This is it! Construction21 closed the applications to its international contest for sustainable solutions: the Green Solutions Awards 2018. 143 participants will represent their country and try to become the champion of their category. The closing of applications also marks the beginning of the online votes. Everyone can choose and support their favourite buildings, districts and infrastructures to select the User’s choice award winner in their country. Heat up those likes!

143 candidates from 17 countries: who will you vote for?

The first phase is over: numerous professionals from the whole world published a case study on Construction21 between mid-March (launch of the contest at MIPIM) and mid-June (closing of applications) to enter the Green Solutions Awards 2018.

In total, 103 buildings, 16 districts and 24 infrastructures are competing in this edition. This year also, the mobilisation is worldwide with 17 countries in the contest: Belgium, China, France, Italy, Luxembourg, Morocco, and Spain of course, but also Austria, Colombia, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Japan, Poland, Romania, Ukraine, and the United Kingdom.

See the candidates
Energy & Temperate Climates and Health & Comfort: most liked categories

At the international level, Energy & Temperate Climates and Health & Comfort, as well as Low Carbon, are the most represented categories.

This choice mirrors the trends of the sector where the energy performance is a major issue, just like the growing concern about the well-being of the users and the integration of the human being at the centre of the projects.

User’s choice: reward your favourites

When applications close, it’s time to vote online. All summer long, anyone can designate their favourite building(s), district(s) and infrastructure(s) by voting for them, just like the juries of experts. The building, the district and the infrastructure with the highest number of likes by September 10th at midnight (Paris time) will receive a User’s choice award for their country.

The only prerequisite to vote: to have a Construction21 account (register for free). Voters can also share their selection on social media to support their favourites and campaign for them. Of course, the candidates are welcome to mobilise their networks and to campaign for their projects.

Vote for your favourite candidates:

They won the User’s choice Award in 2017, who will follow?

- Student Residence 42!
- Solar Microgrid Power for Rural School Electrification

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## Next steps of the Awards 2018

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## Partners

The competition is organised with the support of [ADEME](https://www.ademe.fr) and the [Global Alliance for Buildings & Construction](https://www.globalallianceforbuildingsandconstruction.org).

Also, companies committed to fighting against climate change, have joined the competition, supporting category echoing their own action against climate change: [Eiffage](https://www.eiffage.com), [Barrisol](https://www.barrisol.com), [BNP Paribas Real Estate](https://www.bnppre.com), [Parex](https://www.parex.fr), [Rabot Dutilleul](https://www.rabotdutilleul.com). They are presented in the following pages.
80 media partners

More than 80 media partners, national and international, are also promoting the Green Solutions Awards competition with their own networks.

International

About Construction21.org

As the social media for sustainable buildings and cities, Construction21 disseminates free information and best practices for sustainable development among actors of the building and city sectors, especially through its three databases dedicated to exemplary buildings, districts and infrastructures.

The Construction21 network counts 11 national platforms in Europe, China and North Africa, managed by local non-profit organisations, along with an 12th international platform in English. In 2017, the network generated 700,000 visits and 7 million views.

Every year, Construction21 organises the Green Solutions Awards, an international contest aiming to promote pioneers’ best practices and inspire professionals around the world. The 2017 awards generated 1.5 million views. In 2018, the international winners ceremony will take place in December during COP24, in Katowice, Poland.

The Construction21 network

Members of the international Construction21 association, the chapters manage the Construction21 platform at a national level and organise the Green Solutions Awards in their country.
Why is your company committed to fighting climate change?

It is clear that, so far, buildings, public works and transports have been heavy consumers of materials, energy and fossil fuels, and emit greenhouse gases. In parallel, a scientific consensus has now been established on climate change and the serious economic and social difficulties it causes.

It is now and today that these issues are emerging. And it is now and today that Eiffage is mobilising its know-how and expertise to offer concrete solutions at the junction of ecological transition and innovation: low carbon construction, use and reuse of bio-sourced materials, modular and mutable buildings, recycled and connected sustainable road, bouquet of renewable energies, ecomobility offer in the heart of the city.

Our Construction division has major references in low-carbon buildings, such as the largest solid wood residential complex in Ris-Orangis (France) and Hypérion, a timber frame housing tower project in Bordeaux (France).

Regarding infrastructures, Eiffage Route is conducting many research and development projects focused on energy savings, management of greenhouse gas emissions and minimising the use of non-renewable raw materials.

While the European plan on climate change pushes to increase in the share of renewable energies in the European Union’s energy consumption to 20%, the Group’s companies which are specialised in energy production and maintenance – Eiffage Énergie Systèmes and Clemessy, but also Eiffage civil engineering, Smulders and our Spanish subsidiary Eiffage Energia – design and manufacture many cutting-edge technical solutions in this field, both at a national and international level.

