

Press Release


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These are the winners of the 2021 Passive House Award. The presentation of the Award took place within the framework of the 25th International Passive House Conference in Wuppertal. Special recognition awards were also handed over to several projects.
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That's what (efficient) winners look like!

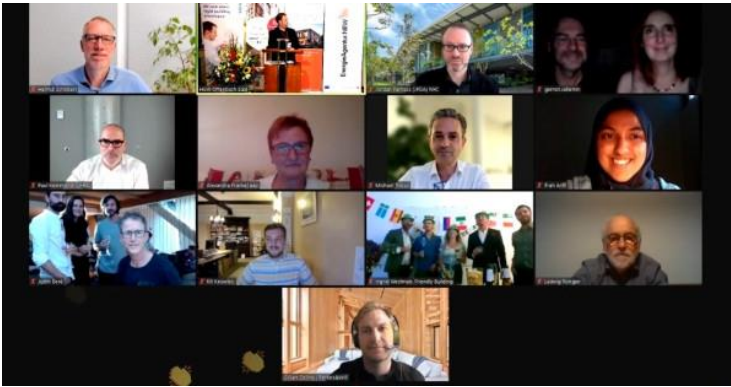
Passive House Institute presents 2021 Passive House Award to 14 awardees

2021 Passive House Award  **Darmstadt/Wuppertal, Germany.** The ceremony for the 2021 Passive House Award was held online this time, but was equally exciting. During the 25th International Passive House Conference in the Historic Town Hall of the city of Wuppertal, the Passive House Institute presented the Passive House Award to 14 awardees from nine countries. Most of them participated in the ceremony via video stream and celebrated online.



Jan Steiger of the Passive House Institute during the 2021 Passive House Award.
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The awardees of the **2021 Passive House Award** were full of joy as Jan Steiger of the Passive House Institute presented the Award in the Historic Town Hall of Wuppertal. Most of them were present via a video stream and viewers were able to contribute to the celebratory atmosphere during the live broadcast of the conference. "Buildings constructed to the Passive House standard require much less energy and significantly lower emissions are produced over their life-cycle. This exactly is vital for effective climate protection. All winners are a perfect example of how an extremely sustainable building standard can be implemented with a high architectural quality and in completely diverse ways", explains Jan Steiger, one of the managing directors of the Passive House Institute.



Most of the awardees of the Passive House Award 2021 were present via video stream. In the Historic Town Hall of Wuppertal, Lale Küçük of the EnergieAgentur.NRW handed over a special recognition award to Dr Bernd Steinmüller for a Passive House Plus retrofit of a two-family house in Hamm/Westphalia, Germany. © Passive House Institute

High architectural quality

The international jury panel of the **2021 Passive House Award** selected 14 awardees out of a total of 87 submissions of certified Passive House building projects from around the world. Besides the architecture of the building, economic efficiency and innovation as well as a renewable energy supply played an important role in the decision of the jury. The details of the winning entries will later be published in book form. Information on these have already been compiled online on the **Passive House Award** website.

The 14 awardees of the 2021 Passive House Award

1) Category Retrofit

Administrative building of the Austrian social insurance companies in Vienna, Austria, **ID 5918**

Awardee: Helmut Schöberl, Schöberl & Pöll GmbH
Architectural office: Chaix & Morel et Associés und Christian Anton Pichler ZT GmbH



2) Category Multi-unit residential building

Residential building of the building association StadtNatur in Munich, Germany, **ID 6607**

Awardees: Gernot Vallentin & Rena Vallentin, ArchitekturWerkstatt Vallentin GmbH



3) Category Non-residential building

Research Centre in Sino-German-Ecopark in Qingdao, China, **ID 4674**

Awardees: Ludwig Rongen & Michael Tribus & Gernot Vallentin, RoA – RONGEN TRIBUS VALLENTIN GmbH & CABR Beijing



4) Category Passive House and renewables

School building in Madrid, Spain, ID 6418

Awardees: Paloma Campo Ruano & José Maria de Lapuerta,
De LaPuerta+Campo Arquitectos



5) Category Single-family home

Single-family house in Aylesbury, UK ID 5535

Awardees: Justin Bere & Ifrac Ariff, bere:architects



6) Category Educational building

School with a sports hall in Huddinge, Sweden, ID 6071

Awardee: Ingrid Westmann, Friendly Building AB
Architectural office: Street Monkey Architects



7) Special Award by Dr Wolfgang Feist "Sustainable Retrofit"

Administrative building in Strasbourg, France, ID 6408

Awardee: Camille Bouchon, Solares Bauen SARL
Architectural office: Richter Architectes et Associés



8) Special Award EnergieAgentur.NRW "Sonderpreis NRW"

Retrofit to Passive House Plus of a two-family house in Hamm/Westfalen, Germany, ID 6535

Awardee: Dr. Bernd Steinmüller, BSMC
Architectural office: Igor Wispler, Paderborn



9) Special SIGA Award, "Airtightness"

Multi-family building in Fort St. John, Canada, ID 5724

Awardee: Paul Hammond, Low Hammond Rowe Architecture



10) Special Swisspacer Award "Living Comfort"

Retrofit of a semi-detached house to the EnerPHit Standard in Manchester, UK, ID 5807

Awardees: Kit Knowles, Ecospheric & Chris Rodgers, Guy Taylor Associates

Architectural office: Ecospheric & Guy Taylor Associates



11) Special Recognition: Multi-unit residential building

Students' hostel in Loeben, Austria, ID 4862

Awardees. Alexandra Frankel, Martina Feirer of aap.architekten ZT-GmbH



12) Special Recognition: Single-family home

Single-family house in Pemberton, Canada, ID 6593

Awardee: Cillian Collins, Perkins+Will Architects



13) Special Recognition: Non-residential building

Supermarket in Weer, Austria, ID 5390

Awardees: LAAC Architekten zt-gmbh



14) Special Recognition: Retrofit

Factory building in Katunayake, Sri Lanka, ID 6030

Awardee: Jordan Parnass, Digital Architecture



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General Information

Passive House buildings

With the Passive House concept the heat loss that typically takes place in buildings through the walls, roof and windows 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. For this reason, active heating is needed only during extremely cold days. A very small amount of energy is required in total for providing this remaining heating. 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. A Passive House building consumes around 90 percent less heating energy than an existing building and about 75 percent less than an average new construction.

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 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. This flagship Passive House now utilises renewable energy and received the Passive House Plus certificate.

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.

Passive House worldwide

Passive Houses buildings for all types of uses now exist everywhere. In addition to residential and office buildings there are also kindergartens and schools, sports halls, swimming pools and factories built as Passive House buildings. The first Passive House hospital in the world is currently being built in Frankfurt/M., Germany. Interest in Passive House is growing. In view of climate protection and the consumption of resources, municipalities, businesses and private people are increasingly implementing new constructions or retrofits to the Passive House standard.

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. Among other things, Dr Wolfgang Feist was awarded the DBU Environmental Prize in 2001 for developing the Passive House concept.

Social Media

Twitter: @the_iPHA // Facebook: the International Passive House Association // #25intPHC

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The world's first Passive House building in Darmstadt, Germany celebrates its 30th anniversary in 2021! © Peter Cook



Prof. Wolfgang Feist
© Peter Cook