

1 May 2007: New release of iSBEM_v2.0.b

An updated release of the energy calculation software SBEM has today been made available for designers wishing to demonstrate building regulations compliance for buildings other than dwellings. This version for the first time allows the tool to be used with Building Regulations in Scotland (Section 6), as well as those in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The development team at BRE has been responding to feedback from the market on the previous release in October and has incorporated a number of improvements to the calculation itself and to the way in which data is entered. The new software package, available for download from www.ncm.bre.co.uk, comprises version v2.0.b of the calculation tool SBEM and of the interface iSBEM, together with an updated User Guide and supporting databases.

The improvements have been identified as a result of experience from those using the tool in practice on a wide range of building types, and from those attending training sessions. They include a new facility called "building navigation" that makes it easier to check building models in iSBEM, a tool to create personalised libraries of construction types, a wider range of HVAC systems to choose from and the correction of a number of minor bugs. More detail can be found on the website

The team is very grateful for the feedback from the industry and will continue to respond to comments and questions via the website. The next planned version of the tool will include additional features to allow its use in generating Energy Performance Certificates for buildings other than dwellings.

Notes to editors:

SBEM, iSBEM and the associated databases have been developed by BRE on behalf of Communities and Local Government.