



21-23 May 2024

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# Construmat grows with the largest offer of solutions for sustainable construction

- The show increases its exhibition space by 50% compared to 2023 and becomes the most cross-cutting event in the sector in Spain
- More than 300 exhibitors and more than 600 brands participate in an edition marked by sustainability and innovation

Construmat takes a leap in quality. In its 23rd edition, Fira de Barcelona's construction show has increased its exhibition offer by 50%, with the participation of more than 300 exhibitors and more than 600 brands covering practically the entire construction ecosystem. Thus, it is the most representative and transversal event of the sector in Spain, in an edition with sustainability and innovation as the main protagonists.

From 21 to 23 May, Construmat will once again be the epicentre of the construction sector in Spain. The increase in the number of participating companies at this edition is reflected in the increase in exhibition space. This year, the show will occupy more than 10,000 m2 in Hall 2 of the Gran Via exhibition centre, with the aim of being able to accommodate an extensive display of the most sustainable and innovative construction of the moment.

Thus, the Fira de Barcelona show will feature the best offer in segments such as machinery and tools, industrialised construction, façades and roofs, insulation, urban planning and outdoor space, design and interior design, flooring and cladding, bathrooms, BIM and ICT for the project and work, kitchens, lighting, energy management and capture, enclosures, carpentry, locksmithing and solar protection, among others.

The president of Construmat and vice-president of APCE Spain, Xavier Vilajoana, has assured that 'this edition consolidates the new stage initiated in 2023 with the aim of achieving a more sustainable, efficient and innovative sector' and adds 'it is not only a bigger Construmat, but a better show. Because it brings together the entire sector, discovers the latest and multiplies its business opportunities'.

For his part, the show's director, Roger Bou, said that 'we are presenting a very useful show for all construction professionals, where they can find the latest solutions and innovations that are already on the market and which they can apply by leaving the exhibition site. The companies present high quality content that will help to transform and boost the sector'.

### Leading companies and sectoral support

Among the firms taking part in the show and showing their latest innovations and advances are leading companies such as Ausa, Cementos Molins, Drutex, Durmi, Encofrados Alsina, Evowall Technology, Fischer, Haier Iberia, Holcim España, Hormipresa Nec, Indalsu, Jung, K-Line, KLH Massivholz, Nibe, PMP /Pret-a-porter Casas/Khanvian, Roca, Saltoki, Schnell, Technal and TQ Tecnol, among others.

On the other hand, the show will focus on the international markets of the Mediterranean arc. Thus, Morocco will be the guest country at Construmat 2024 with the presence of an official

Moroccan trade mission made up of seven companies, six sector federations and the architects' associations and builders' and developers' associations. Also noteworthy is the presence of some 50 exhibiting companies from 18 countries such as Germany, Belgium, China, Egypt, France, Italy and Poland.

Furthermore, in 2024, Construmat once again proves that it is the most emblematic show of the Spanish construction industry, with the support of more than 40 business organisations, guilds, associations and professional bodies such as ANERR, APCE España, ASEFAVE, CATEB, CCOC, CEPCO, CNC, COAM, CODDIM, CGATE, CSCAE, Federación de Gremios de la Construcción, Fundación Laboral de la Construcción and Gremi de Constructors d'Obres, among others.

## Sustainability solutions

With the slogan 'Building sustainability', the offer of the most emblematic and long-standing Spanish construction show will revolve around sustainability and innovation as the main themes, presenting the latest innovations and solutions on the market, such as energy efficiency and the refurbishment of the housing stock, two of the major challenges that the sector has to face immediately.

To this end, Construmat has designed an extensive programme of activities. More than 120 speakers will be taking part in the Sustainable Building Congress, the event's major congress which, with 50 presentations and 15 round tables in two auditoriums, will be presenting the latest initiatives developed to minimise the environmental impact of construction activity.

Decarbonisation and the circular economy, digital solutions and technologies and industrial construction systems are the themes of this congress, which will highlight best practices and sectoral innovations such as, for example, the new Mercedes eco-district on the former site of the Mercedes-Benz factory in Barcelona, the remodelling of the urban space between the Royal Palace and Plaza de España in Madrid, the Madrid Nuevo Norte project in the area of the Chamartín train station and the new office headquarters of the capital goods firm Bosch in Casablanca (Morocco).

Among the participating speakers are Miguel Hernández, Strategy Director of Crea Madrid Nuevo Norte and Julia Landáburu, senior urban planner of the engineering firm ARUP, which is collaborating on this project; Ikram Sehhar, architect of the National Society for the Development and Management of Sports Facilities in Morocco, who will present the infrastructure projects planned in his country for the 2030 Football World Cup; Domingo Merino, design director of Fenwick Iribarren Architects, who will present the Spanish projects to host this event; and Firat Emsen, chief technology officer of Istanbul's Grand Istanbul Airport in Turkey, among others.

#### Startups and innovation

Construmat will also provide a space for young emerging companies in the PropCon Hub, a dynamic space where 20 start-ups that make use of digital technology in the fields of construction (ConTech) and property management (PropTech) will be given visibility, and which will feature a Forum with presentations by experts in innovation in construction, from sustainable prefabrication to the use of Artificial Intelligence.

In the workshops and workshops area, the Dubai-based Council for International Accreditation of Architecture and Design (CIAAD), an official partner of the United Nations for the implementation and advancement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and a Fischer certification session for installers of the Solar-Fix system, a preliminary step to the examination to achieve TÜV Rheinland accreditation, will be held.

As part of the activities of the Architecture Weeks of Barcelona City Hall and the Fundació Mies van der Rohe, Construmat is organising, on the 23rd, the Talent Day, in which young students will be able to visit the show, and a Job Market Place with the collaboration of Barcelona Activa.