Regarding APRR and AREA, they promote ecomobility. As an example, they have launched several carpooling lines, with predefined stops based on the model of public transport lines, on six French motorways – A41, A42, A43, A48, A49 and A51 – while increasing the number of recharging stations on their network. AREA is a subsidiary of the APRR group. APRR, the 4th motorway group in Europe, is owned by Eiffarie (consortium associating Eiffage and Macquarie Autoroutes de France).

What actions have you put in place regarding sustainable development/CSR?

For many years, Eiffage takes into account the strong interaction of its activities with the environment: measuring and reducing the carbon footprint, protecting biodiversity and natural environments, and optimising the use of natural resources. These are the priority areas of the environmental policies adopted within the Group as part of an eco-design and circular economy approach.

We have developed our own sustainable construction standard, HQvie® (High Quality of Life®), and created a carbon-energy arbitrage fund to stimulate the use of low carbon solutions.

In a context of sociological mutations, Eiffage strives to improve its human capital through four key areas: protecting, training, innovating, inserting.

Last but not least, the Group works on contributing to the economic and territorial development of the regions, in France and internationally, boosting the local fabric through employment and integration policies, fostering dialogue and consultation with local residents, develop philanthropic actions aimed at fragile or excluded people, and improving its purchasing policy to better integrate sustainable development and environment into the selection criteria.

About

Eiffage, one of Europe’s leading construction and concession companies, operates in the fields of planning, construction and real estate, civil engineering, metal and road, energy and concessions.

The Group draws on the experience of more than 63,000 employees and achieved a turnover of 15 billion euros in 2017.
Why is your company committed to fighting climate change?

Since the foundation of the company, 50 years ago, we became aware of the conservation and respect of the environment. In the heart of the Hardt forest, in Alsace (France), our head office is surrounded by green areas that we strive to preserve.

Respect for the environment is one of Barrisol’s priorities. Today, it is one of our main vectors to convey our company policy. Participating in the Green Solutions Awards enables us to assert that it is possible to combine tradition with innovation, technology and protection of our natural resources.

The Barrisol® system was imagined to use 20 times less raw materials than a standard product. All the Barrisol® sheets and profiles made of aluminium are 100% recyclable.

As a member of the English, Canadian and American Green Building Councils, Barrisol® started to commercialise the Barrisol Recycled® line in 2007. We combined innovation and respect for the environment: Recycled® sheets are manufactured from old Barrisol® sheets.

We use recyclable materials and encourage our partners and customers to join us in this endeavour.

What actions have you put in place regarding sustainable development/CSR?

We take different actions to preserve the planet, like:

- setting up a process to recycle old sheets,
- recycling waste of sheets and aluminium profiles,
- providing employees with carpool vehicles and shuttles,
- setting up a waste collection system for recycling,
- installing time switches and presence detectors to ensure proper management of our power consumption.

About

The Barrisol® Normalu® company, founded in 1967, is the world leader of stretch ceiling. It combines tradition, innovation, respect for the environment and technology to offer you the best walls and stretch ceilings. Our products are rated A+ (very low pollutant emissions) and conform to the highest European and international standards. They are also certified “French Origin Guarantee”. Barrisol® products are 100% recyclable. Our know-how was recognised in 2015 by the label “Living Heritage Company” (Entreprise du patrimoine vivant – a French government label) and in 2014 by the Décibel d’Or, a prize received for our “Acoustic Light®”.

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BARRISOL NORMALU Ltd/ Oslo
Opera House Architect: Snohetta
Architects/ Federation Square
Australia Architects: Lab Architecture & Bates Smart
Why is your company committed to fighting climate change?

We, BNP Paribas Real Estate, consider it is our responsibility to bring to actors of the real estate sector our vision for the future sustainable city. That is the reason why we support Construction21 and the Green Solutions Awards for the third year in a row.

The building sector is responsible for 40% of worldwide greenhouse gas emissions.

For this reason, BNP Paribas Real Estate is committed to its stakeholders to integrate climate change issues into its own processes and activities.

Our ambition is to contribute to the development of sustainable cities, by offering products and services that are environmentally friendly, energy efficient and respectful of the health and well-being of its occupants.

What actions have you put in place regarding sustainable development/CSR?

We develop solutions in our different business areas to anticipate and face environmental challenges, but also to respond to the new demands and habits of our clients (whether they are investors, companies, individuals or local authorities). It allows us to play a key role in the urban transition.

As an example, the BNP Paribas Real Estate global business real estate production is environmentally certified. Beyond certifications, BNP Paribas Real Estate provides for the implementation, as part of the Call for innovative urban projects “Réinventons Paris”, with its winning project Ternes, of a connected energy system between offices and housings (smart grids), of a car sharing solution allowing electric vehicle pooling, and of urban garden terraces, among other solutions. In 2017, the Arboretum programme was also unveiled: this new concept of ecological offices, located in Nanterre, will be the largest campus ever built in solid wood in the world.

