



Copper Development Association

Organisation and Activities

About Copper Development Association



Copper Development Association (CDA) is a not-for-profit, membership-based organisation which supports and promotes the correct and efficient use of copper and its alloys through the provision of technical support and impartial information to professionals, end users and students.

Copper is a versatile metal that has a unique combination of properties: excellent electrical and thermal conductivity, antimicrobial efficacy and corrosion resistance. Copper can be alloyed with other elements to create materials with enhanced properties, such as wear resistance and strength, and to produce a range of different colours.

The major application areas for copper are electrical, building and construction, and industrial. Market development areas include antimicrobial uses. CDA works with its members to develop programmes to bring generic information on copper applications to professionals through a range of activities and channels. 'Copper in Architecture', 'UK Copper Board', 'Leonardo ENERGY' and 'Copper-Nickel Task Force' are programmes operated or supported by CDA. An overview of the main activities is given below.

CDA is part of a global network of 28 Copper Centres with a regional office in Brussels, European Copper Institute, and headquarters in New York, International Copper Association, Ltd. CDA is the third longest established of these centres, having closely followed the opening of the US and German Centres.

Projects

Antimicrobial Copper Alloys

This project aims to exploit copper's natural antimicrobial properties in applications such as healthcare, food processing and HVAC to help protect public health.

CDA has formed the Antimicrobial Copper Interest Group for specifiers, designers, manufacturers, material suppliers and healthcare professionals wishing to develop copper alloy touch surfaces for hospitals to provide an additional weapon in the fight against hospital-acquired infections.

CDA is sponsoring a Copper Clinical Trial at Selly Oak Hospital, Birmingham, to demonstrate the efficacy of copper alloy touch surfaces in reducing contamination in a clinical environment and liaises with other trial groups around the world to share information and expertise.



Selly Oak Hospital, Birmingham

www.copperinfo.co.uk/antimicrobial

Industrial Alloys

CDA provides education, training and technical support in the design, manufacture, maintenance and use of copper alloys for engineering and industrial applications. The primary alloy groups are copper-nickels, aluminium bronzes and brasses. In-house Continuing Professional Development and technical support are provided to companies in the offshore, oil and gas, and, more recently, the offshore renewables industries. CDA is part of the 'Copper-Nickel Task Force' - a global body of industry specialists who provide online technical resources, now including narrated webcasts.



Copper-nickel fittings (Eucaro)

www.copperinfo.co.uk/alloys and www.copper-nickel.org

Electrical Applications

CDA is a leading force in the Leonardo ENERGY Initiative, a unique, global community for sustainable energy professionals. CDA instigated the Power Quality Application Guide and continues to provide technical expertise and online training resources aimed at improving knowledge and raising awareness of topics including distributed generation, renewable energy sources, power quality, ecodesign and the home of the future.



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www.leonardo-energy.org

Architecture

CDA operates the Copper in Architecture programme in the UK, which promotes and supports the use of copper and copper alloys in architectural applications such as roofing, cladding and façades. The programme provides a technical support service to architects, disseminates technical literature concerning design and environmental topics and delivers RIBA-accredited Continuing Professional Development presentations.

CDA organises the highly regarded biennial European Copper in Architecture Awards, which celebrate and reward excellence in copper design and craftsmanship.

www.copperinfo.co.uk/arch



Plumbing

CDA manages the UK Copper Board plumbing promotion programme, which offers training and education support to professional and student plumbers through the provision of technical guides, online resources, participation in the SkillPLUMB competition for young plumbers and articles in trade press. Via these mediums, the latest developments in copper plumbing are highlighted, for example flame-free fittings, solar applications and copper's sustainable attributes.

Materials generated through this programme are shared with other partners in the European Copper Plumbing Promotion Campaign for adaptation and translation for local use. Technical guides - Installation Tips - have been translated into a number of languages for use in developing European plumbing markets.

www.ukcopperboard.co.uk



Education

This project aims to provide web-based learning resources for secondary school pupils, using copper to illustrate basic science and then providing extension material to explain copper's essentiality for health, technology and quality of life.

The material, created jointly by CDA's Education Consultant and science teachers, is curriculum-related and examines the biological, physical and chemical properties of copper and how these relate to uses. These resources, hosted on the Association for Science Education's SchoolsScience site, have had more than 130,000 visits. The most popular units are: 'Properties and Uses', 'Copper and Electricity' and 'Mining and Extraction'. The latest unit is 'Copper Recycling and Sustainability'. Material generated in the UK is translated and used by Copper Centres around Europe.

www.copperinfo.co.uk/education and www.schoolscience.co.uk



Communications

Copper is an essential, versatile but often under-appreciated material. This programme aims to inform the general public about the importance of copper in their daily lives and about copper's sustainability credentials. CDA works with its PR agency, Weber Shandwick, to issue press releases to the general media and organise media events on topics ranging from copper in architecture (a helicopter tour of London) to copper in hospitals.

www.eurocopper.org



Standards

CDA has played a major role in the development of British Standards for many different copper and copper alloy products and applications over many years. In more recent times CDA participated in the drafting of a standard for domestic fire sprinkler systems and is currently working alongside the copper tube and fittings manufacturers on European Standards for push-fit and press fittings.

Members

Aurubis UK Ltd
BHP Billiton Marketing B V
The British Non-Ferrous Metals Federation
Codelco Services Ltd
IBP Conex Ltd
KME Yorkshire Ltd
Leaf Business UK Ltd
Luvata Sales Oy (UK)
Metal Agencies Ltd
Mueller Europe Ltd
Pegler Yorkshire Group Ltd
Rio Tinto London Ltd
SANHA UK Ltd
Southern Peru Copper Corporation
Wieland-Werke (UK) Ltd

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