PRESS KIT

2021 INTERNATIONAL MULTI COMFORT STUDENT CONTEST

June 2021 in Paris

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SAINT-GOBAIN'S MULTI COMFORT APPROACH

For Saint-Gobain, feeling good in a building means having perfect light, an adequate noise level, a pleasant temperature and ideal indoor air quality. Design, technology, beauty, safety, efficiency and durability: a good place to live adapts to its occupants, rather than the other way around.

In any physical space (a room, a vehicle, etc.), the occupant’s well-being depends on a number of parameters. In order to develop the right solutions for that space (ceilings, floors, walls, windows, etc.), it is first necessary to understand the levels of comfort required: temperature ranges, sound levels in decibels, air quality or humidity levels. This original approach to the design process, underpinned by an intense needs analysis, places the user at the center of all innovation processes: it is several parameters, not just one, that determine the well-being, and therefore the health, efficiency and productivity of occupants.

The Multi Comfort concept is accordingly designed to offer all types of comfort, in all types of buildings, anywhere in the world. All the while controlling costs and the building's impact on the environment.

Saint-Gobain promotes its Multi Comfort concept through educational material and tools dedicated to professionals, and embodies it through showcase buildings around the world: 30 projects in 19 different countries demonstrate how the Multi Comfort approach can make a difference and turn, for example, houses, apartments, buildings, schools and offices into healthy, comfortable and energy-efficient living spaces.

A vision of housing

More than a concept, "Multi Comfort" is the tangible expression of a vision of innovative housing that meets the most demanding regulations. This vision takes the form of an ambitious promise: comfortable, low-energy or positive-energy housing, accessible to the greatest number of people. It is also an approach that centers the innovation process on the user and the way the building is used. Here, comfort is seen as a whole. Together, Saint-Gobain's solutions help to improve the quality of life and preserve the health of residents. This approach, which is unique in the market and can be replicated worldwide, demonstrates the Group's ability to offer a new type of housing that is aesthetically pleasing, comfortable, economical and energy-efficient.

WHAT IS THE INTERNATIONAL MULTI COMFORT STUDENT CONTEST?

INTERNATIONAL MULTI COMFORT STUDENT CONTEST: PHILOSOPHY AND OBJECTIVES

The Multi Comfort Student Contest is based on the principles of the Saint-Gobain Multi Comfort concept. Organized for the first time in 2004 by Saint-Gobain ISOVER in Serbia, it became an international event in 2005. For the 2021 edition, more than 2,800 students from 38 countries participated. 53 projects were studied.

The contest is mainly aimed at students of architecture and construction engineering, but also of design. The objective is to develop a real project, based on the real needs of a district or a city, and using Saint-Gobain's sustainable construction approach, to create living spaces that respect the planet and the well-being of the inhabitants. Participation is open to all students in grades one through six, either individually or in teams of two or three students.

Each year, Saint-Gobain works closely with municipalities to select an assignment that is likely to interest students and that addresses real social or cultural issues.

The universities - 210 in number this year - and the teachers who accompany the students also play an important role in this contest. During a "Teacher's Day", some of them visit the project site to give their recommendations and advice on the mission and to accompany the students' proposals.

ORGANIZATION

The contest is held in two stages:

1) National stage

Students compete in their own country with other students. A local jury is in charge of selecting the winners. This year, due to the global health crisis, 25 of the 38 countries could not organize a physical event and replaced it with a digital event for the presentation of the projects and selection of the winners. Each country can have from one to three teams that can participate in the international contest, depending on their seniority in the competition.

2) International stage

The international stage takes place every year - with the exception of 2020, which saw the contest postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic - before the summer.

Since the creation of the contest, all the participating projects are exhibited at the opening ceremony. This is followed over three days by a presentation of the projects by the winners of the national teams representing their countries and a vote by the jury.

This year, given the global health crisis, the entire format of the contest was reinvented to be entirely digital. This allowed for a reduction in CO2 emissions, as the students were unable to travel to Paris. These avoided emissions were converted into a donation of €15,000 to be given to the association “La régie de quartier de Saint-Denis”, that respects the environment and well-being in the home.

Since April 19, a dedicated page on https://multicomfort.saint-gobain.com/multi-comfort-student-contest/projects presents a video of each of the 53 projects. A jury composed of representatives from Saint-Gobain but also from the world of architecture and the city of Seine-Saint-Denis. Each student team must also vote for the project of its choice, except for its own. This voting campaign ends on May 14.

3) **Contest results**

All students and teachers will meet on June 11 for a big live digital event to discover the results, in the presence of Pierre-André de Chalendar, chairman and CEO of Saint-Gobain, and Benoit Bazin, chief operating officer.

The next edition of the Multi Comfort Student Contest will take place in Poland in 2022. The mayor of Warsaw, Rafal Trzaskowski, will present the challenge facing the students competing in this next edition.

2021 CONTEST

FROM APRIL TO JUNE 2021

PARIS (FRANCE)

Key figures:

Applications:

- +2800 registered participants
- 210 universities
- 38 participating countries

Participants in the international final:

- 53 teams
- 115 students, 45 teachers
- 34 countries

THE SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGE

With populations around the world becoming increasingly urban, the sustainability of cities is a critical issue today. Meeting growing energy needs while reducing carbon emissions is one of the major challenges they face.

Moreover, buildings are responsible for 40% of global energy consumption and 38% of greenhouse gas emissions in developed countries. It is therefore urgent to act, and the construction sector has a very special role to play.

This is the case for Saint-Gobain, which has been committed for many years to reducing its own environmental impact (the objective is to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 20% by 2025 compared to 2010) and which designs, produces and distributes solutions that contribute to the reduction of CO2 emissions, notably thermal insulation solutions that promote energy efficiency.

