



## CBC Newsletter - January 2012

### [Spotlight on Data Access and Transparency: The DATA Alliance](#)

By Andrew Burr, Director, IMT Building Energy Rating Program

Energy benchmarking is a fundamental building energy management practice that can help reduce energy consumption and energy costs for businesses and



consumers, yet many building owners, particularly those who let their space to multiple tenants, are unable to conduct benchmarking because they lack access to basic building energy consumption data. Leaders in the commercial real estate industry have teamed up with energy efficiency and green building organizations to form the Data Access and Transparency Alliance (DATA) to address this significant barrier to energy efficiency in buildings. [Read the full article.](#)

### [Visit the New CBC Website](#)

The CBC team is excited to bring new and improved design and navigation to our [updated website](#). Let us know what you think and send us your own story ideas at [zeroenergycbc@ase.org](mailto:zeroenergycbc@ase.org).

## Industry News

### [Download Free Handbook for Efficient Building Operations](#)

The Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and U.S. Department of Energy have released the Energy Information Handbook: Applications for Energy-Efficient Buildings Operations. This free resource guides commercial building owners and operators who have limited experience with energy information systems in understanding how to analyze the energy use of buildings, and use their analysis to lower energy costs by operating buildings more efficiently. Software developers and energy service providers in the commercial building industry, as well as more experienced owners and managers who wish to improve how they visualize, analyze, and manage their building's energy use, will also find the book useful. Download your free copy at [eis.lbl.gov](http://eis.lbl.gov).

### [DOE Announces Guide for 50% More Energy-Efficient Retail Buildings](#)

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) recently announced the release of an Advanced Energy Design Guide (AEDG) for 50% energy savings in retail buildings. The guide

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## Industry Events

[ASHRAE 2012 Winter Conference](#)  
January 21-25, 2012  
– Chicago

[AHR Expo](#)  
January 23-25, 2012  
– Chicago

[BOMA Winter Business Meeting and National Issues Conference](#)  
January 30 -  
February 1, 2012 –  
Washington, D.C.

[NASEO/ASERTTI Energy Policy and Technology Outlook Conference](#)  
February 7-10, 2012  
– Washington, D.C.

[AHRI/ACEEE ENERGY efficiency SUMMIT](#)  
February 15, 2012

[EduCode 2012](#)  
February 27-March 2,  
2012 – Las Vegas,  
NV

was developed to help architects, engineers, and contractors design and build retail buildings that have reduced energy and operational costs. The retail buildings guide is the third in a series of four AEDGs, which provide practical approaches to achieve 50% energy savings in commercial buildings compared to the building energy code used in many parts of the nation. DOE partnered with the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE), American Institute of Architects (AIA), U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), and Illuminating Engineering Society of North America (IESNA) to produce the AEDG reports. The retail buildings AEDG is now available for [download from the ASHRAE website](#).

### **[DOE Releases New Version of Energy Modeling Software](#)**

In December, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) released a new version of EnergyPlus, a software tool that models the amount of energy needed to heat, cool, ventilate, and light buildings. This latest version, EnergyPlus v7.0, has 25%-40% faster execution speeds and can model a variety of commercial and residential buildings and HVAC systems. EnergyPlus v7.0 is free of charge. Read the [DOE press release](#) for more information.

**[World Sustainable Energy Days 2012](#)**  
February 29 - March 2, 2012

**[Energy Efficiency Watch: Nearly Zero Energy Buildings](#)**  
March 1-2, 2012 – Austria

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