



ARCHITECTS' COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DES ARCHITECTES D'EUROPE

PLATFORM
EUROPEAN
CONCRETE

A Common Language for Sustainable Construction

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Common Language for Sustainable Construction

What Is It?

- **A Toolkit to Encourage the Adoption of a Common Language for Sustainable Construction**
- **Format is a Wiki Website Open to All**
- **Authors are the Architects' Council of Europe (ACE) and the European Concrete Platform (ECP)**



Common Language for Sustainable Construction

How Was It Developed?

- Joint Private Initiative in 2009
- Core Group With Identified Experts Set Up
- First Glossary Established
- Glossary Uploaded in Wiki Format
- Notifications and Invitations to Actors in the Sector
- Wiki Open for Four Months - Oct 2009 to Jan 2010
- Constant Monitoring by Core Group



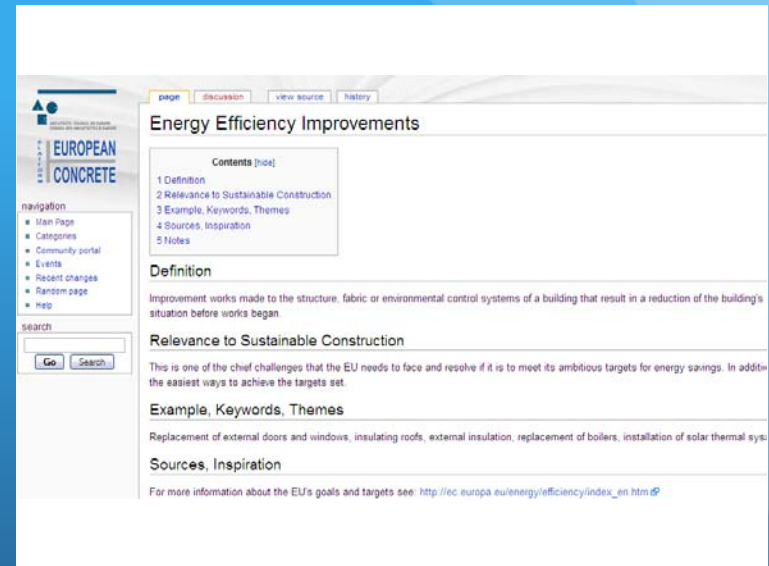
Common Language for Sustainable Construction How Was It Developed?

- All Edits Carefully Considered and Incorporated
- Contributions from FIEC, CEPMC, EURIMA, etc..
- Public Launch on 24th March During European Sustainable Energy Week
- Both ACE and ECP are Official Campaign Associates of Sustainable Energy Europe
- Next Steps - Cooperation with EESC and Commission



Common Language for Sustainable Construction How Is It Structured?

- A Glossary of >350 Concepts and Terms
- Grouped Into 11 Categories: *Acronyms, Concepts, Construction, Design, Energy Efficiency, Engineering, Finance, Materials, Planning, Sustainability and Systems*
- Contains a Generic Definition, Note on Relevance to Sustainable Construction, Examples and Information on Sources and Inspiration



Common Language for Sustainable Construction

How Is It Structured?

Term	Definition	Relevance to sustainable construction	Examples	References
Concepts 'Passivhaus' Standard (or Technology)	A Standard that...	Reduces the energy demand and...	See examples at...	www.links to further sources
Finance Whole Life Cycle Costing	A calculation that..	Provides for long life, low energy, loose fit	See XYZ	www.links to further sources
Materials Phase Change Materials	A substance with a high heat of fusion...	...have been considered for thermal storage...	...PCM wallboard and PCM concrete..	www.links to further sources
Energy Efficiency Net Zero Energy Buildings	Buildings that....	This makes a difference because...	See Building A, B,C...	www.links to further sources

