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1

PRESS RELEASE

Material Costs Index in Construction of New Residential Buildings^{1,2} January 2007

The Material Costs Index in January 2007 as compared to January 2006, recorded a rise of 6,9%. A year earlier, the annual rate of change of the Material Costs Index was 3,8%.

The Material Costs Index in January 2007 as compared to December 2006 increased by 0,4%. A year earlier, the index was increased by 0,3%.

In the twelve-month period February 2006 – January 2007 the annual average rate of change of the Material Costs Index was 5,8%. A year earlier, the annual average rate of change of the index was 3,5%.

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¹ The Material Costs Index in Construction of New Residential Buildings is a monthly index and constitutes a component index of the Overall Construction Cost Index of New Residential Buildings. The Material Costs Index expresses the price change of building materials used in the construction industry of new residential buildings. It was compiled and released for the first time, in 1975 based in 1971. Afterwards, that index was revised based in 1980, 1990 and lately in 2000.

² The Material Costs Index with the latest revision, complies to the requirements of the Council Regulation (EC) 1165/98 "on short term statistics", and of the Commission Regulation (EC) 588/2001 as regards "the definition of variables".

SUMMARY TABLE

Material Costs Index in Construction of New Residential Buildings

(2000=100,0)

I. Monthly changes

	Description	Material Costs Index						
Code		2007	2006	Change %	2006	2005	Change %	
		January	December		January	December		
321	Overall Index	126,3	125,8	0,4	118,1	117,8	0,3	

II. Annual changes

Code	Description	Material Costs Index						
		January		Change	January		Change	
		2007	2006	%	2006	2005	%	
321	Overall Index	126,3	118,1	6,9	118,1	113,9	3,8	

Note: 1. The indices are calculated with infinite decimal figures and are rounded up to one decimal figure when published

^{2.} Percentage changes are calculated on the basis of the indices with five decimal figures and are rounded up to one decimal figure when published