
BASF and Renova Stroygroup to partner for more energy-efficient housing

BASF and Renova Stroygroup recently announced a strategic partnership for energy-efficient construction in Ekaterinburg, Russia. Renova Stroygroup plans to construct housing for around 325,000 people with the aid of energy-efficient BASF construction materials and expertise in the new city district of Akademitscheskij Rayon, one of Europe's largest building sites.

The first building with a thermal insulation composite system has now been constructed in Akademitscheskij Rayon using insulation paneling made of BASF's Neopor. The panelling system enables energy savings of up to 50 % compared with non-insulated buildings. In addition, BASF's subsidiary Luwoge consult will contribute to the conception and planning of a low-energy house in Akademitscheskij Rayon. The two companies also plan to extend their cooperation on energy efficiency initiatives in the Ural Federal District beyond the current project.

The Ekaterinburg project is a result of regular "German-Russian consultations" between the governments of both countries and was agreed in 2008. Joint modernisation projects among partners in industry are intended to contribute to the Russian government's goal of lowering domestic energy demand by 40 % by 2020. The city of Ekaterinburg and surrounding region are earmarked as a pilot area for energy-efficient urban development.

BASF develops and markets a variety of products that help to save energy and resources and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Examples include polystyrene and polyurethane for the production of insulation materials for buildings. Other products are pigments for roof coatings and plastic components that decrease solar absorption and in that way prevent dark surfaces from overheating. Special concrete admixtures in cement reduce CO₂ emissions by up to 60 %.

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