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Title	Mr
First Name	Hans
Surname	Erhorn
Company/Institution	Fraunhofer Institute of Building Physics
Department	Heat Technology
Division	
Address	Nobelstr. 12
City	Stuttgart
Postal Code/Zip	70569
Province/State	
Country	Germany
E-mail	hans.erhorn@ibp.fraunhofer.de
Phone	+49-711-970-3380
Fax	+49-711-970-3399
Title of abstract	Airtightness requirements for high performance buildings
Authors/Institutions/Countries (including the presenting author)	Erhorn, H.; Erhorn-Kluttig, H./Fraunhofer Institute for Building Physics, Germany Carrié, R./Centre d'Etudes Techniques de l'Equipement de Lyon Spiekman, M./TNO Built Environment and Geosciences, Delft, The Netherlands
Topic	Envelope Air Tightness
Abstract (no more than 300 words)	International building legislation is setting stronger and stronger requirements for the energy performance of buildings. The most actual example is the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive in the European Union. The improved energy performance of buildings can't be achieved by additional insulation or more effective building systems only. A major influence factor on the energy quality is the ventilation technology and also the airtightness of the building. Some countries include in their energy decree already maximum air exchange rates, partly for all building types, partly only for those that include a mechanical ventilation system. Especially for high performance buildings which go beyond the national requirements, the infiltration losses become a significant factor to the energy performance. The paper presents an overview on the existing airtightness requirements in different European countries and especially for high performance buildings as well as insights in how strong the impact of improved airtightness can be regarding the net, final and primary energy demand of a building.
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