Common Language for Sustainable Construction

Expected Benefits

- Engagement With EU and National Governments
- Coherence in Use of Terminology
- Reduction of Contradictory and Misleading Terms
- Easier and Clearer Cooperation Between Actors
- Increased Awareness Among Customers and End-Users
- Signposting Relevant Sources of Information



Berlaymont - HQ of the European Commission Brussels
Art+Build Architects

Common Language for Sustainable Construction Example

- **PassivHaus Standard:**

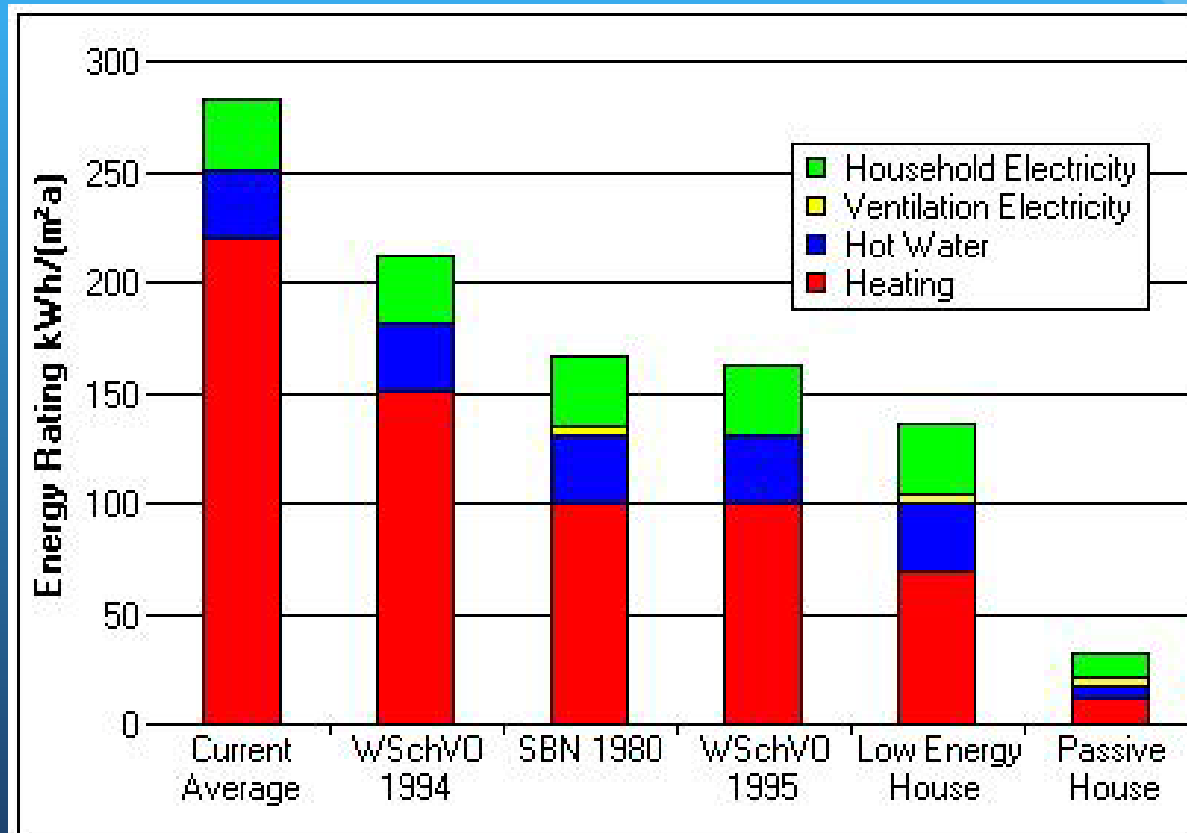
Refers to the rigorous, voluntary standard for energy efficiency in buildings. It results in ultra-low energy buildings that require little or no energy for space heating and cooling. To permit this it is essential that the buildings annual demand for space heating does not exceed 15kWh/m²

- **Passive House:**

The term “Passive House” refers to a building that does not rely on the installation of active mechanical heating, cooling or ventilation systems to ensure a comfortable, healthy indoor environment. It is closely related to the concept of Passive Solar Design

