Leonardo ENERGY

During 2006, Leonardo ENERGY (LE) evolved towards becoming a global and integrated platform for advocacy and education in the field of sustainable energy. LE delivers messages to policy makers and decision makers about copper’s advantages in energy efficiency, renewables, quality of supply, electrical safety and comfort. LE currently includes fifteen campaigns and uses cutting-edge communications and marketing techniques to deliver information to a wide variety of professional users. Close to 50% of Leonardo ENERGY’s e-communications are read outside Europe - in particular in the United States, Canada, India, Australia and Latin America.

LE has developed an e-library containing close to 200 publications. Based on a concept from CDA UK, an autoupdater has been developed to allow users to download this library onto their desktops, with automatic updates. About 20,000 publications are disseminated per month through this mechanism.

Copper Reduces Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The use of copper in energy systems significantly improves environmental performance. An ecodesign toolbox demonstrates the environmental paybacks from copper after just a few months of use. For instance, while re-designing a 1.5 kW motor to contain more copper generates an additional 18 kg CO₂ emissions in production, it can save more than 650 kg CO₂ during 10 years. This toolbox is now used by utility companies, manufacturers, regulators and academics to assess, among other things, the environmental benefits of using additional copper for improved energy efficiency.

Power Quality

A formal assessment of this programme in 2006 confirmed a significant additional copper tonnage through increased market adoption of the copper solutions promoted by the campaign. The Leonardo Power Quality Initiative has now passed the 100-partner threshold, with participation continuing to build, particularly among industrial partners.

The European Power Quality survey concluded that poor power quality costs European industry an estimated 150 billion euro each year. ECI is working with various standardisation and regulatory groups to address this issue.

ECI launched an initiative on regulations to govern the quality of supply in electrical networks. Experts, regulators and system operators from around Europe participated.

Home of the Future

ECI participates in the Dutch ELux programme, a marketing campaign that aims to increase convenience in the home through the installation of additional power, data and television outlets. Adopting the ELux recommendations can increase copper use by 23 kg per home.

Influenced by an ECI partnership, France has joined the group of countries that mandate a periodic inspection regime for electrical installations. Regulation in Belgium has also been strengthened and consumer organisations have launched a campaign in Spain.

ECI’s smart ageing platform focuses on the use of electrical technologies to improve the quality of life in the home for elderly people and those whose mobility is impaired. User needs have been mapped and the medical conditions suitable for home treatment identified. The programme is now focusing on the development and marketing of technical solutions.



ENVIRONMENT & REGULATORY AFFAIRS

“ECI’s voluntary risk assessment will provide the strong base for the copper industry to meet its obligations under REACH”



Katrien Delbeke, Manager

Thierry Gerschel, Regulatory Affairs Director

Ilse Schoeters, Project Manager

Building Acceptance of the EU Risk Assessment

The voluntary risk assessment and REACH dominated ECI’s environmental and regulatory affairs agenda. While the focus in previous years was on the preparation and submission of a scientifically sound dossier, in 2006 ECI focused its efforts on reviewing the 1,400 page dossier with the EU’s Technical Committee of New and Existing Substances (TCNES). This body, coordinated by the European Commission, is responsible for reviewing and adopting EU chemical risk assessments.

ECI, together with Italy (the review country), consultants and representatives of the industry, responded to all questions raised, defended the dossier at TCNES meetings, and updated it for re-issue.

TCNES discussions on the human health section were completed successfully. Further discussions on the environmental section and a final evaluation by the Scientific Committee for Health and Environmental Risk (SCHER) will follow in 2007. This comprehensive assessment should pave the way for confirmation that the production and use of copper products is generally safe both for Europe’s environment and for the health of its citizens.

Advocating for a Workable Outcome on REACH

Following intense debate by the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers, the EU’s new chemical management policy, REACH, was adopted at the end of 2006.

Through Eurometaux’s advocacy efforts, supported by ECI, a number of amendments were adopted that will improve the workability of REACH for the non-ferrous metals industry.

Non-chemically modified ores, concentrates and minerals are excluded from registration (but not from authorisation), wastes are outside of the scope (covered by existing legislation) and there is recognition of the specific properties of alloys and the need for specific guidance on these.

