

Building Acoustics & Noise & Vibration Engineering Group

# Acoustic Challenges in Green Buildings

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Building Research Establishment, Garston, Watford

Since the new coalition Government have set out a raft of legislative targets to make all new homes zero carbon by 2016, every aspect of design and construction has been placed in the spotlight. In particular, acoustic considerations are now becoming more and more crucial as new technologies and design methods are being introduced in a bid to meet the new targets.

At present, well-established design assessment methods such as *BREEAM* have sought to provide a yardstick by which the sustainability, energy-efficiency and environmental impact of new and refurbished buildings can be measured. This has led to a recent industry-wide drive, particularly in the private sector, to achieve ever higher ratings.

As a result, green building design is becoming, and is expected to be, the norm for all new and refurbished buildings of the future. What part will noise and vibration play in the design of these buildings? This one day meeting will also feature a guided tour of BRE's Innovation Park.

**Abstracts of up to 200 words** are invited on specific aspects of acoustic design including noise and vibration considerations relating to sustainable buildings for the future, *including but not limited to the following topics:*

- Planning and design considerations of micro-generation, including micro turbines and heat source technologies.
- Use of triple-glazing in buildings for thermal and acoustic benefits
- Acoustic implications for the new Building Regulations 2010/11, in particular the impact on Approved Document E following scheduled revisions to Part L (Energy) and Part F (Ventilation).
- Push towards natural ventilation as a way of driving down energy costs and associated impact on acoustic design
- Noise and vibration implications of sustainable building services such as Biofuel and Thermal Mass technologies
- Acoustics of sustainable building materials such as sheep's wool, hemp-based blocks and advances in timber construction materials
- Sustainable manufacture and acoustic performance of conventional construction materials such as flowing screeds, particle boards and acoustic foams

Please send your abstract to [linda.canty@ioa.org.uk](mailto:linda.canty@ioa.org.uk) by 25 October 2010