

EDITORIAL PROGRAMME 2018

In 2018, **MBS** will build on its strong features to cover more topics in each issue. As well as familiar subjects such as heating, cooling, commissioning and controls, **MBS** will also investigate energy storage, fire protection, modular plant and the latest software tools for designers and installers.

Building services is a fast-moving industry, where products and techniques are driven by innovation. **MBS** aims to reflect this aspect of our sector with our extended coverage. As ever, we welcome suggestions and ideas from the industry on these areas to keep **MBS** fresh and relevant for our readers.

JANUARY 2018

Heating – new approaches to the challenges

We are only three months away from the introduction of Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards in commercial buildings. As a large energy user in buildings, heating poses the ultimate challenge in balancing delivery of comfort with energy efficient operation. **MBS** considers the techniques and technologies that are delivering these requirements for today's buildings.

Commissioning – right from the start

In partnership with the Commissioning Specialists' Association (CSA), **MBS** is raising awareness of the importance of commissioning. This month we take a close look at why commissioning is vital for long-term energy efficiency in buildings. This means setting up a building correctly from day one, and understanding the savings that good commissioning can deliver for clients in the long-term.

Countdown to Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES) – three months to go

With only three months to go until the April deadline, **MBS** explores why you should be concerned about MEES, and what building owners, consultants and contractors can do right now to gain some quick wins on keeping buildings on track to meet the new requirements.

FEBRUARY 2018

Piped Services

Pipework is key to the delivery of effective heating and air conditioning in many buildings. This month, **MBS** focuses on the importance of good design not only for effectiveness, but also for energy efficiency. We examine several aspects of piped services, including connections, valves, pumps and water treatment.

Thinking Buildings – controls, BEMS and connectivity

The internet has affected almost every aspect of our lives, and commercial buildings are also feeling its impact in terms of controls and BEMS. We investigate how web-based services such as energy management, demand response and data analysis are already changing how buildings are controlled and managed for efficiency and comfort.

This month includes our regular feature from the BCIA

Fire protection and alarms

MBS analyses aspects of fire protection in commercial buildings, including a review of legislation; designing in fire protection for building services; as well as looking into the latest developments in products such as detectors, alarms and integrated fire protection systems.

MARCH 2018

Working Buildings – maintenance, operation and refurbishment

Refurbishment for efficiency is the focus this month, as **MBS** assesses how today's building stock can be redesigned, altered and improved to last well into this century and beyond. And as energy costs for business are set to rise with the introduction of smart metering, we reflect on the important role of maintenance in keeping energy use in check.

Heating – sharing the load

Producing and delivering heat around a building is a big energy user, so finding ways to share heating around a building, or even further afield, can be highly cost-effective. **MBS** evaluates the rise of district heating, heat networks, centralised boiler systems, heat interface units and other technologies and techniques at the forefront of this approach.

Data centres

The boom in cloud computing has seen data centres springing up. Online giants Amazon and Microsoft are both building new data centres here in the UK. These buildings pose a number of challenges including security, the need for resilience and the requirement for cooling. **MBS** examines building services design, products and installation for these highly-specialised buildings.



Portico
Publishing Ltd

First Floor, 5 Viewpoint, Babbage Road,
Stevenage, Hertfordshire, SG1 2EQ
Tel: 01438 759000, Fax: 01438 759007
WEBSITE: www.modbs.co.uk

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APRIL 2018

Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES)

This is the deadline for the start of Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards for commercial buildings. But it's only the beginning, as requirements for minimum EPC ratings will rise from E to D in a few years - with ever-tighter targets waiting down the line. **MBS** surveys options available to building to ensure that the building services are operating as energy efficiently as possible, for as long as possible.

Water efficiency – the next big target

Water is a vital resource, and water sustainability is set to become a major area of importance for building designers, installers and owners. The building water cycle is something that we will all be hearing more about, and this month **MBS** underlines the role building services play in using water efficiently.

Modular – delivering assembled services

Several significant construction clients, including Heathrow and Marriott, expressed a growing interest in the modular approach to construction. **MBS** reviews the development of modular systems for building services, including what's on offer for clients who want their buildings pre-assembled.

MAY 2018

Heating – boilers

Boilers are an often-misused piece of building services equipment - installed and left for years until they finally break down. This month, **MBS** presents the benefits of upgrading your boiler to the latest technologies, and shows why the boiler and its maintenance should be at the heart of your heating system.

Thinking buildings – controls, BEMS and connectivity

MBS probes the ultimate in joined-up thinking, with the connection of building services and other elements of the building such as fire safety, lighting and shading to a BEMS. What benefits does this approach offer? Just how easy is connectivity these days? And what are the pitfalls to avoid?

This month includes our regular feature from the BCIA

Tools for the 21st Century

MBS reports on the range of software tools available for designers and installers working in the field - from online calculators to mobile apps. What's popular? What's useful? And how can you make the most of them? Includes an overview of the latest developments and what might be coming up in the future.

JUNE 2017

Conditioning and cooling

As summer approaches, **MBS** considers the options for air conditioning with comfort and efficiency. As regulations on refrigerants come into force, many building owners may be thinking about a system upgrade. This month **MBS** explores the options for air conditioning in older buildings, and the best approach to an upgrade programme.

