



Editorial (#8)

Dear reader,

It was with mixed feelings that the Concerto-act2 team took part in the Concerto Plus closing event from 6 to 7 December in Brussels. On one hand, there was gladness that results of the Concerto communities are very good and encourage pursuing this route in the future. On the other hand, there was slight sadness that the first generation of projects had (temporarily) drawn to a close and it was time to say farewell to Concerto Plus staff. Perhaps we will all see each other again in the planned "Smart Cities" project.

The Concerto-act2 team would like to wish everybody a Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter.

Regards

Astrid Hoffman-Kallen, Project Coordinator

If you have any questions or suggestions concerning this newsletter, please send an e-mail to the editorial team (vincent.hure@nantesmetropole.fr or ute.heda@hannover-stadt.de)



Malmö - Towards low-energy construction in Hyllie

The first development stage of the new district of Hyllie will start in 2012. But already now the involved construction companies have decided to go for extremely low energy consumption in their buildings.

The new city tunnel, a railway tunnel that goes from the central station in Malmö onto the bridge to Copenhagen has opened on the 12th December, stopping also in Hyllie.

This provides an ideal commuter connection for future residents. In order to make Hyllie the next showcase example for sustainable city development, construction companies have specified technological and behavioural solutions for very low energy buildings, both residential and office buildings, and even a kindergarten. The first houses will be ready to use in 2013. The area will be supplied with renewable energy, and smart grids implemented. The central part of Hyllie, right next to the train station will be a regional centre with sports arena, shopping mall, hotel and expo.



act2 project – Hannover and Nantes Métropole at the Concerto Forum

The CONCERTO Forum, organized in Brussels on 6-7 December 2010, drew on the five years of sustainable energy policy and action experience at city level. In presence of Mr Öttinger - European Commissioner for Energy -, Mr Mönninghoff and Mrs Chiron - respectively political representatives of Hannover and Nantes Métropole - outlined their challenges, lessons learnt, and visions for the new 'Smart Cities' initiative.

Their presentations can be uploaded from these following links: [Hannover](#) - [Nantes Métropole](#).

The Concerto Plus team also allows access to all presentations given during the conference from this weblinks (including 2 technical presentations from the act2 team in Hannover): [list of pdf documents](#) - [video gallery](#)



Nantes Métropole – 3 demonstration projects recently completed

While construction works continue on the other demonstration sites, partners in Nantes have just completed three projects.

1- Living the Quays - 5,730 m² private and social housing, 46 m² solar thermal panels - developed by Aiguillon construction. The energy performances comply with Concerto-act2 energy specifications.

2- Plot B of the Terrain des Gendarmes - 3,150 m² social housing, connected to the district heating system from waste incineration - developed by SAMO. The building reaches the French 'BBC' standard (Bâtiment Basse Consommation for Low-energy consumption building, corresponding to < 50 kWhPE/m².a for heating + dhw + light. + auxiliaries). With the support of ADEME, on-site quality assurance measures have been led (including air-tightness test, training sessions dedicated to construction workers)

3- Ile Rouge - 3.069 m² tertiary, efficient heat pump - developed by ADI. The building reaches the BBC standard for tertiary use (cut by > 50% of the primary energy consumption)

Detailed information on these 3 projects is available on the act2 website under [this section](#).



Hannover - National Climate Alliance conference

The 10th Communities' Climate Protection conference took place from 11 to 13 November 2010 in Hannover. Discussions focused on concepts for becoming a climate-friendly town and the future heat supply in towns and communities. Concerto/act2 also played a role. Construction company and project partner Gundlach presented the results of the energy redevelopment of its own existing buildings which was subsidised as part of Concerto.



Newcastle - Retrofitting social housing to Passivhaus principles

Newcastle City Council has just completed the construction stage of a demonstration passivhaus principle property in the inner east end of the city. This work has been financed by national government as part of a UK programme of 87 demonstration properties but based on information gained from work with Concerto partners and the lessons from major retrofitting of social and private housing in Hannover.

The idea of knowledge transfer can seem quite an abstract and vague concept at times. This project showed how practical design skills on thermal bridging for specific construction typologies, quality control issues, training for contractors, supply chain specifications have been used by a Concerto partner city. The existing tenants and members of the design team attended a Concerto steering group in Hannover to visit a number of completed projects to fully understand the type of work that would be undertaken on their property and the importance of adaptation of their own energy behavior.

The aim is to achieve 80% reduction in carbon emissions in line with the Kyoto commitment and to do this in a manner that demonstrates how actions can be scaled up from a single property to be cost effective with work over a larger housing stock with similar technical and procedural challenges. A two year monitoring period has begun that will show us how close we can get to this target.

A record of the project is available on the project blog at <http://www.walkergardensuburb.blogspot.com/>



Nantes Métropole – 2013 'European Green Capital'

During a ceremony which took place in Stockholm in October, Jean Marc Ayrault, Mayor of Nantes and President of Nantes Métropole, and Ronan Dantec, Vice President of Nantes Métropole, were given the 'Nantes - 2013 European Green Capital' award.

Every year, the European Commission, honours a city with an exemplary involvement in environmentally-friendly urban development.

"It is a great honour to receive this European Green Capital award for 2013. By recognising us, the jury of the European Commission is emphasizing the quality of the sustainable metropolitan area project that we are engaged in here. This is a significant victory for our city and one that rewards 20 years of efforts and commitments to protect the environment. Our overall policy combining urban development and transportation, our successive break-throughs with the tramway and busway, our willingness to be inventive in waste management, and our on-going desire to protect our natural heritage around the Loire Estuary have been recognised at the European level. This recognition shows that the efforts made by Nantes in sustainable development have come to fruition. 2013 will thus be an opportunity to share and enrich this experience with all Europeans." Jean-Marc Ayrault, Mayor of Nantes and President of Nantes Métropole.

After Stockholm, European Green Capital for 2010, Hamburg will take over the title in 2011. Nantes Métropole wishes to congratulate Vitoria-Gasteiz, 2012 European Green Capital, and sends greetings to the other finalists: Barcelona, Malmö, Nuremberg and Reykjavik

European Green Capital Official Website:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/europeangreencapital/index_en.htm



Hannover - Green light for one of Europe's biggest zero emission housing developments

A unique and advanced project has been launched in Hannover. One of the biggest and most innovative, zero emission, climate protection developments for around 300 terraced, semi-detached and detached low-energy houses is to be built. The remaining CO₂ emissions for the heating requirements and household electricity required will be covered by renewable energies. As well as being energy neutral, the area will provide a very high quality of life with attractive and generous-sized green spaces and an exemplary water concept. After its Expo development at Kronsberg, Hannover is once again setting standards in climate and environmental protection with its 'zero: e park am Hirtenbach' construction project.



Hannover - The Hainholz House of Culture

In September the waiting was over: Mayor Stephan Weil officially opened the newly redeveloped Hainholz House of Culture and handed it over to the people in that part of the town who will use it in the future. A huge amount of effort was put into meticulously redeveloping the building. The objective was a 50% cut in the building's energy requirements and therefore its CO₂ emissions. The North, West and East façade, the top floor ceiling and the flooring in the basement were heat insulated. The new windows with insulated glazing also help reduce energy consumption. As a result, the building requires 45% less heating than statutory requirements stipulate.

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