

December 2016

[View this email in your browser](#)



Table of contents

- [Highlight](#)
 - [Active House announced the awards winner of the Active House label contest](#)
 - [Interview with the winner of the Active House Label Awards](#)
 - [Invitation to visit Green Solution House – the winner of the Active House Award](#)
- [Active House working for you](#)
 - [Active House awarded three projects with special prize](#)
 - [Active House Board launched discussion on its new strategy for 2017-2019](#)
 - [Active House organised course for Label verifiers](#)
- [Developments on sustainable buildings](#)
 - [Active House welcome the package of legislative proposals by the European Commission 'Clean Energy For All Europeans'](#)
 - [Events & Invitations](#)
 - [EcoBuild 2017 conference will focus on 'Regeneration'](#)
 - [PLEA goes to Edinburgh in 2017](#)
 - [Save the date for the EU Sustainable Energy Week in 2017](#)
- [Seasonal greeting](#)

Highlight

Active House announced the awards winner of the Active House label contest

Green Solutions House is the winner of the Active House label contest. The contest was launched last April to introduce the new label gathering 21 submissions from all over the world.

An international jury selected five short listed projects, and among these it picked the winner based on a close selection of different parameters.

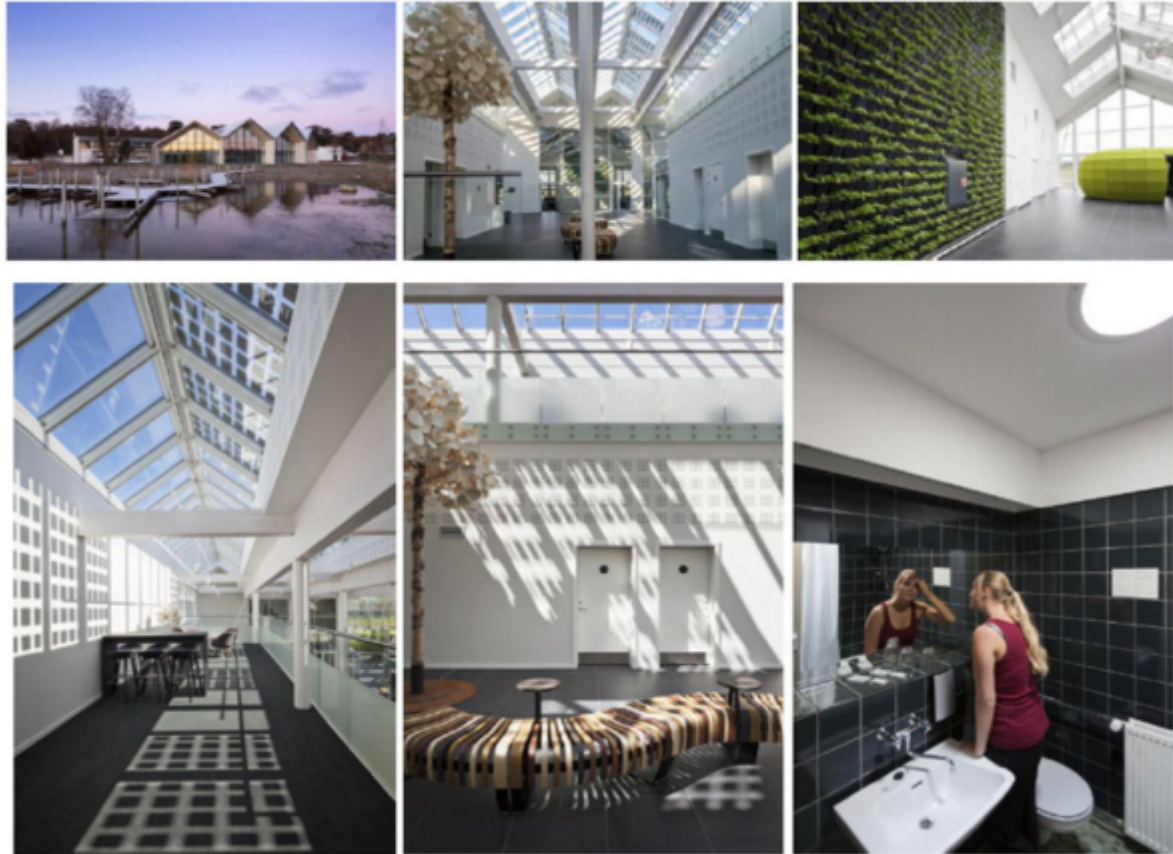
The jury, composed of international experts, included Rory Bergin, Arch MSc, Partner, Sustainable Futures, HTA Architects (England),

Duzan Doepel, Partner, architect, DoepelStrijkers, (The Netherlands). Marco Imperadori, Professor, Politecnico di Milano (Italy) and Mónika Tomóczy, MSc. Architect, product manager of Alukönigstahl (Hungary).

Green Solutions House was indicated by the jury as the winner of the competition, receiving most points in the selection procedure. In our newsletter we have interviewed the architect, the manager of the building and the jury to learn more about the specificities of this project.