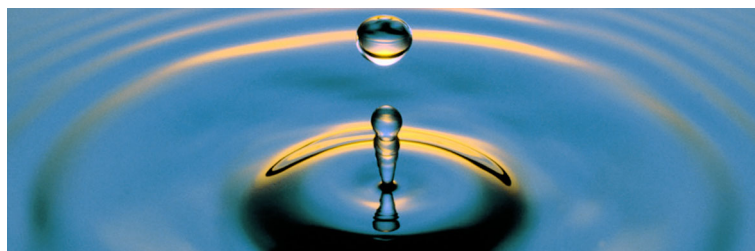
While the debate continued, the European Commission launched an initiative to develop guidance documents to support REACH’s implementation. ECI staff have been active in several of these REACH Implementation Projects (RIPs) to ensure the inclusion of metal specific guidance.

Industry Energy Consumption Database Completed

Recognising the need to be able to make sound inputs into various EU policies on energy usage, emissions trading, sustainable development and life-cycle analysis, ECI has developed a comprehensive database to track production and energy consumption data for the key industry sectors.

The database covers the period from 1999 to 2005 and includes data from 65 European sites, representing 100% of the smelting and refining sector and around 70% of the semi-fabricated products and wire-rod sectors.

Total production in the EU-15 used about 40,000 terajoules of energy in 2005, with a clear downwards trend in unit consumption, especially in the more energy intensive smelting sector, where new technologies have resulted in a trend-line 4%/yr reduction since 1995. The database will be updated and refined in the coming years and periodic reports will be published.



FINANCIALS

“ECI’s activities boosted by co-funding from the European Union and United Nations”



Catherine Mantell, Supervisor

In 2006, ECI and its network of eleven national Copper Development Associations operated with an annual budget of 20 million dollars, a 25% increase on the previous year.

This increase in funding reflected a rise in the membership of both ECI and the International Copper Association, as well as the steady growth in the number of industrial and academic partners participating in ECI’s electrical programmes, recently consolidated under its Leonardo ENERGY brand.

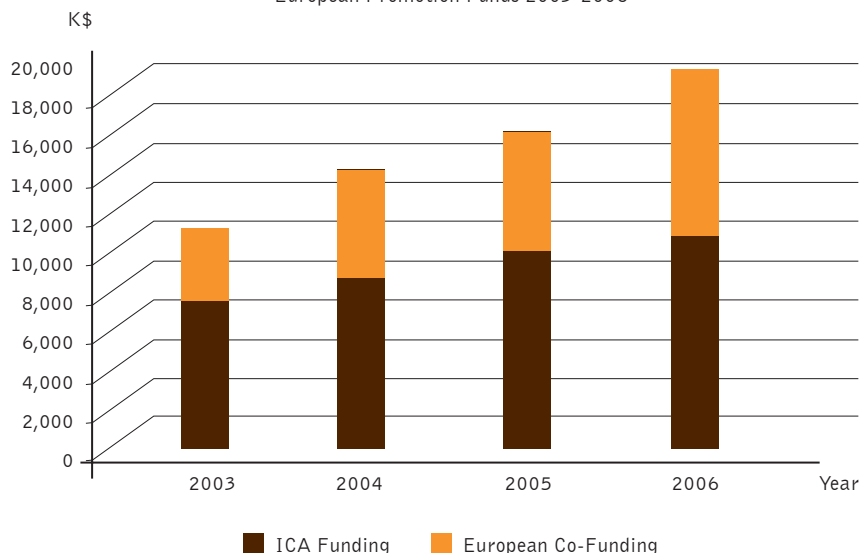
A successful application for European Union funds to support sustainable electrical energy efficiency projects in the east of the region, along with United Nations’ support, through its Global Environment Fund, for the promotion of energy efficiency, accounted for the rest of the increase.

Further steps were taken to exploit the capabilities of the recently installed ICA accounting system. This enables more accurate and timely reports to be produced to assist in the financial aspects of project management.

2006 Funds (K\$)

Strategic Initiative	ICA Funding	European Co-Funding	Total
Building Construction	4,120	2,595	6,715
Electricity & Energy	2,770	4,000	6,770
Industrial Applications	730	835	1,565
Market Intelligence	140	30	170
Environment	1,380	520	1,900
Communications	1,020	250	1,270
Administration	660	860	1,520
Total Funds	10,820	9,090	19,910

European Promotion Funds 2003-2006



COPPER DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION ACHIEVEMENTS

“ECI’s network of eleven Copper Development Associations has contributed significantly to making copper one of the key materials for a sustainable future.”

