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A Fitting Challenge for HIP Students

UK Copper Board at the HIP! Exhibition

The UK Copper Board was at the recent HIP! Exhibition for young plumbers, the first of its kind, which took place at the Reebok Stadium in Bolton and was attended by 1,500 students, lecturers and plumbers.

The Copper Board stand proved ever popular, raising awareness of the free educational resources supporting the use of copper tube and fittings for heating, plumbing and fire-sprinkler systems and offering visitors an opportunity to try their hand at flame-free jointing in a straightforward but surprisingly tactical competition.

The 'Copper Challenge', in which competitors raced to beat the 25 second target time to assemble a figure of eight from copper tube and push-fit fittings, saw large crowds of students gathering to watch each other make attempts and trying to gain tips. Participants were impressed by how quick and easy it was to make secure joints and many commented on how attractive the brass fittings were.

There was also an opportunity for attendees to sign up to the Copper Club, which provides design and installation guidance materials for students and access to lifelong learning for qualified plumbers through technical updates and newsletters.

Of course, many visitors were already signed up to the Copper Club and praised the quality of the Installation Tips, 34 technical articles on copper in plumbing, heating and other pipework installations. Topics covered range from gas installations to pipe sizing to solar thermal systems.

While it was agreed these were very useful practical guides, opinions on preference for printed versus electronic versions of these resources was divided: the 24/7 accessibility of the downloadable web versions versus the convenience of the printed version to keep in the van, for reference. Hard copies are available by joining the Copper Club at www.ukcopperboard.co.uk. Tips and other information are also available electronically on the website.

Ends

Notes to the Editor:

The UK Copper Board

The UK Copper Board was established in 1993 as part of a European campaign to promote the use of copper as the professional's choice when installing plumbing and heating systems.

The Board works in close association with the tube and fitting manufacturers throughout the UK and Europe, and is supported by the International Copper Association and the European Copper Institute.

www.ukcopperboard.co.uk

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