

PRESS
release

EXPERT JUDGING PANEL FOR ISOVER STUDENT COMPETITION ANNOUNCED

6 January 2011

Isover, leading developer of sustainable insulation solutions to protect both the natural and built environment, has announced a line up of leading industry experts who will be joining representatives from the company to judge UK entries in the 2011 Isover Multi-Comfort House competition.

The panel will include Roland Matzig, founder of r-m-p architects and engineers which consulted on the renovation of the world's only Passive House skyscraper built to date in Germany; Bill Butcher, who developed 'Denby Dale', one of the UK's first Passive House developments and director of the Green Building Store; Anna Surgenor, Senior Technical Advisor at the UK Green Building Council, Gabriel Golumbeanu from Isover, a representative from the Passive House Trust and Ken Shuttleworth, founder of Make Architects. Previously a partner at Foster & Partners, Ken has worked on some of the world's most iconic buildings including the Gherkin.

Also joining the panel will be Antony Wood, Executive Director at the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat. Based in Chicago, USA, Antony will be joining the panel remotely, lending his extensive expertise in skyscrapers to help choose the best entries in this year's competition, which requires students to design a tower to be located in the Greenwich South district of Lower Manhattan, New York.

The building must be designed in accordance with Isover Multi-Comfort principles,
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encompassing Passive House performance levels to create a sustainable, multi-use building. Judges will be assessing entries against three main criteria: design and functional concept, incorporation of Multi-Comfort House elements and overall sustainability. They will be looking for a tower which not only demonstrates creativity but also works on a practical level, enhancing the surrounding area and providing a comfortable and efficient multi-use environment.

The initial stage of judging will take place at the end of January, with the best teams invited to showcase their designs in the Passivhaus Pavilion at Ecobuild, which takes place at ExCeL in London from 1 – 3 March 2011. The second stage of judging takes place at the exhibition, with the winners announced at the live final on 2 March. The three winning UK teams will receive cash prizes of up to £1,000 and will go on to compete in the seventh international final, which takes place from 18 – 21 May 2011 in Prague and features a top prize of €1,500.

Stacey Davis, marketing director for Isover, comments: “We are really pleased to welcome our judging panel. With a wealth of expertise in multi-storey construction, Passive House principles and sustainable building, they will be ideally placed to assess the entries and choose the best designs.

“We’ve had an excellent response to the competition, with 29 teams registered to take part. With the final date for entry submissions just days away we will be on hand to offer teams advice to help them put together a successful submission. Our next online tutorial takes place at www.multicomforthouse.co.uk on January 13 from 13.00 to 15.00 so we would urge students to log on and take advantage of this session and our online experts and academic consultants from Nottingham University’s School of the Built Environment.”

The Isover Multi-Comfort House concept illustrates how energy use can be minimised and demonstrates how energy efficient living can be achieved both

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comfortably and economically. It builds on the Passive House principles of delivering the highest thermal comfort while reducing energy use and CO₂ emissions by considering occupants' wellbeing, taking into account acoustic and safety features as well as energy saving measures.

As part of Saint-Gobain, which is committed to developing sustainable solutions for the built environment, Isover is uniquely placed to deliver comprehensive solutions which help to meet Passive House Standards, incorporating thermal and acoustic comfort, high indoor air quality, air tightness and exceptional energy efficiency.

For more information, visit www.multicomforthouse.co.uk, follow us on Twitter @IsoverUK or join our Isover UK group on Facebook.

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(599 words)

Note to Editors

Saint-Gobain Isover

Your environment. It's the nature of our business. Isover, part of Saint-Gobain Group, develops sustainable insulation solutions to protect both the built environment and the natural environment and is the only glass mineral wool manufacturer to achieve the maximum possible recycled content, 86 per cent, using recycled glass that would otherwise go to landfill.

Isover products provide the highest performing energy efficiency and acoustic insulation solutions that are safe to use and that help protect the environment. Over a typical 50 year lifespan of a building Isover insulation will save 300 tonnes of CO₂, which equates to over 375 times more CO₂ than is needed for its manufacture. m/f...

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Isover insulation warms and protects one in three European and one in five American homes. The company is committed to ongoing R&D to deliver technical excellence and global leadership in glass mineral wool insulation.

Saint-Gobain

Saint-Gobain, the world leader in the habitat and construction markets, designs, manufactures and distributes building materials, providing innovative solutions to the

challenges of growth, energy efficiency and environmental protection. With 2010 sales of €40.1 billion, Saint-Gobain operates in 64 countries and has nearly 190,000 employees.

In the UK and Ireland, some of the best known and respected companies in the construction industry are part of Saint-Gobain. Alongside Isover, these include British Gypsum, Solaglas, Weber, Saint-Gobain Glass, Saint-Gobain PAM, Pasquill, Ecophon and Saint-Gobain Solar. Together they offer a range of high performance energy-saving products and solutions to help create a more sustainable built environment. For more information on Saint-Gobain visit www.saint-gobain.co.uk.

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