

## Press Release

3 March 2023



The city of Exeter, UK, has implemented its new leisure centre with an indoor swimming pool to a highly energy efficient standard. At the 26<sup>th</sup> International Passive House Conference, the city will present a report on the project. © Exeter City Council

# Forward into the future!

**Efficiency NOW! – 26<sup>th</sup> International Passive House Conference in Wiesbaden shows how!**

**Darmstadt, Germany.** Next week, the 26<sup>th</sup> International Passive House Conference will be all about better ways to construct and retrofit buildings. In line with the offered workshop on highly energy-efficient healthcare buildings, one of five excursions will take participants on a tour of the Passive House hospital in Frankfurt. Special offers are available for students and municipalities. The conference will also include the EnergyEfficiency Forum. This trade exhibition for highly energy efficient components offers a diverse programme, and admission is free. The conference will be held in Wiesbaden, Germany. Online participation is also possible.

## 26<sup>th</sup> International Passive House Conference

The programme of the 26<sup>th</sup> International Passive House Conference from 10 - 12 March includes over 80 presentations and workshops. After the opening plenary on Friday morning, there will be presentations on international projects, the perfect combination of Passive House and renewables, interesting non-residential buildings, social housing, energy balancing tools and many other topics.

A total of 16 lecture series are planned. With the motto **Efficiency NOW!**, the conference will also be focussing on highly energy efficient retrofits and components for this purpose.



## Huge potential of deep retrofits

Experts see the huge potential of highly energy-efficient deep retrofits for significantly reducing the energy demand of the (global) building stock and thus making a substantial contribution to climate protection. The building sector will also become considerably less dependent on energy imports. Residents and users can simultaneously benefit from lower energy costs and increased comfort. "Saving energy continues to be the order of the day. The building sector also has a duty to make a significant contribution to this! The conference in Wiesbaden will clearly show how this can be done and how we can all benefit from it," explains Jan Steiger, a member of the management board of the Passive House Institute. The venue of the 26<sup>th</sup> International Passive House Conference is the RheinMain CongressCenter (RMCC) in the Wiesbaden city centre. Online participation is also possible.

## Workshops & Excursions

Other items on the agenda at the 26<sup>th</sup> International Passive House Conference include workshops and excursions. Municipal decision-makers at the European level are invited to a workshop on energy efficiency in the context of the EU project outPHit. The Passive House Institute will offer a workshop on highly energy efficient hospitals and health care facilities. Fittingly, one of the five excursions on Sunday will take attendees to the world's first certified Passive House hospital in Frankfurt. The highly energy-efficient new building opened its doors in early February. Other excursions will take participants to visit Europe's largest Passive House residential area - the Bahnstadt in Heidelberg, Passive House school buildings including sports halls, and residential buildings in Wiesbaden and Darmstadt.



Topics in Wiesbaden (from the left): Clayton Community Center in Canada (© Cathy Chan, Introba), retrofit of a school in Weiterstadt (© LaDaDi) and the world's first certified Passive House hospital in Frankfurt (© Klinikum Frankfurt Höchst).

## Evening events

The International Passive House Conference is *the* networking event for all stakeholders in highly energy efficient construction and deep retrofiting. This year, participants are invited again to attend evening events. The legendary Passive House Exhibition Party will be held on Friday, while the International Passive House Association will host the iPHA Dinner on Saturday. Tickets to both events can be bought in the **Conference shop**.

## Approved continuing education event

The conference, under the patronage of Tarek Al-Wazir, Minister for Economic Affairs of the state of Hesse, is an approved continuing education event. For students and municipalities there will be special offers available during the conference. The conference languages are German and English.

## EnergyEfficiency Forum

The **EnergyEfficiency Forum** is part of the conference. All those wishing to obtain information about energy efficient construction and retrofiting are invited to visit this two-day specialist exhibition. Highly energy efficient building components will be presented, including windows, ventilation units with heat recovery and heat pumps. There will also be guided tours and short presentations. The EnergyEfficiency Forum will also be in the rooms of the RMCC on **10 and 11 March 2023**. On Friday, the Forum will be open until 7 p.m., and on Saturday until 6:30 p.m. In the Passive House raffle, participants will be able to win a plug-in solar device and overnight stays in Passive House hotels in the Alpine region. Admission to the Forum is free.



The EnergyEfficiency Forum with free admission is inviting everyone to find out about better construction and deep retrofits.  
© Passive House Institute

All information relating to the conference and the EnergyEfficiency Forum can be found on the website [www.passivehouseconference.org](http://www.passivehouseconference.org). The Twitter hashtag is **#26intPHC**.

**Media representatives** can send an E-mail to [presse@passiv.de](mailto:presse@passiv.de) if they wish to attend the 26<sup>th</sup> International Passive House Conference. The **press conference** for the trade and daily press will be held on Friday, 10 March 2023 at 12.30 p.m. at the RheinMain CongressCenter in Wiesbaden.

# 26<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL PASSIVE HOUSE CONFERENCE 2023

## Organiser



## With the kind support of





## General Information

**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. SINFONIA and other projects around the world have demonstrated that the Passive House concept works well also in deep retrofits of existing buildings. 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.

**Pioneer project:** The first Passive House building in the world was built 30 years ago in Darmstadt, Germany, by four private homeowners. Professor 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.



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

**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.

**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 Passive House certificate was recently awarded in Frankfurt for the first Passive House hospital in the world.

**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 international Passive House Association (iPHA) disseminates the knowledge relating to highly energy efficient construction and retrofitting as well as networking.

## Social Media:



Twitter: @the\_iPHA      Facebook: International Passive House Association  
Instagram: @passivehouse\_international



LinkedIn: @passive-house-institute

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