



## Press Invitation

2014 International Passive House Conference, 25 -26 April  
Eurogress Aachen/Germany, Monheimsallee 48  
Press Conference: Friday 25 April, 12:30 pm, Room K 5

### **Passive House Conference showcases solutions for energy revolution**

#### **International platform for sustainable construction from 25 to 26 April in Aachen**

There is a huge potential for saving energy in the building sector; how this works in practice will be demonstrated at the International Passive House Conference taking place in Aachen, Germany the week after Easter. On 25 and 26 April, experts from all over the world will be presenting the latest projects and practical solutions. An accompanying Passive House components fair will provide building owners and property developers with an overview of opportunities for their own buildings. One of the highlights at this Conference is the presentation of the Passive House Award; this architecture prize shows that Passive Houses are not only energy efficient and cost-effective, but can also be exemplary in terms of architectural design.

The International Passive House Conference will be opened by Johannes Remmel, Minister for Climate Protection in the German State of North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW), Lothar Schneider, Director of the EnergyAgency.NRW, and Gisela Nacken, Departmental Head of Planning and Environment of the City of Aachen. The plenary speakers include Professor Diana Ürgel-Vorsatz, responsible for issues relating to building efficiency in the latest report of the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change); Pat Cox, former president of the European Parliament; Dr. Heinrich Bottermann, Secretary General of the German Environmental Foundation (DBU); and Professor Dr. Wolfgang Feist, Director of the Passive House Institute.

Altogether, over a hundred speakers will present lectures at the Aachen Eurogress over two days on topics relating to the potential for climate protection and cost savings that can be exploited through intelligent architecture. Manufacturers of energy efficient building components will exhibit the latest developments at the accompanying exhibition, where the Component Award for outstanding Passive House windows will be presented. The exhibition is free and open to the public. The framework programme will start on 23 April with workshops and seminars for beginners as well as experts, ranging from a Passive House Basics course to a

workshop on Passive House Components across the Globe. All-day excursions to completed Passive Houses in the region will be offered on 27 April.

Over a third of the total energy consumed in industrialized countries is required for running buildings – most of this goes towards heating. This consumption can be reduced by up to 90 percent using Passive House technology. The invested costs are offset within a few years through the saved energy costs. Not only does improved building efficiency constitute an important contribution to the energy revolution, but it is also an attractive investment opportunity for building owners. This principle functions equally well in new builds as it does in refurbishments of existing buildings.

Press conference panellists will include:

**Johannes Remmel**, Minister for Climate Protection, Environment, Agriculture, Nature and Consumer Protection in the German State North Rhine-Westphalia

**Lothar Schneider**, Director of EnergyAgency.NRW (North Rhine-Westphalia)

**Gisela Nacken**, Head of Planning and Environment of the City of Aachen

**Professor Diana Ürge-Vorsatz**, IPCC Report author (topic: building efficiency)

**Dr. Heinrich Bottermann**, Secretary General of the German Environmental Foundation (DBU)

**Professor Dr. Wolfgang Feist**, Director of the Passive House Institute

After the Press Conference, a second press meeting will take place at 2:00 pm with the winners of the 2014 Passive House Award, whose names will have been announced for the first time during the opening plenary session that morning. After this, media representatives will be able to participate in a guided tour of the Passive House Exhibition. For participation in excursions, advanced registration is requested.

# **18<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL PASSIVE HOUSE CONFERENCE 2014**

Conference and Exhibition: Friday 25 April and Saturday 26 April

Framework programme: beginning Wednesday 23 April

Excursions: Sunday 27 April

Organisers: Passive House Institute, Energy.Agency.NRW and the City of Aachen

Further information and press accreditation: [www.passivehouseconference.org](http://www.passivehouseconference.org)

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