The jury also decided to award a free Active House label to other shortlisted projects due to their unique characteristic of the Active House principles adapted to different climates. They wanted to show that the principles are quite versatile and flexible and that effective sustainable and comfortable solutions can be achieved with every project, anywhere.

Find out more about these projects in our newsletter further below.



Interview with Eileen Meyer, architect of the Garda Lake House in Italy

Green Solutions House is a sustainable knowledge and conference centre in Denmark that can inspire guests to act more sustainably in their everyday life. This project is the winner of the Active House Label contest. We interviewed the architect Kasper Guldager Jensen,



Senior Partner 3XN, who developed the project, Trine Richter, owner and director of Green Solution House on the users' experience and the jury who awarded the prize to learn more about this exciting building and to discover how innovation and sustainable solutions can be integrated into a hotel building.

Interview with Kasper Guldager Jensen, architect, Senior Partner 3XN

Q: What is the most interesting aspect of this project?

A: This project has been developed with a detailed focus on sustainability, including evaluation of materials and, where possible, use of upcycling, as well as the use of Active House principles as parameters for the design, reaching a high level on comfort and environment.

Q: What are the main features of this project?

A: What makes a big difference in this house is the daylight conditions in the hallway, rooms and conference facilities. We removed elements that made the building dark and where possible we opened the building up. We replaced concrete elements with glazed balustrades at balconies, installed roof light in rooms and corridors. The garden is an overall part of the sustainable design of the hotel, with its biodiversity include seasonal ponds for rainwater.

Another big difference at this project is the sustainable focus through all phases. Upscale of materials has been used with, among others, window glass for use in insulation, concrete and glass for bitumen free landscape and for foundations, etc. Our research and dialog with the manufacturers made a movement towards sustainable solution. The new material chosen is based on Cradle to Cradle and constructions has been made to be disassembled in end of their lifetime. The carpets chosen have air cleaning and capture dust, and are prepared for reuse.

Interview with Trine Richter, owner and director of Green Solution House, on the users' experience

Q: In your opinion, what was the main improvement of the building?

A: The overall transformation of the old hotel, from a dark building with low ceiling heights and limited daylight conditions, into a modern and sustainable conference center. This has been an interesting journey. The design is based on the Active House principles and without those as a guides, we might never have created such comfortable and daylight filled rooms as we have done.

Q: What are the guests' reactions to this building?

A: Our guests are very happy with the sustainable solutions developed outside and inside the building. We already hear their positive comments when they check in, where they find our main entrance area very bright with daylight and comfortable. We are also informed that they find our new hotel rooms very comfortable and with good indoor air quality, which among others is due to the materials chosen for the rooms.

Finally, they often tell us that our conference facilities are very pleasant to use and they don't get tired after using it one full day. We believe it is due to the design that opens to the daylight and creates good indoor comfort and a good atmosphere for learning.

Q: Was this renovation important for your business?

A: The sustainable and comfortable building design has become a competitive parameter for us. We use it to differentiate ourselves from others hotel and conference centres.

Interview to the jury

Q: Why did Green Solutions House stand out from the other submissions?

A: This project includes a unique combination of the three Active House principles in the design processes, its detailed modernization of the existing buildings and its educational characteristics.

Q: What was the other elements that made you select this project?

A: In terms of design it is clear that Green Solution House embraces the principles of Active House whilst successfully dealing with the complexity of transforming an existing structure.

Invitation to visit Green Solution House – the winner of the Active House Award

Green Solution House is one of the world's most pioneering green hotels and conference centres. Green Solution House has recently received The European Business Award for environment 2016, the Active House Alliance Award 2016 as well as other sustainable prizes. The set up is focused on sustainability with green gourmet, healthy hotel rooms, comfortable conference facilities, reuse of materials and a sustainable building design with integration of renewables, interaction between the inside and the outside, etc. You are welcome to visit the hotel and restaurant. Learn more [here](#) or contact the hotel at info@greensolutionhouse.dk.



Active House working for you

Active House awarded three projects with special prize

Three projects received recognition of their value in sustainability, comfort and energy efficiency thanks to the Active House label contest. They were part of the five short listed projects of the contest and following a closer examination of their parameters, the jury decided to also award them with a free Active House label. The jury wanted to stress the fact that each of these projects managed to integrate the

Active House principle in different types of buildings in completely different climates. We put together portrait of each of these projects:

ISOBO Aktiv – A House for the Future

Main feature: Active House principles applied to a new house in a Nordic climate
ISOBO Aktiv evaluates several technical solutions in one design and identifies steps to design optimal indoor air quality. The building is based on passive measures and a compact building with extra insulation. The focus on the risk of overheating resulted in a ventilative cooling design with several more skylights than normal, something that has other positive effects such as better daylight conditions with the better spread of the daylight in the compact.



LichtAktiv House

Main feature: Active House principles applied in a renovated house in Nordic climate
LichtAktiv Haus is the first CO2-neutral modernisation of a so-called Siedlerhaus, a semi-detached house from the 1950s located in the Wilhelmsburg district of Hamburg. The innovative modernization strategy combines maximum liveability with optimum energy efficiency. The once tight and closed structure of the building has been transformed into spacious rooms with high levels of daylight, providing occupants with the best living comfort. LichtAktiv Haus aims to achieve carbon neutrality and renewable energies meet all its energy demands.



