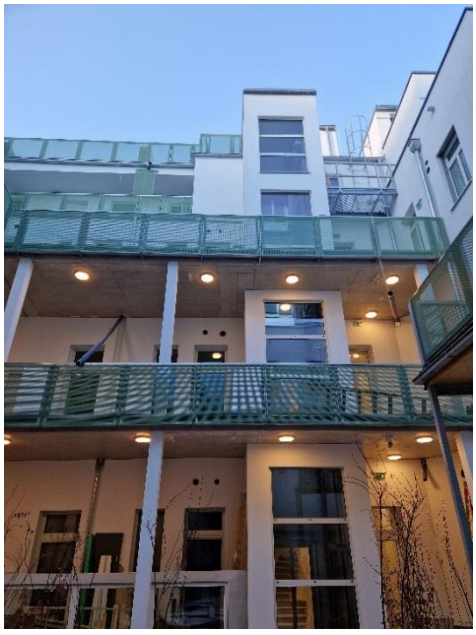
Press Release

17 January 2024



The 27th International Passive House Conference in Innsbruck will focus on EnerPHit renovations: The modernisation of this Wilhelminian style building in Vienna using Passive House components is almost complete. © Schöberl & Pöll

Deep retrofit and everyone benefits

27th International Passive House Conference in Austria: Programme & ticket shop now online

Darmstadt, Germany. **Retrofits are the key to climate protection in the building sector. In order to support the uptake of retrofit solutions, the Passive House Institute's 27th International Passive House Conference will take place with a focus on significantly improving the energy performance of existing buildings to the EnerPHit standard. The conference will take place from 5 to 7 April in Innsbruck, Austria and it also includes a Passive House specialists' exhibition. The conference programme is now online and the ticket shop is open. An early bird rate is available for anyone registering soon.**

The Passive House Institute invites you to attend the **27th International Passive House Conference** in the Austrian city of Innsbruck from 5 to 7 April 2024. The conference is being held in cooperation with the University of Innsbruck and will take place mainly in the university's technical campus. The university building shown in the picture on the left has been modernised with highly energy-efficient Passive House components, making it a good showcase for the conference focus on retrofits. Excursions to the numerous Passive House projects in Innsbruck and the surrounding area of Tyrol will be offered on the third day of the conference (Sunday). Workshops will be held in the run-up to the conference, including dedicated events for designers and municipalities. Evening events for networking will round off the programme.

Do not retrofit half-heartedly

The **27th International Passive House Conference** will be inaugurated by climate scientist Diana Ürge-Vorsatz of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The event will be held under the auspices of Austrian Climate Protection Minister Leonore Gewessler, who will also give a plenary speech. "Successful retrofits will bring us closer to our goal of dispensing with fossil fuels in the foreseeable future. If retrofits are carried out, they must not be done half-heartedly, instead they must be implemented to a high energy efficiency standard. Otherwise, neither the climate nor the people who have to pay for the energy bills will benefit," says Jan Steiger, member of the management board of the Passive House Institute.

Fabric first

Steiger goes on to explain that a good level of energy efficiency significantly reduces the building's energy demand and peak loads. Occupants are no longer dependent on fossil fuels for heating or cooling, as a retrofitted building can be supplied more easily with renewable electricity, for example by means of a heat pump or a split air conditioning unit.

outPHit with EnerPHit

The programme on 5 and 6 April 2024 includes a total of 12 presentation sessions. The focus will be on retrofit projects carried out to the highly energy-efficient EnerPHit standard. Numerous projects have been retrofitted with Passive House components as part of the EU project outPHit. outPHit not only promotes highly energy-efficient and cost-effective modernisations, but also serial retrofits using prefabricated building elements. Another outPHit session deals with quality control for reliably achieving a high level of energy efficiency in retrofits.

Successful retrofit: This Carriage House in New York was retrofitted with Passive House components and now reaches the EnerPHit standard (left & middle, © Adam Kane Macchia). Successful new build: The energy-efficient leisure centre was new territory for the British city of Exeter (right, © Exeter City Council).

Passive House challenges and solutions

In addition to the retrofit focus, the **27th International Passive House Conference** will present highly energy-efficient projects in challenging climates, learnings from exciting projects from the host country Austria, as well as various non-residential buildings built to the Passive House standard. Another series of lectures will deal with building services concepts. The presentations will be held partly in German and partly in English, with simultaneous translation into English available for any originally German presentations.

Trade exhibition & further training

The conference also includes the Passive House specialists' exhibition: for two days in Innsbruck, manufacturing companies will present components for highly energy-efficient construction and refurbishment, including windows, products for airtightness, wall and roof constructions and ventilation units with heat recovery. The Passive House Institute will also have a general information booth at the trade exhibition. The exhibition is open to everyone beyond the circle of conference participants as part of a free guided tour on the Saturday of the conference. The conference is an approved further training event. Those who purchase their conference ticket in good time will benefit from the discounted early bird rate available until 4 February 2024. Additionally, there is a special ticket offer for students. Up-to-date information can be found at **www.passivehouseconference.org,** the hashtag for the conference is **#27intPHC**.

Media representatives interested in attending the 27th International Passive House Conference may send an email to presse@passiv.de

This Press Release together with visuals is available in different formats here.

27TH INTERNATIONAL PASSIVE HOUSE CONFERENCE 2024

Organiser

Passive House Institute

Co-organiser

universität innsbruck

With the kind support of

International PASSIVE HOUSE Association iPHA

PASSIVHAUS Austria

IG PASSIVHAUS Informations-Gemeinschaft Passivhaus Deutschland

PASSIVHAUS DIENSTLEISTUNG GmbH

outPHit

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DBU Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt

Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction

REN+HOMES

eza! Energie- und Umweltzentrum Allgäu

klimaaktiv

Energieinstitut Vorarlberg

Universität für Weiterbildung Krems

Department für Bauen und Umwelt

DONAU UNIVERSITÄT KREMS

General information

outPHit: This EU project supports far-reaching and cost-efficient building retrofits based on Passive House principles. With numerous model projects in Europe, outPHit demonstrates ways of reliably implementing energy-efficient retrofits. www.outphit.eu

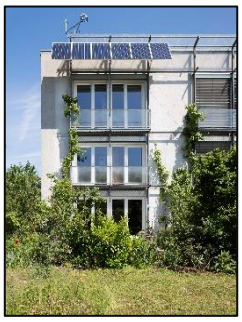
Passive House Award: That's how diverse Passive House is! Finalists and winners of this architecture prize are presented in this Flipbook.

#EfficiencyNOW: The aim is to reduce fossil energy consumption. The Passive House Institute has started the #EfficiencyNOW campaign. All information on Passipedia.

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

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 many other projects 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.



In 2021, the world's first Passive House building in Darmstadt celebrated its 30th anniversary! © P. Cook

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 on-site 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 new highly efficient building of the first Passive House hospital in the world started operations 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.

Prof Dr Wolfgang Feist © Peter Cook

Passive House Institute: Founded by Professor Wolfgang Feist in 1996, the Passive House Institute is an independent organisation leading in research and development relating to highly energy efficient construction and building retrofits.

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

Social Media:

Twitter: **@the_iPHA** Facebook: **International Passive House Association**

Twitter: **@PHAustria** Facebook: **Passivhaus Austria**

Linkedin: **@passive-house-institute**

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