

Press Release

## **Straw construction symposium: EU promotes climate-friendly building with straw**

Online symposium for those interested in green building on 27 November

The first straw construction symposium for building decision-makers, building experts and interested parties will take place on 27 November. The half-day online symposium costs 30 euros. Registration can be made online at: <https://eveeno.com/313786027> and also entitles participants to attend the lecture programme of the Straw Bale Building Trade Association free of charge as part of its online annual meeting on 28 November. The programme overview can be found at [www.bau-mit-stroh.de/veranstaltungen](http://www.bau-mit-stroh.de/veranstaltungen).

The symposium on 27 November is organised by the Benedictine Abbey of Plankstetten in cooperation with the German Straw Bale Building Association and the carpentry firm Grünspecht eG, Freiburg, as part of the Interreg project UP STRAW.

The aim of the event is to inform construction experts, construction decision-makers and interested parties about straw construction and to exchange information with experts. Architects and master carpenters will report on their experiences with the traditional and at the same time innovative construction method and talk about current construction techniques. Large building projects of building classes 3, 4 and 5 in Germany and Europe will be presented. As the largest straw building in southern Germany, a multi-purpose building is currently under construction in the Bavarian Plankstetten monastery. The new building, classified as a so called „special building“ („Sonderbau“), meets the highest requirements, e.g. in the areas of fire protection and statics. In October, the topping-out ceremony of the reference building was celebrated with well-known representatives from politics, church and administration. In his ceremonial speech, the Bavarian State Minister of Finance and for home affairs Albert Füracker stated: "Straw is a progressive, modern and sustainable insulation material" (see press release of 26.10.20: <https://bau-mit-stroh.de/pressemitteilungen>).

„Dass der Strohbau inzwischen eine marktreife Bauweise ist, wissen in Deutschland immer noch wenige“, so Benedikt Kaesberg, Leiter des Interreg-Projektes UP STRAW in Deutschland. Das Projekt der EU zielt darauf ab, die Nutzung von Strohballen als Baustoff besonders bei innerstädtischen und öffentlichen Bauten zu fördern. Das internationale Projektteam hat Grundlagen für die Bekanntmachung der Bauweise geschaffen. Dazu gehören neben der Errichtung von fünf Referenzgebäuden u. a. eine Übersicht über rund 1200 strohgedämmte Häuser in ganz Europa unter <http://www.strawbuilding.eu/strawbale-houses-europe> sowie ein Verzeichnis für deutsche Strohbauaufachbetriebe unter <https://bau-mit-stroh.de/ansprechpartner-vor-ort>.

"Few people in Germany still know that straw construction is now a market-ready method of building," says Benedikt Kaesberg, head of the Interreg project UP STRAW in Germany. The EU project aims to promote the use of straw bales as a building material, especially for inner-city and public buildings. The international project team has taken many measures for the promotion of this construction method. In addition to the construction of five reference buildings, for example an online house register gives an overview of around 1200 straw-insulated buildings throughout Europe at <http://www.strawbuilding.eu/strawbale-houses-europe> and an online directory of German straw construction companies helps builders find straw building experts in their region at <https://bau-mit-stroh.de/ansprechpartner-vor-ort>.

Since 2006 straw has been a building material recognised by the building authorities in Germany. The German Straw Bale Building Association (FASBA e.V.) has defined professional building with straw in the Straw Building Guideline 2019. Anyone wishing to train as a building contractor in straw construction will find links to training providers and an online course on the project website [www.bau-mit-stroh.de](http://www.bau-mit-stroh.de). The thermal bridge catalogue for straw bale construction, certified by the Passive House Institute in 2020, makes it easier for architects to professionally design straw-insulated buildings to the passive house standard.

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**Online-Strahbau-Symposium**  
Fachtagung für Bauentscheider und Fachleute

**27. November 2020 14.30h**

Inklusive kostenloser Teilnahme am Online-Jahrestreffen des Fachverbands Strohballenbau am 28.11.



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