



Active House Seminar ‘How can buildings create value through values?’ @ Batibouw: key takeaways

On 23 February the 2018 Active House seminar took place in Brussels in the framework of Batibouw, the biggest Belgian trade fair for construction and renovation for professionals. The seminar addressed the theme of ‘how can buildings create value through values?’

‘Attractive buildings are buildings in which people feel good; if people are comfortable they work better, learn more, sleep well, have less sick days and increase productivity.’

An appreciated building is valuable, common knowledge. But when it comes to expressing this value, demanding it, programming it, documenting it, what are the tools, the terminology and general understanding of how to express the values which add up to a value?’ wrote Lone Feifer, Active House Secretary General, in a [blog post](#) on her LinkedIn account.



She also shared the key lessons learnt during this year's seminar:

- First speaker lined up the challenges seen from the perspective of a professional building owner: Bruno Lahousse, Director of the Social Housing Association Foyer Anderlechtois showed examples from **systemic social housing renovations**, followed by Vinay Venkatramen, CEO of LeapCraft who launched the tool **SenseMaking in the Comfort Economy**.
- The tool bases on a report co-created between LeapCraft, **GXN**, the **VELUX Group** and the **Active House Alliance**, where the hotel and conference center **Green Solution House** is monitored for Comfort Economy parameters. Key is that products and solutions are readily available.
- The **new member of the Active House Alliance**, Schneider-Electric presented the market **solutions to meet the digital challenges of smart buildings and cities**.
- The idea of a **Home Performance Labelling** would enable transparency for home owners and -buyers; Rory Bergin from **HTA Design** presented a fresh research investigating how a benchmark could shape up. Joost Hartwig from the German **Aktivplus association** showed the **tools and documentations** developed, and the idea of securing a proof of the building in use, before a final certification is issued. Professor Marco Imperadori from Politecnico di Milano introduced the outline of a **new reference publication for Active House approach as a path to Net Zero**.

During the event the Active House had the pleasure to hand to the Social Housing Association Foyer Anderlechtois the Active House label and the diploma of the winner in best in renovation category for the project **RenovActive** awarded for the **2017 Active House label contest**.



Publication on the case study quantifying the Active House



The analysis report quantifying the Active House parameters has been [published](#). The study looks at the winner of the 2016 Active House label award, Green Solution House, as best-case study to quantify the Active House parameters with real time analytics and streaming data collected through sensors. This has been produced by LeapCraft in collaboration with Green Solution House and Velux.

Partnership agreements signed with Active House Italia and AktivPlus Germany

During the Active House seminar, the Active House family grew and further extended its borders. Two important partnerships were officially institutionalized with the signature of the agreement with the National Alliances in Italy and Germany. The basis for a fruitful cooperation have been established.



Partnership agreement with Active House Italia



Partnership agreement with AktivPlus Germany

Active House General Assembly 2018 took place

during Batibouw

In the framework of the Active House seminar, the Active House general assembly met to approve the 2018 programme.

The Active House alliance elected as new Chair of the Board of Advisory Committee (BAC) Tad Putyra, President and COO of Great Gulf Homes. The other newly elected BAC members are:

- Aalborg University, Per Heiselberg
- Schneider Electric, Hanne Sjoeborg
- Politecnico di Milano, Marco Imperadori
- Cenergia, Peder Vejsig
- VELUX Group, TBC

Among the other items approved we flag:

- The 2018 Budget was approved by unanimity
 - The 2018 Communications strategy which includes a much collaborative approach with members was approved. To this end the Activehouse Secretariat will get in contact with its members in the coming weeks to gather contact points of Communications executives in charge of corporate communication in order to collect best practices and best cases on active house projects. In the meantime, if you have specific cases you would like to give visibility please contact: Secretariat@activehouse.info
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Nearly zero energy building renovation: From energy efficiency to environmental efficiency, a pilot case study

The scientific publication 'Nearly zero energy building renovation: From energy efficiency to environmental efficiency, a pilot case study' by Marco Imperadori, Professor at Politecnico of Milan and his team, has been published on Energy and Building.

The study uses the building labelling methodology developed by Active House and the case study of the Atika building, a demonstrative energy-efficient building, to present an environmental efficient methodology for energy retrofiting.

Active House Junior project in Italy – teaching to the new generations about sustainability in design and architecture

In February the Active House Veluxlab located in the Politecnico of Milan hosted around 45 children to teach them about the Active House principles and on the importance of recycling.

The 5 years old kids learnt about natural light and ventilation by visiting Veluxlab while they understood the importance of recycled materials when building their own houses made of paperboards.



The activity with children is connected to the School of Architecture for children SOU in Favara (Sicily) inside the FARM Cultural Park. Maco Imperadori is their scientific consultant and organizes several activities to make students aware of the importance of architecture, design and sustainability. The next project is going to take place in the framework of the Venice Biennale where activities will be organized with children from Venice.



Active House at the ROMEXPO

On 9 March, Emilia-Cerna Mladin, Ph.D. Professor from the University POLITEHNICA of

Bucharest participated to the Romanian Fair of Construction and Ambient, organized by ROMEXPO. She delivered a presentation entitled 'The Active House - A Pledge for Buildings that Provide Health and Comfort Conditions for Users' outlining the key principles of the Active House approach.



Events



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Active House members:



Knowledge centers:



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