Social Media revolutionising the building industry towards sustainability

Buildings have typically been a conservative industry seeing only incremental changes in past decades. The recognition of resource constraints and the understanding of the significant impact our buildings have on our environment has been driving significant change in the building industry.

Construction 21 is a social media tool and platform specifically designed to drive ambitious, transformative improvement in how we design, build, and operate our buildings. This specialised platform is supported by Europe's most influential Green Building Councils, trade associations and leading academic institutions.
A database of exemplary achievements

- The most efficient new and refurbished buildings: housing, office buildings, commercial buildings, schools, etc. All the achievements submitted to Construction21 are moderated by experts. A summary sheet provides information on energy and environmental performance, equipment, cost, innovation and the urban environment of each building, with common criteria in all countries.

- Project players are listed, for direct contact and feedback.

- A library of innovations identifies materials, equipment and innovative solutions which contribute to the total performance of the building.

- An annual ranking list promotes the best European achievements.

A green experts network

- Thematic communities led by recognized experts stimulate the sharing of experience and knowledge.
A national and international information system

Construction21 has created the first multi-specialist and multi-lingual network on sustainable building in Europe.

- **Six national platforms in 2012**: France, Germany, Spain, Italy, Lithuania and Romania.
- **The 27 European countries within 5 years**.
- In each country, some expert contributors provide **clear, reliable and up to date content**, duly checked before being posted.
- Each national platform resources are translated and consolidated into an international website in English.
- Contents are also available in BUILD UP, the European Commission website, and on all other Construction21 platforms, assuring them an **European audience**.

- Construction21 is developed in co-ownership by **leading institutions in each country**, to ensure strong roots in their respective building sectors: Green Building Council in Germany and Romania, Chamber of commerce and Building trade association in Italy, French, German and Spanish expert organizations, School of Architecture in Lithuania.
- The project is mainly funded by the European Union, as an Intelligent Energy Europe (IEE) project.
Construction21, a clear benefit for everyone

- **Construction 21 : networking of all building players**
  Construction21 gathers all relevant participants in a network: architects, consultants, contractors, builders, developers, companies, legal professionals, asset / facility managers, rating tool and product verifiers, manufacturers, associations, researchers, trainers, teachers, government officials...

- **Construction 21 : a promotion tool at an European scale**
  Each professional can demonstrate their expertise and achievements to an international audience. This direct contact to select, relevant professionals offers excellent support to gain market share and develop within the green economy.

- **Construction21 : stimulates competition among players**
  Through an online benchmark of the best achievements and annual rankings, Construction21 ensures emulation and competition as the best ways to improve faster.

**Deploy Construction21 in your country!**

- **You are a national organization.**
- **You play an active role in sustainability** or you deal with professionals with a strong commitment to green building.

  Construction21 will soon expand to cover the 27 European countries. The consortium will select one or several national operators to develop the platform in their country.

  **Contact us now to get started!**

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The Construction21 founding partners

France

The project coordinator manages a shared consultancy between building, real estate, energy and industrial companies. IFPEB is developing Construction21 in France with the strong support of the France Green Building Council.

In charge of Construction21 IT developments, CIRIDD is a specialist in social networks dedicated to sustainable development.

Germany

The German Green Building Council promotes active environmental protection and the construction of sustainable buildings. DGNB currently develops and operates a transparent certification system for sustainable building.

PE INTERNATIONAL AG provides services (consultancy) and software solutions for all environmental activities related to production, products and systems, and for corporate sustainability reporting.

Italy

The Italian Construction Contractors’ Association is involved with Administrative Authorities in governing the territory, planning investments and designing interventions.

UCV coordinates the local Chambers of Commerce towards the other Regional, National and European Institutions, support to enterprises, especially SMEs, local stakeholders and Public Bodies.

Spain

The UNESCO Chair in Life Cycle and Climate Change is an innovative research group, internationally well-known, pioneer in developing and implementing the methodology of Life Cycle Assessment (LCA).

Lithuania

Vilnius Gediminas Technical University is a wide range multi-professional academic and research institution with advanced activities developed in eight faculties ranging from architecture to construction and fundamental sciences.

Romania

The Romania Green Building Council is a non-profit, non-political association encouraging the market, educational and legislative conditions necessary to promote high performance construction that is both sustainable and profitable.