



## Active House publishes booklet on Specifications 3.0

Active House has published the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the Active House Specifications.

The publication outlines the specifications for designing an Active House: a home, school, office, or another type of building that integrates health and comfort with energy efficiency and environmental performance.

The specifications are updated to reflect the current developments in the building industry and to remain at the forefront of sustainable buildings, while keeping the aspects that make Active House stand out.

The specifications were created in cooperation with members of the Active House Alliance, who have shared their knowledge, experience and feedback on the previous edition of the specifications.

Bas Hasselaar, one of the authors of the AH Specifications 3.0, talks about the new version:

### ***Why was it necessary to issue the Active House Specifications 3.0? Why now?***

“The last version of the specifications was published in 2015, five years ago already. Over the past five years we have received a lot of questions and feedback about the specifications. In addition, many new Active House projects have been realised, all over the world. Not only residential, but also schools, museums, office buildings, etc. Active House has always been at the forefront of the building practice. Active houses perform better and offer higher quality than buildings that are built according to regular

building standards. With the progressing of the building standard, it was time to update the specifications, to stay at the forefront.”

### What is different compared to previous Specifications?

“There are many changes. Some are relatively small, such as updated demands with regards to energy efficiency or indoor air quality. Others are much larger. There is a completely new chapter on acoustics, as (absence of) noise is an important aspect of a good indoor climate. Another big change is the weighting of the comfort aspects. Some rooms are used more intensively than others, and it is important that especially those rooms that are used a lot by many people have a good indoor climate. This is now reflected in the comfort scores. Aside from the content related changes, there is also a completely new layout and graphic design to make the Active House Specifications more attractive to look at and easier to use.”

### How you hope the specifications will help the developers of new building?

“Content-wise, the specifications can be divided into two parts: qualitative aspects, and quantitative aspects. Each parameter that is described in the specifications has both these qualitative and quantitative aspects. The quantitative aspects deal with numbers: they describe how much or at what level the design operates, which is translated into the Active House radar diagram. This diagram is a great tool to convey the quality of the building and can be used as a communication tool. The qualitative aspects deal with the ‘softer’ aspects of design that are difficult to express in numbers, such as the quality of the view out of a window. These aspects are especially important at the design stage. In the previous version of the specifications, the qualitative aspects were grouped together at the back of the booklet, where they were easily overlooked. Now, they are prominently featured at the start of each parameter, so they can easily be used by developers to improve the design or performance of their buildings. Hopefully, reading, or even browsing through the new Active House Specifications, will inspire developers to aim high, raise their ambitions, to create better buildings for people and planet.”

You can access the specifications by following this [link](#)



**THE ACTIVE HOUSE SPECIFICATIONS**  
3<sup>rd</sup> EDITION

activehouse

### The International Active House Alliance

The International Active House Alliance is a global network between: Academia & Knowledge Institutions, Designers & Planners, Developers & Builders, Building Industry Producers, who think alike on how sustainable buildings work, are created and delivered. The Alliance is a non-profit organization of partners working with a holistic view of sustainable buildings, based on the three guiding principles: comfort, energy and the environment.

The Alliance was established in 2011, following a roundtable in 2009 which set a first vision for the Alliance and several processes which put the spotlight on the acceleration of climate change and the need to use resources more carefully, however not excluding the user parameters of a good indoor climate and long-lasting qualities of building design. In 2016, the alliance defined the Active House label, a non-profit quality mark for the broader building market.

Today there are 7 national Alliances, multiplying the membership into a global community of partners who aim to scale sustainable cities with smart buildings, creating long lasting value.

The Active House principles are recognized amongst the top 10 certification schemes, and is truly global working across the value chain of buildings, from knowledge over designers and planning, with engineers, industries and developers working from the key principles: **Healthy Buildings for People & Planet.**

The Active House Alliance is a wide and well consolidated partner platform between public, private, industry and consumers – an example of the Sustainable Development Goal # 17.

**NATIONAL ALLIANCES**

activehouseusa activehoused aktivhus activehouseitalia aktivplus

**INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE**

Schneider Electric SAINT-GOBAIN somfy VELUX hta European Green Cities VFF gbrüder hanner architects DUCO leapcraft ARKITEMA BPiE LAER SUPSI aGm<sup>R</sup> UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

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BUILD UP

www.activehouse.info secretariat@activehouse.info

## Active House Tool 3.0

In Spring the Active House Alliance will publish the **AH tool 3.0**. The updated tool will be elaborated by Günther Ganthioler & Amdi Worm. The new version will include bug fixes and make the experience more user friendly.



## Save the date: Active House General Assembly will be held in Milan on March, 25

We are pleased to announce that the General Assembly will be held in **Milan, on 25 March**, hosted by Professor Marco Imperadori of Politecnico di Milano.

The event will also offer the opportunity to attend the PhD defense of Federica Brunone on Active House on 26 March. The topic will be: *"Taleah · Tecnologie additive in legno per edifici Activehouse. A BIM-based multi-dimensional analysis for the decision-making support of the building process. The application on wooden additive solutions for the sustainable transformation of the built environment"*



You can follow the [Active House webpage](#), and the [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#) profiles for up to date information about Active House



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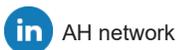


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## Press and communication



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[www.activehouse.info](http://www.activehouse.info)

The Active House Secretariat is hosted by Teneo  
| rue d'Arlon 25 | 1050 Brussels | Belgium.

Email: [secretariat@activehouse.info](mailto:secretariat@activehouse.info)

Contact person is Petra Pálfi