Benoît Dôme



**BELGIUM, LUXEMBOURG,
NETHERLANDS
(COPPER BENELUX)**

2006 saw the passage of a Belgian law on the periodic inspection of domestic electrical installations. This legislation, which is a key step forward in ensuring electrical safety in homes, entered into force on January, 1st 2007. It includes a requirement for electrical inspections to be carried out before buildings are sold. Copper Benelux was also closely involved in ECI’s residential building wire programme and attracted twelve new partners into the Leonardo Power Quality Programme. Key promotional activities included the development of a new e-letter on the importance of copper in electrical systems, sent to 3,500 installers and education centres, and a DVD, published in nine EU languages, on the hygienic properties of copper tubes and fittings. Copper’s role in combating Legionnaire’s Disease remains a key communications message for the Benelux market.

Olivier Tissot



**FRANCE – CENTRE
D’INFORMATION DU CUIVRE
(CICLA)**

CICLA won two third party recognition awards. One for its corporate website (www.cuivre.org) and the other, along with ECI, for its media relations campaign on recycling. A key element in this second activity was the media event hosted by a member company. CICLA’s efforts to promote electrical safety in homes were also rewarded with the passage of a national law, which will come into force by the end of 2007.

In addition, CICLA was active in the building construction sector, with the launch of ambitious web software which demonstrates the advantages of solar thermal and geothermal, both financially as well as in terms of CO₂ emission reductions.

**GERMANY – DEUTSCHES
KUPFERINSTITUT (DKI)**



Dr. Anton Klässert

DKI strengthened its role as a technical information and education source to the end user market on issues relating to copper and copper alloys. More than 9,000 copper plumbing training manuals were disseminated to 220 technical schools. DKI has also continued to play an active role in the national Public-Private-Partnership-Campaign “energy efficient systems for industry and trade”, which implements the European Commission’s “Motor Challenge Programme”. DKI organised its third science and technology symposium, which attracted 100 specialists from the copper value chain and universities to discuss the latest and future developments. DKI expanded its education programme through videos and DVDs seen by 80,000 young students. European competence centres, based in the DKI, also made strong progress on disseminating copper life cycle data to practitioners and end users, as well as on coordinating activities to support the registration and market evaluation of copper and copper alloy products for use as anti-microbial touch surfaces in health care facilities.



GREECE – HELLENIC COPPER DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (HCDI)

HCDI was particularly active in promoting copper's unique properties, including those linked to human health and the environment, by holding local 'Copper Days', this year in the north of the country. These focused events bring together local regulators, designers and end users, such as architectural installers, plumbers and electricians. Media coverage of these events, in the press, radio and TV, has been very positive. Other tools, such as publications and newsletters, have played a leading role in developing the market, as have education campaigns which reached more than 3,000 young plumbers.



HUNGARY, CZECH REPUBLIC & SLOVAKIA HUNGARIAN COPPER PROMOTION CENTRE (HCPC)

HCPC took the responsibility to lead the new market development programmes in Romania, a new EU Member State since January 1st 2007. Significant tonnage growth is expected from the resulting increase in investments in housing and infrastructure. The main activities have focused on education, in particular in the plumbing and architectural sectors. Best practice in awareness and training publications, website design, and the use of local contacts have been incorporated from elsewhere in the network. Seminars, training courses, media relations and advertising have remained complementary activities, with the HCPC's architecture website achieving a significant increase in visitor numbers.

HCPC provided technical advice into updates for the national gas standards in the Czech Republic (TPG 700 01), Slovakia (TPP 700 01) and Hungary. A broad end-user campaign was also launched in leading home construction magazines.

ITALY – ISTITUTO ITALIANO DEL RAME (IIR)



IIR was particularly successful in the communications area. A media event, based on copper recycling, was organised at a member facility. With the support of ECI, this resulted in excellent print, radio and television coverage. The increase in copper prices also provided IIR with an opportunity to communicate key messages about copper's role in technology and energy saving. During the year, IIR launched an e-newsletter for the architecture, plumbing and electrical applications sectors. It continued to organise bio-housing seminars and courses, with 1,600 architects and planners attending such events. IIR also participated in building fairs in Milan and Bologna, where copper's role in radiant heating and design was much appreciated.



