



The Fibreoptic Industry Association

www.fia-online.co.uk

Secretary: Jane Morrison

The Manor House
BUNTINGFORD
Hertfordshire SG9 9AB
United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0) 1763 273039 Fax: +44 (0) 1763 273255

e-mail: jane@fiasec.demon.co.uk

CALLING ALL DATA CENTRE EXPERTS!!

by
**Mike Gilmore, Technical Director of the FIA
for Networking+ (November 2009)**

There are many different activities addressing the design and construction of data centres. In the US BICSI is producing a comprehensive document in support of ANSI/TIA-942 - it is indeed a mammoth tome, currently containing 498 pages. Unfortunately only four of those pages address energy efficiency which is the name of the game in Europe and more recently at international level.

In Europe the energy efficiency of data centres has been of increasing importance over the last two years. We already have an EU Code of Conduct in place, which is moving towards its second edition, and ETSI have already published a standard (ETSI TS 105174-2-2) covering the same ground.

This year, CENELEC constituted a new Working Group with the title "Facilities and infrastructures" with the role of producing standards to define the requirements and recommendations for building infrastructures related to the effective installation and operation of associated telecommunication equipment. Its first task is to produce a set of standards in the series EN 50600 covering data centres.

While these standards will cover all the primary areas of infrastructure support based on desired levels of service availability and physical security, they will concentrate on building into data centres the infrastructures necessary to measure and if necessary deliver energy efficiency. Such infrastructures will cover the obvious areas of environmental control and power distribution but may extend into other areas as required.

This work will have high visibility at all levels not only within the standards community but also in regulatory bodies in the EU and at national level.

To support this work, the UK has restructured its standards activity to allow experts to focus on this work and the newly formed BSI panel TCT7/-/3 is seeking data centre experts in the field of data centre construction (building, environmental control and power distribution - and others as seen fit) to contribute to the work at European level.

It is very easy to sit back and let others do the work - and then complain when the results are published. This call to action allows you to directly contribute to the development of standards in your area of interest. Take this opportunity to get involved so if you think you may be able to help, please contact myself (mike.gilmore@btinternet.com), current convenor of TCT7/-/3, or contact the FIA Secretariat on 01763 273039 who will pass your details on to me.