

Taylor Wessing advises major corporates on issues encountered in sustainable construction and development, including giving advice on sustainability provisions in construction documents and green leases. More recently, it has been addressing the potential liabilities and the impact of the Government's Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) which comes into force in the UK this year.

In 2008, Taylor Wessing conducted what was then the most comprehensive survey of its kind of all sectors of the development industry bringing together their views in respect of sustainable construction and development. The report on the survey, "Behind the Green Façade", highlighted the growing importance of sustainability in the development industry and won the research award and the overall Victor Ludorum Award at the Estates Gazette Property Marketing Awards 2009.

After the success of Behind the Green Façade, in November 2009 Taylor Wessing in conjunction with the BPF conducted an updated survey across the various sectors in the development industry, garnering more respondents than the initial survey. The results of this recent survey are eagerly awaited with the publication of the new report "Hitting the Green Wall and Beyond" scheduled for early 2010.

## GRUPPO VONA

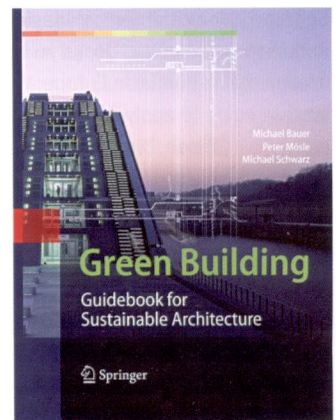
Italy's Gruppo Vona comprises various companies that mainly operate in the Construction, Engineering, Bioenergy and Real Estate sectors. Specialised in turnkey works, the group has recently attracted attention for its focus on promoting the well-being of urban and human environments, promoting sustainable building and energy saving solutions. Vona's construction arm, Vona Costruzioni, is a member of the Green Building Council Italy, an Italian association that promotes sustainable building and the introduction of the LEED certification system in Italy. Vona already adheres to LEED, and has gained the Quality Certification compliant to UNI EN ISO 9001:2000 norm and SOA unlimited. Tecnema, Vona's engineering division, concentrates on turnkey energy solutions too. Gruppo Vona has been exploring the management of cogeneration plants in industrial contexts: in May 2008, their first 4MW new power station started functioning in San Marino, and in January 2009, the second 3.2 MW plant in Cerrone was also switched on.

But the Group's main activity is focused on the potential of photovoltaic systems: Vona Costruzioni has just completed the construction of the 24-Megawatt Montalto di Castro Plant by using 80,000 solar panels and this is only the first phase of a planned 85 megawatt development (owned by Sunray Renewable Energy), that is expected to be fully operational in 2010.



## DREES & SOMMER

Since 1970, Drees & Sommer has been setting the bar for project management in the areas of building construction, infrastructure and transportation. The implementation of sustainable practices in company processes have gained it a reputation for good green management. Waste reduction and energy saving commitments are contributing to the education of their clients, while in the field of real estate consulting, Drees & Sommer's



Green Building Labels consulting service includes the conceptual design and certification of buildings to make them sustainable, competitive, future-oriented properties. The company's engineering division has been implementing future-oriented technologies for optimum operation - both economically and ecologically - with services such as Green Building design for new buildings and Green Building optimization of established properties. This includes the long-term optimisation of life-cycle costs through life cycle engineering. The use of energy management for commercial buildings & industry helps to save costs by reducing heat, electricity, and water consumption. With planning and general technology planning, its specialists include all technological aspects in their plans.

On November 5, 2009 a couple of Drees & Sommer experts launched the English-language edition of their book entitled "Green Building - Guidebook for Sustainable Architecture", following the success of the German version. Prof. Dr. Michael Bauer, Peter Mösle and Dr. Michael Schwarz have created a Green Building guide for principals, architects and planners, published by Springer. The publication uses numerous examples from practice to show new approaches to economical and ecologically sustainable planning, construction and operation of Green Buildings, including technical solutions and analyses of ecologically designed buildings. Interviews with architects and principals of high-profile buildings show that energy efficiency and impressive architecture

Dr. Hans Sommer

