

Press Release

27 August 2021



The first part of the 25th International Passive House Conference will take place in the Historic City Hall in Wuppertal, Germany (access for tested, vaccinated and recovered persons). In addition, the events, including the triple anniversary celebrations, can be followed online.

© Historische Stadthalle Wuppertal, Photo: Lars Langemeier

Clear the stage for better building

25th International Passive House Conference confirmed to take place – flexible concept

Darmstadt, Germany. The 25th International Passive House Conference is confirmed to take place. The flexible concept allows to invite to the anniversary conference even under changing conditions. The conference starts 10 September 2021, both in-person in Wuppertal (Germany) and online. In-person meetings are currently permitted in the German state of North Rhine-Westphalia. Should the authorities decide different at short notice, the first part of the conference will be offered as an online event exclusively. Tickets can be changed easily. Festivities are planned for this year: all participants are invited to celebrate a triple anniversary, as well as the presentation of the Passive House Award.

The 25th International Passive House Conference definitely takes place. It will be inaugurated on 10 September 2021 under the auspices of the Ministry of Economic Affairs of the German state of North Rhine-Westphalia. This year there are four good reasons to celebrate: the Passive House Institute is now 25 years old, the International Passive House Conference is taking place for the 25th time, and the world's first Passive House in Darmstadt (Germany) is celebrating its 30th anniversary. In addition, the winners of the **Passive House Award 2021** will be announced during the conference.



More climate protection is what the participants of this recent demonstration in Frankfurt/M. (Germany) are demanding. The #25intPHC presents how climate protection is realised in the building sector. © Passive House Institute

Rules for attendance

North Rhine-Westphalia currently permits the event to be held at the venue Historische Stadthalle in Wuppertal for tested, vaccinated and recovered persons. "From the start, we have implemented a flexible concept with on-site events and online content. We are, of course, pleased that, given



the current situation, we can actually celebrate our anniversary conference in Wuppertal, subject to the conditions", explains Jan Steiger, one of the managing directors of the Passive House Institute.

Broadcast of Award presentation

The ceremony for the **Passive House Award 2021**, on the first day of the conference, will also take place in the

Historische Stadthalle and will be broadcast live for all winners and a general audience. As the organiser of the conference, the Passive House Institute is prepared for any possible changes: if the on-site event does have to be cancelled at short notice due to official regulations, the first part of the conference will take place online. Tickets can be changed without a problem, and the difference in price will be reimbursed. The second part of the conference has already been planned as an online-only event on 14 and 15 September 2021.

Already have the key

The importance of implementing effective climate protection is illustrated by the currently observable, devastating effects of climate change. It has been known for some time that the building sector also plays a large part in climate change. The building sector worldwide accounts for around 40 per cent of the final energy consumption and about 38 per cent of CO₂ emissions. The International Passive House Conference impressively demonstrates that it is possible to reduce the energy consumption and the emissions drastically. Buildings constructed to the Passive House standard have been widely implemented as they need very little energy for heating and cooling and therefore effectively protect the climate. At the same time, they provide a healthy living environment and a high level of comfort.



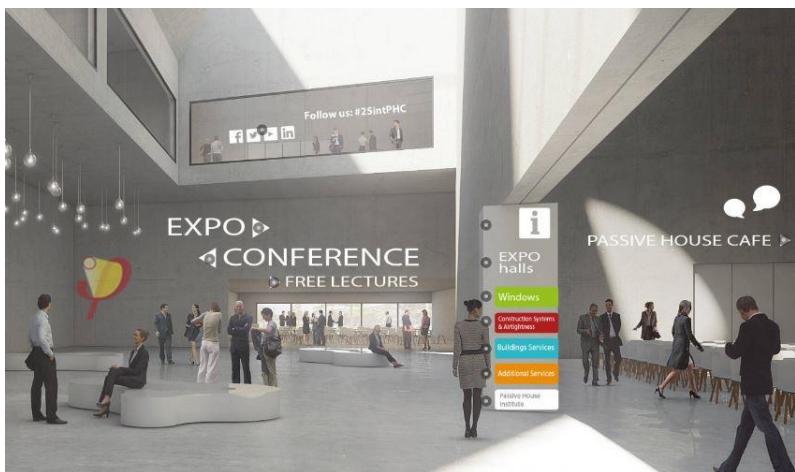
Projects at #25intPHC: A students' hostel in Vienna, Austria (above) and climate-friendly housing settlement in Kleve (Germany): Passive house buildings require very little energy for heating and cooling and thus effectively protect the climate.

© G. Reinberg/Reppco Architekten

Turning the tide

"Now it's time for the next step. We are showing that climate-friendly buildings can be implemented not just in single projects, but also in the form of entire districts. In the building sector, modernisations of excellent, energy-relevant quality on an extensive scale also play an indispensable role in turning the tide. Extremely energy-efficient buildings are a fundamental prerequisite for a renewable energy supply at large scale", explains Jan Steiger.

Specialist exhibition starts 1 September



The online version of the specialist exhibition starts 1 September at 10 a.m. (CEST) with an inauguration event for all those interested.

© Passive House Institute

Quality-approved building components for extremely energy-efficient construction and retrofitting will be presented at the Passive House specialist exhibition within the framework of the 25th International Passive House Conference. The online version of the specialist exhibition will already be available from 1 September on. At 10 a.m. (CEST) there will be an online inauguration event for all those interested. Virtual guided tours will be offered, and contacting the manufacturers online is possible. In

Wuppertal, the specialist exhibition will open for all participants on the first day of the conference.

