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## Press Release

29 June 2016



"Passive House for everyone" is the theme of the 21<sup>st</sup> International Passive House Conference in Vienna. A Passive House for everyone is the multi-family-complex in Vienna's Raxstraße. The roof has a swimming pool with a view over the city. The ground floor has a kindergarten integrated. (Photo below).

Photos (2): H. Dimko

## From kindergartens to retirement homes

### Vienna invites you to "Passive House for all" - Call for Papers

**Darmstadt/Innsbruck/Wien.** The Passive House Institute is looking forward to Vienna where the 21<sup>st</sup> International Passive House Conference will be taking place next year. The date and venue for the Conference have now been confirmed: experts in energy efficient construction will convene at the Messe Wien Congress Centre on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> April 2017. The theme for the 21<sup>st</sup> Conference will be "Passive House for all". The Call for Papers has begun.



Much has happened since the construction of the first Passive House in Darmstadt-Kranichstein in 1991. The terraced housing complex was the pioneer project of four dedicated private clients who moved into these homes with their families. Typical Passive House components such as triple-glazed windows had to be specially produced at the time as well as ventilation

systems with heat recovery, thermally optimised spacers for glazing and materials for effective insulation. Today, these components are available as standard and at reasonable prices.

## Sustainable solution for climate friendly construction

The energy efficient Passive House building standard has proven to be successful throughout the world. The types of building constructed to the Passive House standard have also become more diverse. "The Passive House concept is a sustainable and cost-optimal solution for the Nearly Zero Energy Building. Because it functions everywhere, it is an opportunity to implement climate protection objectives with a high level of living comfort at the same time. The associated added value is attractive especially for small and medium-sized businesses", explains Dr. Wolfgang Feist, Director of the Institute.



The Technical University Vienna has retrofitted its building at Getreidemarkt to a Passive House. The energy demand decreased from 804 to 56 kWh/(m<sup>2</sup>a). At the same time it produces 61 kWh/(m<sup>2</sup>a) renewable energy. Photo: Schöberl & Pöll

## Passive House for everyone

The International Passive House Conference 2017 with its theme "Passive House for everyone" provides a forum for presenting examples and ideas relating to this.

Passive House buildings are now possible for all stages of life: from kindergartens, schools and universities to retirement homes. Energy efficient Passive House buildings impress with their comfort and consistently low energy demand.

## Passive House even functions in the Arctic

In addition, Passive House buildings are feasible with all construction methods, with all kinds of energy supply systems and for all budgets. The Passive House Standard can be achieved for new constructions as well as for retrofits. Moreover, from a global energy efficiency perspective, the fact that Passive House buildings work well in all climate zones including artic and tropical climates, is very important.

## Vienna is committed to Passive House buildings

During the conference Vienna itself will also demonstrate its pioneering role in construction to the Passive House Standard. Numerous workshops with Passive House experts and excursions to completed Passive House buildings in Vienna and the surrounding area will round off the extensive conference programme.

The Call for Papers has begun. Brief descriptions for presentations can be submitted until 1<sup>st</sup> October 2016.

Further information can be found at [www.passivehouse-conference.org](http://www.passivehouse-conference.org).

The poster features a large green circle on the left containing the text "Call for papers" in white, with "deadline 1 October 2016" below it. To the right, the text "21<sup>ST</sup> INTERNATIONAL PASSIVE HOUSE CONFERENCE 2017" is displayed in red. Below this, the text "Passive House for all!" is written in large white letters, followed by the dates "28 | 29 April 2017" and the location "Vienna". The background of the poster shows a photograph of the Hofburg Palace in Vienna. At the bottom, there is a row of logos for various sponsors, including the Passive House Institute, PASSIVHAUS Austria, DBU, International Passive House Association, klimaaktiv, WienTourismus, BMVIT, STADT der Zukunft, Sinfonia, and the European Union flag.

### **Passive House**

A Passive House is a building that due to its excellent design and construction, stays at a comfortable temperature year round with minimal energy inputs, no matter the climate or geographical region. Passive House buildings make efficient use of “passive” sources, such as sun and heat recovery to cover remaining needs, and use similar techniques such as shading to keep them comfortably cool. A Passive House therefore consumes around 90 percent less heating energy than existing buildings and about 75 percent less than an average new build.

### **Pioneer project**

The first Passive House was built 25 years ago in Darmstadt-Kranichstein, Germany. Since the first families moved in in 1991, it has stood as the global pioneer project for the Passive House Standard. In the spring of 2016, building physicists undertook intensive studies on this first building to find the building was still performing as designed and that the low heating energy demand remained.

### **Passive Houses worldwide**

Meanwhile, there are Passive Houses buildings of all types. In addition to residential - and office buildings there are also kindergartens and schools, hospitals, sports halls, swimming pools and factories as Passive House buildings. Worldwide, since 1991 over 60,000 Passive House projects have been built. The interest in Passive House is increasing. Considering the resource consumption of the industrialized countries and the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, a new building or retrofit to the Passive House Standard appears increasingly as an attractive alternative for municipalities, business and private individuals.

### **Passive House Institute**

The Passive House Institute is an independent research institute that has played an especially crucial role in the development of the Passive House concept - the only internationally recognised, performance-based energy standard in construction. The Passive House Institute is the organizer of the International Passive House Conference and the related exhibition.

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