Measuring Plasterboard waste in the finishes and interior sector

The Plasterboard Resource Efficiency Action Plan (REAP) produced by the Plasterboard Sustainability Partnership (PSP) sets targets for reducing waste across the sector. FIS along with Build UK have been asked to commit to a reduction in waste target of 15% by 2020. There are currently no records across our sector for plasterboard waste. In order to understand the levels of plasterboard waste in the sector the FIS Drywall Group has proposed a biannual survey of members using a single method to record waste.

Method of recording waste

It is important that the same methodology of recording waste is adopted across the sector. To ensure consistency and avoid errors where waste is co-mingled or allowed to get wet, the following method should be used.

1. Calculate the square meterage $M^2$ of boards delivered to site
2. Calculate the $M^2$ of board installed using the invoices from the installers.
3. Calculate the $M^2$ of any materials still to be installed
4. Enter the information in the excel sheet provided to calculate a % figure for waste (example below)
5. Provide bi yearly figures to info@thefis.org with Plasterboard waste figures in the subject box
6. Returns for the period January 1 to June 30 to be provided by 31 October and for the period 1 July to 31 December by 15 February.

The information provided in this survey will be extremely valuable to the sector and will allow the FIS the information it needs to develop sensible, achievable waste reduction strategies, and it is better for the sector to develop a solution rather than have one imposed upon us by government or main contractors.

The results will be anonymised and shared with contributors to allow you to benchmark your performance. Your cooperation is much appreciated.