POLAND – POLISH COPPER PROMOTION CENTRE (PCPC)

PCPC entered into relationships with the boards of several power utilities. As a result, pro-copper solutions were included in a large government project on the modernisation of power infrastructure. The major event of the year was a national conference on the “Re-electrification of Rural Areas”, organised in co-operation with the Association of Polish Electrical Engineers, and under the patronage of the Prime Minister and Deputy Minister of Agriculture. PCPC also maintained good relations with the municipal authorities in Wrocław, successfully convincing them of the benefits of using copper in the renovation of old tenement houses, as well as the Centennial Hall complex, which was officially registered on the UNESCO list last year. In its role as the manager of the EU funded project on promoting Energy Efficient Electric Motors, PCPC also acquired new partners from the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Latvia and Estonia. Finally, PCPC took the lead in launching the plumbing promotional programme in the Ukraine.



RUSSIA – NATIONAL COPPER CENTER, MOSCOW

The NCC’s membership grew to eight during 2006. Most of the efforts remain focused on the construction sector, mainly copper based plumbing installations. NCC built an awareness campaign based on both the decision, by a leading Swedish developer, to ban plastics in favour of copper, and the results of a survey carried out in Russia on the levels of end-user dis-satisfaction with the performance of plastic pipes.

Significant efforts are continuing in the regulatory area for gas, with the ambitious goal of making copper the preferred material for above ground gas distribution in gas-rich Russia. Even though Russia is an energy abundant country, most urban areas still face energy shortages. This provides NCC with an economic and social platform for the promotion of copper in applications such as energy efficient transformers.

DENMARK, FINLAND, NORWAY AND SWEDEN SCANDINAVIAN COPPER DEVELOPMENT (SCDA)



SCDA has been very active in counteracting local market threats by promoting the use of copper as a sustainable material. A revision of the environmental programme in Stockholm is underway and the use of ECI’s comprehensive risk assessment science should help to reduce regulatory concerns and build a more positive image of copper amongst key policy and decisions-makers. Communications has also been a key driver of local strategy with the organisation of a media event at a new ice-hockey rink, which used 18 kilometres of copper tubing, in order to achieve large energy savings and lower CO₂ emissions.



SPAIN AND PORTUGAL CENTRO ESPAÑOL DE INFORMACIÓN DEL COBRE (CEDIC)

CEDIC's strategic agenda was driven by a new technical code representing a milestone for the solar market. This led to the organisation of a European press event on "Copper and solar energy - together towards sustainability", where 40 journalists from 5 EU countries took part. CEDIC published a new brochure promoting the superior sustainable properties of copper versus plastic and signed a collaboration agreement with CSCAE, an umbrella organisation for architects' professional associations in Spain. This will raise awareness of the copper roofing activities developed within the European architecture campaign, such as the promotion of a new installation manual and the Copper in Architecture Awards. The Spanish Leonardo Energy initiative held three seminars, printed and distributed the fourth series of the power quality guide and published four articles. The Spanish Platform for the renovation and inspection of residential electrical installations held a successful press conference with the consumer organisation, OCU.

Scheduled to last 24 months at a leading UK hospital, tests will be carried out to measure the level of bio-burden present on touch surfaces relative to competing products. CDA UK partners fully funded and supported a new national power quality training event for electrical professionals from leading companies and application notes for renewables and a web-updateable power quality guide were developed for use across Europe. Plumbing education was supported through a skills competition, a Master Class and a newsletter. Membership of the Copper Club's database grew to 8,000. The new marine renewables initiative established good contacts and there was a high demand for workshops from the offshore/marine sector. A new online technical support system for copper and alloy end-users was introduced. This re-directs customers to the best sources of online knowledge across the network and also increases the efficiency in responding to more challenging enquiries.



UNITED KINGDOM COPPER DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION UK (CDA UK)

As a result of strong cooperative efforts throughout the supply chain, plus feedback from a number of stakeholder meetings in the health care sector, CDA UK succeeded in setting up a clinical trial to evaluate the anti-microbial performance of copper alloys.

“ACCESS THE GLOBAL NETWORK”

HEADQUARTERS

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