



**Call for Papers**  
Abstract submission deadline:  
1st September 2023

**27<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL PASSIVE HOUSE CONFERENCE 2024**

Photo © Passive House Institute

Retrofit. Have an impact.  
5 + 6 April 2024  
Innsbruck

organiser and cooperation partners:



It's off to Innsbruck! The Passive House Institute and the University of Innsbruck invite everyone to the 27th International Passive House Conference in April next year. The Call for Papers runs until September 2023. © Passive House Institute

# Retrofit. Have an impact.

## 27th International Passive House Conference in April 2024 in Innsbruck

**Darmstadt, Germany.** The 27th International Passive House Conference will be held in April 2024 in Innsbruck in Austria! The focal theme of the conference will be "Retrofit. Have an impact." In order to effectively bring the building sector on course towards climate protection, reliable energy retrofits are indispensable. The conference will take place at the University of Innsbruck. The Call for Papers is open until the beginning of September 2023.

The dates are set: the 27th International Passive House Conference will take place on April 5 and 6, 2024 in Innsbruck, Austria. The Passive House Institute as organiser and the University of Innsbruck as co-organiser are inviting everyone to the Campus Technik of the university. After 2011, the Passive House Institute will be hosting the leading trade fair for highly energy-efficient construction and renovation for the second time in the capital of Tyrol. Following the conference, there will be the opportunity to take part in excursions to impressive Passive House projects in Innsbruck and the surrounding areas on 7 April 2024. There, numerous pioneering Passive House projects have been realised in the residential and non-residential sectors in recent years, including energy refurbishments as part of the EU project SINFONIA.

## Improving thermal protection

"We are very much looking forward to Innsbruck and to organising the next conference together with the University of Innsbruck. We will also make it possible to experience successful retrofit projects to the EnerPHit standard first-hand for all those interested," explains Jan Steiger, a member of the management board of the Passive House Institute. In Innsbruck alone, within the framework of the SINFONIA project, deep retrofits of 33 buildings to the highly energy-efficient EnerPHit standard were carried out. For this, the thermal insulation of the roofs, walls and windows was improved to a high standard and ventilation units with heat recovery were installed in the buildings, among other things. The monitoring report is available [here](#).



The amount of heating energy saved in the SINFONIA projects in Innsbruck is considerable: on average 77 percent. At the same time, residents are benefiting from a significantly higher level of thermal comfort after the retrofit.  
© Passive House Institute

## Call for Papers until September

The Call for Papers for the **27th International Passive House Conference** is now open. Short descriptions for a potential conference presentations can be submitted until the beginning of September 2023. With a maximum of 3000 characters, the abstracts are relatively short. The scientific advisory board will then decide the selection of presentations. The focus on retrofits will



Visually appealing, and a hit in terms of energy efficiency: this supermarket in the Austrian town of Prutz achieved the EnerPHit standard. The refrigerated shelves are also significantly more energy-efficient.  
© MPREIS, Kathrin Auer

be highlighted throughout the two-day conference, with the main focus on fast and reliable energy retrofits to the EnerPHit standard. In addition, there are other focus topics like the installation of heat pumps and split units and the goal of reliably achieving a high level of energy efficiency in step by step retrofits.

## Retrofits & more topics

The event in April 2024 will also focus on solutions for passive and active cooling, prefabricated components, and highly energy-efficient non-residential buildings and districts. Other focal themes include Passive House buildings under challenging climatic conditions, and high energy efficiency combined with the generation of renewable energy. Another hot topic is the EfficiencyNOW! campaign, in which the Passive House Institute shows how everyone can implement efficiency measures in their own homes.

## Applying the solutions

"It doesn't make sense to wait for technical miracles in order to stop global warming. Our approach is to implement the solutions that already exist: the Passive House concept is scientifically validated, globally applicable, and cost-effective. Through a high level of energy efficiency, the building sector can thus contribute significantly to the energy transition and climate protection," explains Laszlo Lepp, managing director of the PHI Österreich GmbH, the Innsbruck office of the Passive House Institute.

## Trade exhibition

The conference also offers a **trade exhibition for Passive House components** on the university premises at the same time. Manufacturing companies will present their components for highly energy-efficient construction and retrofits. Companies are increasingly becoming aware of the economic opportunities in this area. Workshops are part of every International Passive House Conference and are also planned in Innsbruck. Further information about the conference can be found here: [www.passivehouseconference.org](http://www.passivehouseconference.org)

*The press release is available [here](#) together with visual material.*

# 27<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL PASSIVE HOUSE CONFERENCE 2024

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## General information

**Passive House Award:** That's how diverse Passive House is! Finalists and winners of the international architecture competition are presented in this [Flipbook](#). Click and see!



**#EfficiencyNOW!** The call of the hour is to save fossil energy. To achieve this, the Passive House Institute has started the **#EfficiencyNOW** campaign. All information can be found on the platform [Passipedia](#).

**Passive House buildings:** With the Passive House concept, the heat loss that typically takes place in buildings through the walls, windows and roof is drastically reduced. By applying the following five basic principles 1. Excellent thermal insulation, 2. Windows with triple glazing, 3. A ventilation system with heat recovery, 4. Avoidance of thermal bridges, 5. An airtight building envelope, a Passive House building needs very little energy for heating and cooling. A major part of its heating demand is met through "passive" sources such as solar radiation or the heat emitted by occupants and technical appliances. The Passive House concept works well also in deep retrofits. The Passive House Institute has developed the EnerPHit standard for this purpose.



Socially compatible and highly energy efficient apartment blocks built to the Passive House standard.  
© Neue Heimat Tirol

**Other advantages of the Passive House & EnerPHit standards:** 1. Increased thermal comfort. 2. In winter the heating demand is very low; the heat escapes out of the house very slowly. 3. The cooling demand of Passive House buildings in the summer is low. 4. The utility costs are predictable due to the low energy costs – which is the basis for affordable homes and social housing.

**Passive House and renewable energy:** The Passive House standard and generation of renewable energy directly on-site or near the building is an excellent combination. The Passive House Institute has also introduced the building classes *Passive House Plus* and *Passive House Premium*. The pioneer project in Darmstadt was equipped with a photovoltaic system in 2015 and therefore received the *Passive House Plus* certificate.



In 2021, the world's first Passive House building in Darmstadt celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

**Building uses:** There are now Passive House buildings for all types of building uses. In addition to residential-use and office buildings, there are also kindergartens, schools, sports halls swimming pools and production facilities built to the Passive House standard. The certificate for the first Passive House hospital in the world was presented in Frankfurt am Main. The hospital started operations in the new highly efficient building in February 2023.

**PHPP:** The planning tool PHPP (Passive House Planning Package) is available for realistic and reliable energy balance calculation and planning of highly energy efficient buildings. This Excel-based tool is routinely used worldwide for planning and quality assurance of Passive House buildings and EnerPHit deep retrofits.

**Passive House Institute:** The Passive House Institute in Darmstadt was founded by Professor Wolfgang Feist in 1996; since 2010, the Institute has also had a branch in Innsbruck. The Passive House Institute is an independent organisation holding a leading position in research and development relating to highly energy efficient construction and building retrofits.



Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Feist  
© Peter Cook

**iPHA:** The purpose of the International Passive House Association (iPHA) is the dissemination of knowledge relating to highly energy efficient construction and retrofitting as well networking.

## Social Media:



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Katrin Krämer / Press Officer // Passive House Institute // [www.passivehouse.com](http://www.passivehouse.com)  
E-mail: [presse@passiv.de](mailto:presse@passiv.de) // Tel: (+49) 06151 / 826 99-25