16 lecture series

The 25th International Passive House Conference offers a total of 16 lecture series. The main theme this year is "Passive House - the key to sustainable buildings". The focus will be on international

projects from around the world, summer comfort, ventilation strategies and ecological building materials. The topics of social housing construction, energy consultancy and retrofitting will also be presented. The lectures will be in English and German.



Two online appointments for visiting Passive House projects are offered, and two excursions take place in Wuppertal. This Passive House kindergarten will also be visited. © EnergieagenturNRW, F. Wiedemeier

Excursions

Excursions will also be offered during the 25th International Passive House Conference, two of which will be virtual tours. Visitors can experience Passive House for themselves with two excursions to exciting Passive House projects in Wuppertal planned for Sunday, 12 September 2021. The architects and engineers involved in the projects will take the participants through the buildings. The conference is a recognised further education opportunity. The latest information and registration details can be found on the website at www.passivehouseconference.org, and in the Social Media with the hashtag #25intPHC.

Close-Up 1: Energy efficiency costs too much? Certainly not!

In this presentation, a misconception will be thoroughly refuted: Energy efficient construction costs too much! That is certainly not the case! High construction costs are due to other factors. In **Lecture Series Number 5**, Axel Bretzke shows that those who are content with less efficiency in buildings do not only harm the climate, but are also not doing themselves any favour!



© Pixabay

Close-Up 2: A quick retrofit of 30 apartments!

The prefabricated timber elements arrived complete with an integrated ventilation system, the windows and solar protection elements and were then assembled on site. The duration of the complete retrofit of 30 inhabited (!) apartments: Just four weeks! That includes substantially improved energy efficiency of the building, better living comfort and a high level of user satisfaction, among other things. This retrofit project in the Austrian city of Linz will be presented in **Lecture Series Number 7**.

Close-Up 3: Social housing construction and climate protection

Highly energy efficient buildings aren't just good for climate protection; they also provide the basis for affordable housing. In **Lecture Series Number 3**, the German Institute for Housing and the Environment (IWU) will present the experiences gained with the PassivhausSozialPlus in Darmstadt. The aim of this Passive House project was to combine a high level of living comfort with low rents and extremely low auxiliary costs. How? By means of energy efficient kitchen appliances, LED lights, photovoltaic systems and a grey-water plant. The residents can see via displays how much of their budget has already been used up for tap water and domestic electricity.

Close-Up 4: Think big: create housing districts!

Housing settlements with extremely energy efficient buildings – there are many of these already. In **Lecture Series Number 1**, the Ministry of Economic Affairs of the German State of North Rhine-Westphalia, among others, will present some of the more than 100 climate-friendly settlements. There will be other reports on impressive projects from Kleve, Euskirchen and Vienna, which will demonstrate how the living environment can be better and more beautiful - even in protected historical districts.

25TH INTERNATIONAL PASSIVE HOUSE CONFERENCE 2021

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Ministry of Economic Affairs,
Innovation, Digitalization and Energy of the
State of North Rhine-Westphalia



EUROPEAN UNION
Investing in our Future
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Wärme | Feuchte | Schall | Brand | Licht | Energie





General Information

International Passive House Conference

The 25th International Passive House Conference will take place from 10 to 12 September 2021 as a hybrid event both in the Historische Stadthalle Wuppertal and online. www.passivhaustagung.de

Passive House buildings

With the Passive House concept, the heat loss that typically takes place in buildings is drastically reduced due to high-quality thermal insulation, windows with triple glazing, avoidance of thermal bridges, an airtight building envelope, and a ventilation system with heat recovery. This ensures that Passive House buildings can manage without a *traditional* building heating system. They are called "passive houses" because a major part of their heating demand is met through "passive" sources such as solar radiation or the heat emitted by occupants and technical appliances.

In a Passive House building the heat is retained for a very long time since it escapes very slowly. A very small amount of energy is required in total. In the summer (and also in hot climates), a Passive House building also offers advantages: among other things, the excellent level of insulation ensures that the heat stays outside, therefore active cooling usually isn't necessary in residential buildings. Due to the low energy costs in Passive House buildings, the utility costs are foreseeable - a fundamental principle for affordable homes and social housing.



The world's first Passive House building in Darmstadt, Germany celebrates its 30th anniversary this year. © P. Cook

Passive House and NZEB

The Passive House standard already meets the EU requirements for Nearly Zero Energy Buildings. According to the European Buildings Directive EPBD, all member states must specify requirements for so-called NZEBs in their national building regulations. These came into effect in January 2019 for public buildings and applies for all other buildings since 2021.

Pioneer project

The first Passive House in the world was built in Darmstadt, Germany, 30 years ago by four private homeowners. Prof Wolfgang Feist was one of them. Ever since the homeowners moved in with their families in 1991, these terraced houses have been regarded as a pioneer project for the Passive House standard. With its newly installed photovoltaic system, this flagship Passive House now utilises renewable energy and received the Passive House Plus certificate for this reason.

Passive House and renewable energy

The Passive House Standard and generation of renewable energy directly on-site or near the building is a good combination. The building classes "Passive House Plus" and "Passive House Premium" are available for this supply concept.



Prof. Wolfgang Feist
© Peter Cook

Passive House Institute

The Passive House Institute with its headquarters in Darmstadt (Germany) is an independent research institute for highly efficient use of energy in buildings. The Institute founded by Dr. Wolfgang Feist holds a leading position internationally with regard to research and development in the field of energy efficient construction.

Social Media

Twitter: @the_iPHA // Facebook: **the International Passive House Association** // Hashtag for the conference
#25intPHC

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