

# Energy. Future. Responsibility.

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## **Continuous Commissioning - a New Tool-set for Buildings to Combat Climate Change**

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Ministry for Trade and Industry  
(Session 1, 10:10-10:30)

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Working with the Finnish Ministry of Trade and Industry since 2002 Mr. Väisänen was Finland's negotiator for the EU's Energy Services Directive and represent Finland now in the ESD Committee. In February 2006 Mr. Väisänen was put in charge for the national implementation of the ESD. In addition to work related to the ESD, he is supervising part of Finland's Voluntary Agreements and the Energy Audit Programme of which development and operation he was in charge of during his prior ten years working with Motiva Oy. Mr. Väisänen has also co-ordinated several international projects since 1996.



Mr. Väisänen holds a Masters degree in mechanical engineering from the Helsinki University of Technology, specializing in design of HVAC systems for buildings, industry and cruisers during his ten year working in the consultancy sector.

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## Requirements of EE & ES Directive on Municipal and Regional Energy Efficiency

### Introduction

Directive on end-use energy efficiency and energy services came into force in May 2006 and the Member States have now less than one year to transpose the Directive into national legislation – or to fulfil the obligations through other instruments e.g. by voluntary agreements. In addition to the indicative 9 % national energy saving target, the MS shall ensure that the public sector fulfils an exemplary role in the context of the ESD. What the MS need to do with their public sector may not sound very demanding. A good question is that if we should, when deciding on the public sector obligations at national level, take into account the direction from where we actually came to this compromise formulation. Legally the Directive is quite flexible and therefore there no doubt will be significant differences between the MS in the transposition of the Article 5.

### Substance

The exemplary role and the two mandatory measures the public sector has to choose from the list presented in Annex VI of the Directive is not an exhaustive obligation. However, implementing some of the measures of Annex VI to the extent to satisfy a nitpicker might be a bit complicated. With the exemplary role itself, the scale is a sliding one. Who can say

when the public sector has done enough? In some MS the public sector has already been exemplary in improving the energy efficiency but opposite roles probably can be found as well.

A good question is how much we should pay attention to the direction from where we finally came to this compromise formulation on the exemplary role. Should we just read what is now written in the Directive or consider the level of effort in relation to those requirements originally proposed to the public sector - we actually discussed on a separate target which was mandatory and 50 % higher than the overall national target. This is something that we have to decide ourselves.

### Conclusion

For those who have been involved in the negotiations on a new EU Directive the meaning of the formulations may be clear because the issue has been discussed several times. When a certain sentence is finally approved the wording may actually have been selected very carefully. Unfortunately most of this background information is in writing only in the minutes of those national representatives who attended the meetings. The Energy Services Directive is probably not an exception, but after 2 years intensive participation in the process, it is staggering to see how different the interpretations can afterwards be. The exemplary role of the public sector may actually be one of the least problematic areas in this sense.