



PR773 issued: 14<sup>th</sup> January 2010

## Copper Represented at Ecobuild

The UK Copper Board will be exhibiting at the 2010 Ecobuild event, to be held at Earls Court, London from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> March.

Ecobuild is the world's biggest event for sustainable design, construction and the built environment, and the UK Copper Board will be providing information on the contribution that copper makes to sustainable construction.

Copper is 100% recyclable and it can be used for exactly the same applications as newly-mined copper. In Europe, 42% of the demand for copper is currently satisfied by recycled material, and tube and sheet products are both manufactured using a high proportion of recycled metal. Copper has been recycled for some 10,000 years and today, the recycling of copper is helping to meet the growing demand for the metal and preserve natural resources. Recycling uses 15% of the energy that would be used to mine and produce the same copper, helping to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the production of copper tube.

The Board will also be presenting information on the antimicrobial properties of copper and copper alloys. A recent study at Selly Oak Hospital has found that there was 90 – 100% less contamination on copper when compared to other surface materials, and St Francis Private Hospital in Ireland has just become the first in the world to specify antimicrobial copper door furniture throughout, as an additional measure to fight healthcare associated infections such as MRSA and C. difficile.

Ends

### Notes to the editor:

*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 tube and fitting manufacturers throughout the UK and Europe, and is supported by the International Copper Association and the European Copper Institute.*



Copper scrap for recycling

For further information or hi res images, contact:

Bryony Samuel  
Marketing Co-ordinator  
Copper Development Association  
5 Grovelands Business Centre, Boundary Way  
Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP2 7TE

Tel: 01442 275705  
Fax: 01442 275716

Email: [bryony.samuel@copperdev.co.uk](mailto:bryony.samuel@copperdev.co.uk)  
Websites: [www.ukcopperboard.co.uk](http://www.ukcopperboard.co.uk)  
[www.copperinfo.co.uk](http://www.copperinfo.co.uk)

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