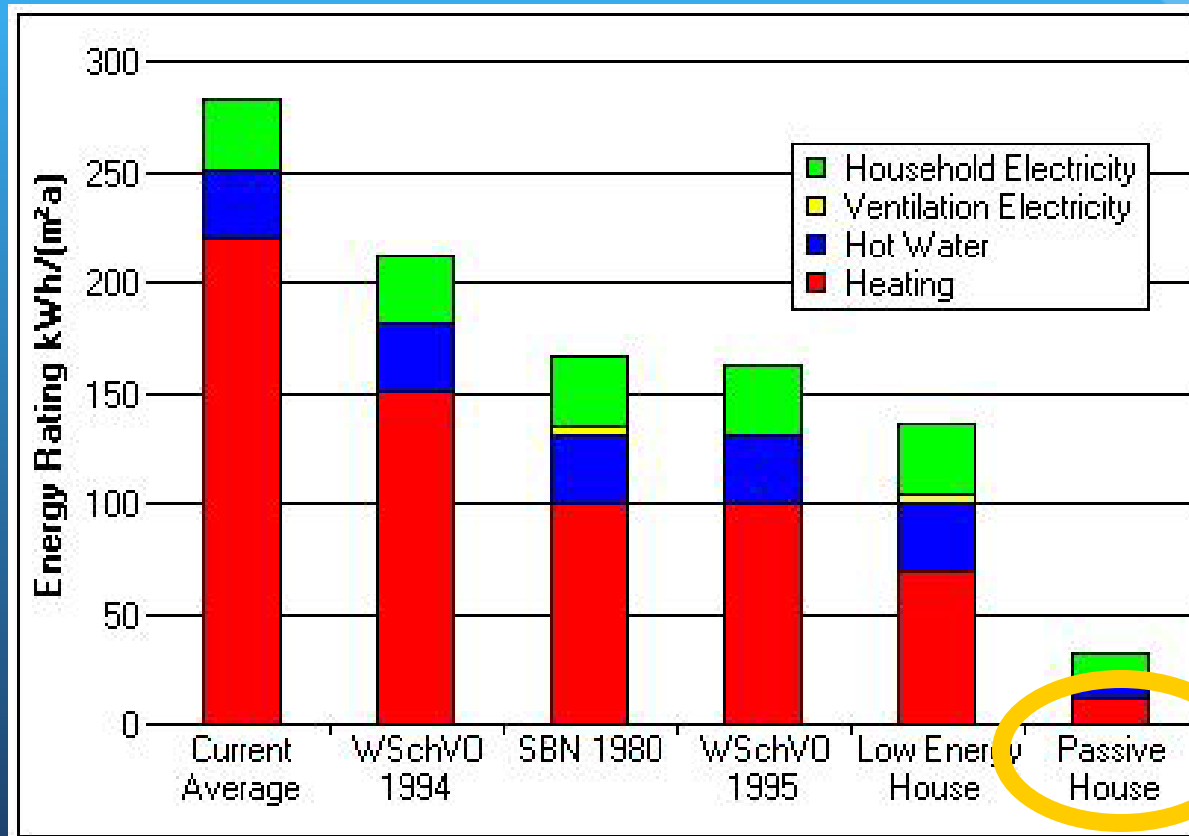
Common Language for Sustainable Construction Example

- From the PassivHaus Institute Website:



Common Language for Sustainable Construction Example

- From the PassivHaus Institute Website:



Common Language for Sustainable Construction Next Steps

- Continued Monitoring by Core Group of Edits on the Wiki
- Dissemination Activities - Including *Build Up* Website
- Translation to All Official EU Languages
- Regular Review and Updating of Definitions (Every 3 Years?)
- Development of Materials Specific Entries



Do You Speak Sustainable Construction?

**Thank You for Your
Attention!**



www.sccommonlanguage.eu