About

European leader in real estate services, BNP Paribas Real Estate covers the entire life cycle of a property: Promotion, Investment Management, Property Management, Transaction, Consulting and Expertise. With more than 5,100 employees, BNP Paribas Real Estate locally advises owners, tenants, investors and local authorities in 36 countries (15 via its locations and 21 through its network of alliances) in Europe, the Middle East and Asia. In 2017, BNP Paribas Real Estate generated €811 million in revenue. Continuing its growth, in 2017, BNP Paribas Real Estate acquired Strutt & Parker, one of the UK’s leading independent real estate players. BNP Paribas Real Estate is a BNP Paribas Group company.
Why is your company committed to fighting climate change?

The building energy consumption represents more than a third of the total consumption worldwide and is responsible for almost a quarter of the greenhouse gas emissions.

We believe that all players in the construction chain must be mobilised for the fight against climate change and we have decided to play our part. For several years, we have taken an active role in improving the thermal efficiency of buildings by developing our External Insulation Finishing System (EIFS) offer.

What actions have you put in place regarding sustainable development/CSR?

Our sustainable development programme BUILDING RESPONSIBLY is based on 4 commitments, to meet the environmental, social and societal challenges we face:

- innovating, continuously, to contribute to sustainable construction,
- reducing our environmental footprint throughout the life cycle of our products,
- acting for and with our employees,
- anchoring our sites in their territory.

We deploy voluntary certification processes in the field of Safety, Quality and Environment on the major part of our sites, and, to go further in our commitment to fight climate change, we initiated in 2016, in partnership with PUR Projet, our Climate Program, a 3-step approach which consists of:

- measuring the greenhouse gas emissions related to our activities in all countries where we operate,
- reducing these emissions,
- adapting and mitigating impacts of some residual emissions by financing ecosystem restoration projects through reforestation and agroforestry.

This positive momentum encourages us to continue to reduce our emissions while contributing to the development of local communities.

At the end of 2017, we achieved the first part of our goals: measurement of greenhouse gas emissions in 85 % of the countries where we operate; development of action plans with our suppliers for sustainable supplies, with lower CO₂ emissions; actions to optimise the operation of our sand driers in order to reduce emissions by 20 % by 2020; planting of 24,330 trees as part of 10 agroforestry projects in the main countries where we are present.

Our ambition is to integrate these sustainable development actions into all our activities in order to contribute to the growth of sustainable construction.

About

Major player in construction chemicals, PAREX is a world leader, specialist of dry mix, providing solutions for the building community and acting in 3 fields: facade protection and decoration, tile setting and flooring systems, waterproofing systems and technical solutions for concrete and civil engineering.

We operate in 22 countries with 72 production sites and bring together 4,400 employees worldwide. Our ambition is to be the preferred partner on our markets and in the local economic and social structure around our sites.
Two questions for Rodolphe Deborre

Innovation & Sustainable Development Director, Rabot Dutilleul

Why is your company committed to fighting climate change?

The Rabot Dutilleul Group places sustainable development at the core of its strategy, “for real”. We want to provide construction and renovation projects that make territories more environmental friendly through specific know-how and techniques. Following that spirit, Rabot Dutilleul chose to support the Green Solutions Awards and in particular the sustainable renovation category.

Construction does have impacts: energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions, decline of biodiversity, increase of toxic elements, etc. However, unlike in other sectors like fishery and air transport, solutions exist for most of the issues. We consider it would be a crime not to implement them.

What actions have you put in place regarding sustainable development/CSR?

Rabot Dutilleul structures its development on a strong environmental approach: design and construction of low carbon buildings (BCC), HQE certified projects, CO₂ assessment of its activities and CSR action plans. This approach allows the Group to renew its offer, while always watching its markets and environment.

Sustainable construction requires to manage energy efficiency in buildings. Rabot Dutilleul didn’t wait to follow this approach, as many projects can testify, and pushes it further to achieve excellency with the expertise of its Pouchain subsidiary, specialised in electric and climatic engineering.

The Group deploys many processes, for example (but there are many others!) to push forward the eco-design in the energy industry, without ever losing sight that the best building is the one in which the occupants feel the best.

About

As an independent international family group in development and construction (France, Belgium, Germany, Poland), Rabot Dutilleul currently counts among the 10 biggest French actors in construction. Founded in 1920, the company developed skills in complementary sectors related to the construction world, hence gaining almost full control over the real estate chain of value. Rabot Dutilleul cultivates values based on collective performance with nearly 1,500 employees and on long-term relationships with its partners. The Group is present in France, Belgium, Germany and Poland.