Lake Garda House- new house in southern climate

Main feature: Active House principles applied in a new house in a Southern climate
House on Garda Lake is a private residence on two levels situated in northern Italy close to Lake Garda. Looking for a deep interaction with the lake and natural surroundings, the energy efficiency of this near zero energy building was only one of the planning ingredients. The new single family house based on passive house standards is oriented with its big window facade to the lake and therefore to the north. This has the advantage of reducing the higher cooling demand in that specific climate zone.



Active House Board launched discussion on its new strategy for 2017-2019

On 5 December the Active House Board members held a meeting to take stock of the main activities of the Alliance in 2016 and discuss the lessons learnt from the Active House Label Competition. Furthermore, the group launched a discussion on the Alliance's future strategy, which is currently under revision for the coming 3 years. Last but not least, members agreed that the revised strategy will be launched at the Alliance's General Assembly at the EcoBuild Conference on 7 March 2017 in London.

Active House organised course for Label verifiers

In the past months, Active House has organised a course for future verifiers for Active House Labels. The Alliance will therefore soon be able to verify projects in Denmark, Romania and Italy by local building experts. For information about labelling and the procedure to obtain a label see [here](#).

Developments on sustainable buildings

Active House welcome the package of legislative proposals by the European Commission 'Clean Energy For All Europeans'

The Active House Alliance welcomes the Commission proposals presented on 30 November 2016, the 'Clean Energy For All Europeans' package, which is a step in the right direction.

The Alliance holds the position that buildings are made for people, meaning that efforts in energy efficiency need to go hand in hand with indoor comfort. Therefore the Alliance welcomes the amendments to the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) Annex 1, where it outlines that energy needs for space heating, space cooling, domestic hot water and adequate ventilation shall be calculated in order to ensure minimum health and comfort levels defined by Member States.

With the work conducted by the Alliance on calculations and labelling of buildings in different countries throughout Europe, we have learned that there can be a need for common methodologies and understandings. Therefore, the Alliance also welcomes the requirement in Annex 1, where it is described that national calculation methodology shall be developed within the framework of European standards developed under mandate M/480.

The Alliance will bring forward its position in relevant forums. For further information please contact kurt.emil.eriksen@activehoise.info

Events & Invitations

EcoBuild 2017 conference will focus on 'Regeneration'

Ecobuild is the UK's largest and number one event for specifiers across the built environment. This year the event theme is Regeneration. Ecobuild 2017 between 7 and 9 March will be regenerated into an immersive city - complete with main street, distinct destinations and special feature attractions. Central to the experience will be Regeneration Drive, a boulevard running through the middle of Ecobuild, linking different aspects of the exhibition and enabling you to experience the very best examples of innovation and creativity from across the built environment. Within the framework of this event Active House will host its General Assembly and Advisory Board meetings. For further information, see [here](#).



PLEA goes to Edinburgh in 2017

PLEA (Passive Low Energy Architecture) conferences are highly ranked (where?) , attracting academia, architects, engineers and planners with support from industry, cities and governments. PLEA 2017 will take place in Edinburgh between 3 and 5 July and will address the key issues of the day on sustainable and resilient built environments - something does not sound right here, do u mean resiliently built environments?. This year's theme of 'Design to Thrive – Foundations for a Better Future' recognises the enormity of the local and global challenges we face in building and refurbishing our buildings, cities and societies to both minimise climate emissions and adapt effectively to climate change impacts in each of our own rapidly evolving economies, societies and physical infrastructures. At the event, where Active House's member VELUX is a sponsor, the Alliance is planning to present its award winning projects as case studies for successful implementation of innovative sustainable building solutions. For further information, see [here](#).

PASSIVE LOW ENERGY ARCHITECTURE DESIGN TO THRIVE

Edinburgh conference 3rd to 5th July 2017

Save the date for the EU Sustainable Energy Week in 2017

The EU Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW) is the most important European conference dedicated to sustainable energy policy issues. Sessions organised by the European Commission and energy stakeholders debate new policy developments, best practices and sustainable energy ideas, while networking events forge alliances. Next year the event will take place between 19 and 25 June in Brussels and the key highlight will be the European Commission's new Clean Energy Package which among others includes a proposal for a revised Energy Performance of Buildings Directive. (*More details and submission for session proposal will be coming soon.*) Further information will be available [here](#).



Seasonal greeting





Members



Become a member of the Alliance

Press and communication

 @activehouseinfo
  AH network
  Instagram

activehouse.INFO
 NETWORK AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING

www.activehouse.info

The Active House Secretariat is hosted by
 Cabinet DN | rue d'Arlon 25 | 1050
 Brussels | Belgium.
 Email: secretariat@activehouse.info
 Contact person is Petra Pálfi

Copyright © 2016 Active House, All rights reserved.



This email was sent to <<Email Address>>

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)
Active House · Active House Secretariat, Rue d'Arlon 25 · Brussels 1050 · Belgium

MailChimp