Commissioning – long-term support for building operation

In partnership with the Commissioning Specialists' Association (CSA), **MBS** will be highlighting the importance of continuous commissioning. With energy performance now very much on the agenda with the introduction of MEES in April, continuous commissioning can play a vital role in keeping a building operating effectively and efficiently. **MBS** features the technologies and techniques available to support continuous commissioning.

Energy Storage

The cost of electricity at peak times of day and across the year is increasing dramatically. More building owners are turning to renewables to solve this problem, but when tackling peak costs, timing of the energy delivery is everything. With corporates such as Sainsbury's and Aldi examining the possibilities of on-site energy storage, **MBS** reflects on this rising trend and its impact on building services.



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JULY 2018

Working buildings – maintenance, operation and refurbishment

In the height of summer, no one wants their air conditioning to fail; and in winter we need the heating to run. Planned maintenance can prevent failure during peak times - whether that's cooling in summer or heating in winter. **MBS** stresses the importance of planned maintenance and its impact on better building performance.

Indoor Air Quality

As we head into summer, **MBS** delves into IAQ and it's important for occupant health and productivity. With the spotlight falling on pollution in our cities, we investigate how building services can deliver health as well as ventilation and cooling with the latest products and techniques.

Electrical services

July 2018 sees the introduction of the updated BS 7671: 2018, the Wiring Regulations. With this significant publication in mind, **MBS** reveals what's new in the Regulations, and examines the latest developments in areas such as cable containment, wiring systems and other electrical services.

AUGUST 2018

Cooling – new approaches to the challenge

As the UK faces its warmest months, **MBS** highlights the latest cooling options that offer occupant comfort, along with energy efficiency and cost effectiveness. Includes all types of cooling tech, from natural ventilation techniques to air handling units, fan coils and chilled beams.

Thinking buildings – controls, BEMS and connectivity

Buildings can now be connected beyond their own walls, becoming part of the wider electricity network. BEMS can power down a building at times of high demand, reducing pressure on the grid. **MBS** analyses how far this networking trend can go, and explores the future of connected buildings.

This month includes our regular feature from the BCIA.

Vertical focus – retail, education and leisure

We all know that different types of building offer their own challenges in terms of design and installation. **MBS** focuses on three very different types of building and what building services technologies are proving particularly popular solutions for each.

SEPTEMBER 2018

Heating – start of the season

The start of the heating season means that building owners may be looking at their building heating systems and considering upgrade or refurbishment. **MBS** investigates the options for improving heating delivery in existing buildings with a range of upgrade technologies and techniques, including the latest in efficient boiler technologies.

Smart kit

With energy efficiency high on the agenda, many manufacturers are supplying building services equipment with controls built-in - also known as 'smart kit'. We probe the benefits to end-users of choosing 'smart' and what it means for designers and installers.

Design techniques and trends

MBS reflects on how modern building services are designed, planned and delivered from drawing board to installation. We ask what consultants, installers and manufacturers can bring to the table in terms of early input to a project; technologies to aid design and predictability of performance. Includes software for design and installation planning; advice on making the most of manufacturer information; and examples of good teamwork.



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OCTOBER 2018

Piped Services

Pipework and its associated technologies (pumps, valves, fixings) can be the victim of value engineering, when contractors are looking to save money on a project. But piped services are the arteries of the building services system - vital to delivering heating and cooling. And savings on capex can look very small against long term costs for wasted energy, or poorly-performing systems and disgruntled occupants. **MBS** highlights the importance of selecting products that will deliver good performance in the long-term.

Water – treatment and use

MBS focuses on water as a medium for transferring heating and cooling around buildings and the latest methods for achieving this. We also consider water treatment methods for health and efficient operation.

Vertical focus – retail, education and leisure

We all know that different types of building offer their own challenges in terms of design and installation. **MBS** features three very different types of building and shows what building services technologies are proving particularly popular solutions for each.

NOVEMBER 2018

Heating - space heating

Space heating is a major energy user in commercial buildings of all types. **MBS** considers different approaches to keeping occupants comfortable while keeping energy use in check. We probe a range of building types from warehouses to offices, and the heating approaches that are proving their worth.

Thinking buildings – controls, BEMS and connectivity

MBS describes how controls and BEMS are collecting data on energy use and other areas of building performance. Our features demonstrate how building managers can use this data to their advantage, and gain useful insights into how they can continuously improve building performance.

This month includes our regular feature from the BCIA

Installer's view – making installation effective and efficient

Good quality installation is key to long-term efficient building operation, but it's often carried out in challenging circumstances. **MBS** looks at the products that are helping installers do their job more effectively - from wiring to pipes to large equipment such as boilers and AHUs.

DECEMBER 2018

Working buildings – maintenance, operation and refurbishment

At the close of the year, **MBS** explores the options for refurbishing the plant room in preparation for a new year. What can be achieved over the holidays when buildings are usually empty? And what maintenance procedures can be usefully carried out while occupants are out of the way?

MBS Industry Survey Review

Following on from our survey taken earlier this year, **MBS** reveals the hot topics and trends in the sector and highlights the opportunities and challenges that our readers see in the coming months into 2019 and beyond.

Review of the year and looking ahead

A roundup of what happened in 2018, with a review of product launches, projects and the topics that kept us all talking this year.

CONTACTS

Advertising: Charles Keel ckeel@portico.uk.com

Editorial: Karen Fletcher kfletcher@portico.uk.com

Classified: David Wade dwade@portico.uk.com