

Press Release

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Hundreds of Passive House residents opened their doors

International Passive House Days from 13 to 15 November 2015

Darmstadt, Germany. A Passive House building combines energy efficiency with high levels of comfort – those wishing to get their own impression had the chance to do so from 13 to 15 November. During the International Passive House Days event, the doors of almost 700 buildings were open in many countries around the world. Experts demonstrated how these buildings and houses work, while residents shared their personal experiences. Many of the buildings involved in the EuroPHit project as case studies and observer projects were also open to the general public. An overview is provided at: www.europhit.eu/currentprojects



Detached single family house (EnerPHit Retrofit), Sonnenstrasse 39, Zellingen am Main, Germany open to the general public during the International Passive House Days 2015. Photo © Passive House Institute

During a visit, it quickly becomes apparent what distinguishes a Passive House from regular buildings: the indoor air quality is demonstrably higher than in conventional buildings, the room temperatures remain pleasantly stable in a natural way – both in summer and in winter. “In personal talks with inhabitants of Passive Houses, some of whom have been living in these for many years, even detailed questions can be easily clarified in a straightforward way,” says Amina Lang from the International Passive House Association.

Over a third of the total energy consumed in industrialized countries results from the operation of buildings – most of this goes towards heating and cooling. This consumption

can be reduced by up to 90 percent using Passive House technology. Therefore, a broad implementation of this construction method is crucial for climate protection. At the same time, the Passive House Standard is also an especially attractive investment opportunity. “Any extra investment costs are usually recouped within a few years, due to the low energy consumption,” says Dr. Wolfgang Feist, Director of the international Passive House Institute. “And monthly heating bills will of course remain marginal after that as well”.

The internationally held Passive House Days have been taking place on a weekend in autumn each year since 2004. Tens of thousands of people in total have taken this opportunity to gain a first-hand experience of the benefits that a Passive House building has to offer. The event is an initiative of the International Passive House Association [iPHA](#). This year the event was organised as part of the EU-funded project [EuroPHit](#).

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