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A new edition of the prestigious Construmat Awards, curated by the Fundació Mies van der Rohe and incorporating for the first time the public prize, completes the programme of activities of Construmat 2024.

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The conferences will feature over 120 speakers

# Construmat's Sustainable Building Congress to focus on the innovative sustainability

With more than 120 national and international speakers, 50 presentations and more than 15 round tables, the Sustainable Building Congress, the congress comprised in the 23<sup>rd</sup> edition of Fira de Barcelona's Construmat trade show, will tackle the most advanced solutions to achieve the most sustainable construction possible. Renowned architects and builders will share insights of emblematic projects currently underway and debate the major challenges facing the sector.

Being responsible for an important part of CO2 emissions and intensive use of natural resources and raw materials, the construction industry is determined to rethink its activity in order to minimise its environmental impact. To contribute in achieving this goal, the Sustainable Building Congress will gather more than 120 national and international speakers to showcase real examples of sustainable construction projects at the sessions held in two auditoriums set up in Hall 2 of the Gran Via venue.

Initiatives such as the new Mercedes eco-district, on the former site of the Mercedes-Benz factory in Barcelona; the remodelling of the urban space between the Royal Palace and Plaza de España in Madrid or the new office headquarters of the multinational technology and capital goods firm Bosch in Casablanca (Morocco) will among the works discussed at the congress by the very teams implementing them.

## More respectful praxis

Architects such as France's Emmanuelle Patte, a specialist in bioclimatic architecture; Spain's Sonia Hernández-Montaño Bou, founder of the Arquitectura Sana studio; Morocco's Jaafar Sijelmassi, founder of Sijelamssi & Partners; the Dubai-born Albert Fakhoury, president of the Council for International Accreditation of Architecture and Design (CIAAD), and Jorge Arditi, president of the Mexico Region of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) will be some of the experts sharing their vision of an architectural praxis that is more respectful and imbricated with its natural surroundings.

Sustainability will be the backbone of the congress that will delve into topics such as decarbonisation, urban regeneration, energy rehabilitation or new materials for the circular economy. New construction methods, industrialisation and digital technologies (BIM, Digital Twin, IoT, AI) will also be tackled at the congress as major enabling levers for the sector's paradigm shift towards sustainable innovation and improved environmental impact.

The Sustainable Building Congress is one of the activities of the 23<sup>rd</sup> edition of Construmat, Fira de Barcelona's construction show, which will bring together more than 300 direct and indirect exhibitors and 600 brands with a 50% increase in its commercial floorspace in which leading companies from all segments and the most representative associations and entities of the construction industry in our country will take part.

Along with the Sustainable Building Congress, the PropCon-Hub, an innovation area for start-ups with an investment forum; a space for workshops; a wood construction area; a new edition of the prestigious Construmat Awards, curated by the Mies van der Rohe Foundation, and the presence of Morocco as a guest country complete the comprehensive offer of Construmat 2024.





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A student residence in Germany, winner of the Construmat Public Prize

# The 85 social housing units in Cornellà by Peris+Toral arquitectes, Construmat 2024 Award to Sustainibility

The project of 85 social dwellings in Cornellà de Llobregat (Barcelona) built from wood by the Peris+Toral arquitectes practice has won the Construmat 2024 Prize, which at this edition sought to recognise the best works erected according to sustainability criteria. The Collegium Accademicum student residence in Heilderberg (Germany) has won the Construmat Prize of the public.

The winning project, built on the site formerly occupied by the emblematic Pisa cinema in Cornellà de Llobregat, is a five-storey building with a wooden structure, which rests on a ground floor with a reinforced concrete structure. The 85 dwellings are organised around a communal courtyard that acts as a small square for the neighbours and from which the different spaces and floors are accessed.

The winning project is distinguished by its modular approach and prefabricated wooden construction for a type of affordable, quality housing under a concept of communal and ecologically sustainable coexistence. The jury particularly valued the commitment of the Peris+Toral arquitectes practice to incorporate a typological innovation in social housing with affordable rents at competitive market prices within a sustainable modular structure.

The building was commissioned by the Metropolitan Institute for Land Development and Asset Management (IMPSOL) of the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona, and executed by the company Vías y Construcciones, optimising to the maximum the laminated wood used, from EGOIN Wood Group, in order to achieve its economic viability.

The jury also awarded two mentions. The first went to the Las Tejedoras community production centre in Guayaquil (Ecuador) by the Spanish architect Juan Carlos Bamba and the Ecuadorian practice Natura Futura, while the second went to Le Magasin Eléctrique in Arles (France), a collaborative work by the practices Assemble, BC Architects & Studies and Atelier LUMA.

The jury that selected the winning works was formed by the director of the Paris School of Architecture (ESA-Paris), Marie-Hélène Contal; the architect of the bplus.xyz practice and professor at the Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) in Zurich, Olaf Grawert; and the founder of SUMO arquitectes and professor at the Higher Technical School of Architecture of Barcelona (ETSAB-UPC), Jordi Pagès.

The Construmat Public Prize went to the Collegium Accademicum student residence in Heidelberg (Germany). The project by the DGJ Architektur studio is a timber construction without metal connections, as well as a modular and flexible system for the living units, just like the Jury Prize.

The Construmat 2024 Awards have had as nominees a total of 17 buildings completed and in operation between 2019 and 2023, have been selected by an expert committee and have been designed by architectural practices committed to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to implement the 2030 Agenda of the United Nations.

The Construmat Awards ceremony, curated by the Fundació Mies van der Rohe, will take place on 22 May as part of the activities of the show, which is being held from 21 to 23 May.

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The event will also feature the presentation of the winning works and two round tables with the participation of the architecture practices, the jury and the expert committee.