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## Press Release

February 14 2019

# **ACHIEVE BETTER BUILDINGS!** Passive House Conference Heidelberg 2019

## Heidelberg is already building better

Passive House Conference "Achieve Better Buildings!" on May 3-4, 2019

*Darmstadt.* Heidelberg is a city containing not just a beautiful historic district, but also new, must-see urban areas. Most notably the city's Bahnstadt, home to the world's largest Passive House settlement. This makes Heidelberg the ideal venue for the "Achieve Better Buildings!" Passive House Conference, sponsored by the City of Heidelberg. The "Achieve Better Buildings!" conference will take place in addition to this year's International Passive House Conference in China. Besides the conference programme with specialist lectures and hands-on workshops, there will be new formats, excursions and innovations.

### Summer Comfort in a Passive House

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of May 2019, Passive House experts will hold lectures on energy-efficient construction and retrofitting at the Heidelberg Stadthalle (City Hall). The presentations will include topics such as indoor swimming pools using the Passive House Standard, summer comfort, the combination of renewable energy and the planning and implementation of Passive House districts. Heidelberg's Mayor Eckart Würzner will also hold a lecture. Baden-Württemberg's Minister for the Environment Franz Untersteller will make a welcome address at the conference. There will also be panel discussions examining how high energy efficiency and building culture can be combined, and how architects and planners can convince their clients of the Passive House Standard. Numerous workshops on a variety of topics including the Passive House Project Planning Package (PHPP) and Building Information Modelling (BIM) are also a part of the [programme](#).

### Premiere for the Passive House Slam

For the first time there will be a Passive House slam at the conference. Using this entertaining format, funny Passive House construction anecdotes will be told every three minutes on Friday evening. There will be a German-language slam as well as an English-language slam for the international audience. The legendary Passive House Party will also take place in the Stadthalle directly after the slam.

## **Cool Components**

In addition to the conference programme, there will also be a two-day trade exhibition at "Achieve Better Buildings!" Manufacturers will present their products for energy-efficient construction and retrofitting. Many of these products are certified Passive House components. Sunday after the conference, participants are invited to join the excursions visiting impressive Passive House projects in Heidelberg and the surrounding area.

## **The original Bahnstadt**

One of the excursions will lead visitors through Heidelberg's Bahnstadt, currently the largest Passive House district in the world. The city of Heidelberg has made the Passive House Standard mandatory for the area that once served as the freight station. Since then, numerous residential and non-residential buildings have been built to the Passive House Standard, including three daycare centers, a school, a community center, a fire station, a hardware store and a cinema. A large shopping center is also currently under construction.

## **The replica Bahnstadt**

Heidelberg's Bahnstadt also served as a model for the Bahnstadt in Gaobeidian in China. Numerous Passive House residential buildings are currently under construction in Gaobeidian, some 80 kilometers south of Beijing. There is already a guesthouse and a museum built to the Passive House Standard. The 23rd International Passive House Conference will take place in Gaobeidian in September 2019. Thus, the Passive House Institute cordially invites you to join us at both the Passive House Conferences in Heidelberg and Gaobeidian this year.

The Passive House conference "Achieve Better Buildings!" is organised by the Passive House Institute in co-operation with the City of Heidelberg.

[www.heidelberg.passivhaustagung.de/en](http://www.heidelberg.passivhaustagung.de/en)