

INTERNATIONAL PASSIVE HOUSE CONFERENCE 2010

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Energy efficiency for the whole planet – practice-oriented Passive House Conference Programme published

Darmstadt, 19 March 2010 – How to refurbish listed buildings in an energy-relevant way? Why is the air quality in a Passive House school better than that of a conventional school building? Scientists from all over the world will deal with these and many other questions during the 14th International Passive House Conference on 28th and 29th May in Dresden. The latest developments in energy-efficient construction will be presented in sixteen bi-lingual Working Groups.

Practice-oriented

Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Feist, Scientific Director of the Passive House Institute and Professor of the Building Physics Unit at the University of Innsbruck, emphasises the distinctiveness of the Conference: "Scientifically well-founded reports are already available for a great number of projects operating in practice which have now been evaluated. Their results are extremely helpful for further development. They show how and why basic approaches have worked so well – and which technology is liable to produce less optimal results. Social scientists have also carried out large-scale surveys with Passive House residents – and have compared the statistics with other new constructions. These will be prepared for the Conference in Dresden and we can discuss them with the authors."

Interdisciplinary

The main focus of this year's Conference lies on the following topics: "Energy efficiency and preservation of historical buildings", "Sustainability and cost-effectiveness of non-residential buildings", "Refurbishment", and "Comfort and health". Many different contributions document the broad spectrum of the Conference: from the first certified Passive House supermarket in Ireland to the Austrian Passive House for the Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver.

Global

The global implementation of the Passive House concept will be studied in six Working Groups. The expansion of the Passive House standard in Central and Eastern Europe is another important focus. In two Working Groups, speakers will present initial reports about their experiences, as well as realised projects in Bulgaria, Latvia, Rumania, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland. "The Passive House is spreading at great speed", observes Professor Jan Tywoniak. He is in charge of the research projects on energy efficiency at the Technical University of Prague (Czech Republic). Professor Zbasnik-Senegacnik, who teaches architecture at the University in Ljubljana (Slovenia), sums it up: "With the Passive House, for the first time there is international, comprehensive access with potentials in all climates to energy-efficient construction. Of course, the ideal components vary from region to region, but the methodology is systematic and target-oriented. This is both an opportunity for international communication and for successful regional development." Dr. Lorant Krajcovic,

from Bratislava, reports about the implementation in Slovakia: "The Passive House became a development trend within a few years, and I'm happy that the experiences of my colleagues from Slovakia can be presented at the conference". All three scientists are members of the conference advisory board.

At the forefront

Saxony's Minister for the Environment Frank Kupfer will inaugurate the Conference. "With the 'Action Plan for Climate and Energy' the Free State of Saxony has committed itself to the application of better energy standards for building construction. This Conference will certainly contribute to making the Passive House even more familiar and successful", assures Kupfer, who has assumed the patronage of the event. The State of Saxony supports the construction of these highly efficient buildings with the "Passive House Innovation and Practice Network" with model construction projects. Visitors to the Conference can view realized Passive House buildings locally on Sunday 30th May. With the decision for holding the Conference in the newly-formed German states for the first time, the organisers intend to advance the Passive House standard, not only in this region but above all in Eastern Europe also. The organisers are expecting about 1,000 participants not only from Germany and Europe, but the whole world.

Innovative

The tried and tested technical components for Passive Houses can be seen at the Passive House components exhibition in the Congress Centre in Dresden. In the leading trade fair of the branch covering an area of 3100 m², reputable manufacturers will display the latest product developments, systems and procedures for energy efficient construction.

Independent

Useful information will be provided by experts at the Passive House Forum during the Passive House components exhibition. The organisers of the Forum, the Information Community Passive House Germany, will be present at their stand with neutral information and latest Passive House research results for members, Conference participants and other interested people.

**14th International Passive House Conference
with Passive House components exhibition
Date: Friday 28th and Saturday 29th May 2010
Venue: Congress Centre Dresden**

The Passive House Institute Darmstadt and SAENA GmbH - the energy agency of Saxony - are the joint organisers of the 14th International Passive House Conference. For further information please see **www.passivhaustagung.de**

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