In 2020, Saint-Gobain presented an ambitious roadmap to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050, with new 2030 targets: a 33% absolute reduction in its direct and indirect CO2 emissions (scopes 1 and 2) compared to 2017, and a 16% absolute reduction in its scope 3* CO2 emissions

To reduce its CO2 emissions and achieve carbon neutrality, the Group is focusing its efforts on 4 main levers:

1) Optimization and reduction of its energy consumption:
2) Innovation in its processes, both manufacturing and related to product design
3) Transition to the use of low-carbon power sources
4) Mobilization of suppliers and new initiatives in transportation

In addition to its own efforts to achieve carbon neutrality, Saint-Gobain is making a major positive contribution to its environment and its markets through products, solutions and services that support its customers' transition to a low-carbon economy. This commitment to sustainability is fully shared by the city of Saint-Denis.

* Scope 1: direct emissions from sources directly owned and controlled by Saint-Gobain
Scope 2: indirect emissions from the production of energy purchased and consumed by Saint-Gobain
Scope 3: all other indirect emissions that occur in the Group's value chain

SAINT-DENIS, A CITY IN FULL TRANSFORMATION

Saint-Denis, a medieval city and industrial area with a large working-class population, located less than 10 kilometers north of Paris, has greatly evolved and adapted to the needs of its time. Rich in history and heritage, it has undergone an unprecedented transformation over the past 30 years. Today, Saint-Denis has more than 109,000 inhabitants and welcomes new residents thanks to a very dynamic housing construction policy - including social housing - and a constantly improving living environment.

Saint-Denis, located a few kilometers from Roissy-Charles De Gaulle airport, is served by the metro, the RER, the tramway and the regional train (Transilien).

Since the year 2000, Saint-Denis has been working with eight neighboring municipalities within the *Plaine Commune* agglomeration community. *Plaine Commune* will host the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games (OPG) with the arrival of new facilities such as the Olympic nautical center (Aubervilliers) and the Olympic village (located in Saint-Denis, Saint-Ouen and L'Ile-Saint-Denis). After the *Stade de France*, inaugurated for the 1998 World Cup, the Olympic Games are the second major event that will accelerate the transformation of the region.

The "*Grand Paris"* project, which aims to transform the Paris agglomeration into a major global metropolis of the 21st century, will also help accelerate the development of Saint-Denis and improve the living environment of its residents. It is this whole dynamic that will allow the construction of a sustainable city, fully in the spirit of the Multi Comfort contest.

OBJECTIVES AND DELIVERABLES

For this 16th international edition of the Multi Comfort contest, the challenge for the candidates was to convert the area of the post-industrial site of the Coignet company in Saint-Denis* into a green living, learning and leisure area, respecting both the vestiges of the historical heritage and the sustainability needs of modern neighborhoods.

The students were asked to:

- propose a master plan explaining the organization of the entire site, its character, its internal and external functional connections.
- design a residential/educational function consisting of 250-300 apartments and an 18-classroom preschool and elementary school.
- provide ideas for the preservation and revitalization of the site's historic elements.

Evaluation criteria:

- ARCHITECTURE: 50%
  Design excellence, functional concept and regional aspects, layout.

- TECHNICAL CRITERIA: 20%
  Buildings meet Saint-Gobain Multi Comfort criteria (thermal, visual and daylight targets) as well as fire strategy.

- CONSTRUCTION DETAILS: 20%
  Quality and consistency of the proposed construction details with respect to building physics (thermal and acoustic bridges, air tightness and moisture management).

- PRODUCT USE: 10%
  Correct use and mention of Saint-Gobain products and solutions in the project.

The sustainability approach related to economic, ecological and social aspects is a key element of all the above criteria and will be taken into account at all levels of evaluation.

* In 1853, François Coignet, an industrialist from Lyon, transferred part of the activities of his chemical company to Paris and established a glue and fertilizer factory in Saint-Denis. This area was then devoted to the treatment and disposal of Paris waste: the production of glues and gelatins was in fact part of a waste recycling logic. The Saint-Denis factory was designed to manufacture strong glues, fine gelatins, copper phosphide, phosphorus chloride, phosphoric acid, etc. The production site built in 1853 includes a factory, administration buildings, outbuildings and a mansion.

This industrial chemist from Lyon carried out research on building materials. He developed one of the first formulas for "agglomerated concrete". After arriving in Saint-Denis, he built the first iron-reinforced concrete house in the world. Although rather traditional in form and layout, the Coignet House is the result of an innovation that has shaped modern construction and architecture. This same concern for optimizing the construction process is today one of the foundations of the sustainable construction approach.

More than one and a half centuries on, this prototype house needs to be protected and revitalized. Together with the warehouses (the only remaining part of the Coignet factory), it not only testifies to the historical aspect of the site, but can also prompt a reflection on how available construction methods have evolved and on the notion of "modernity" over time.

SAINT-GOBAIN, A COMPANY PLAYING A KEY ROLE IN SEINE-SAINT-DENIS AND THE ILE-DE-FRANCE REGION

With nearly 10,000 employees out of the 40,000 Saint-Gobain has in France, the group has a long history in the Ile-de-France region. It operates some 20 plants producing glass, plaster, plasterboard, insulation, mortar, abrasives and pipes, and has more than 300 distribution outlets and logistics centers. This region is home to the headquarters of the Group's main subsidiaries in France.

Seine-Saint-Denis is home to one of Saint-Gobain's eight cross-business research and development centers worldwide. The SGR Paris research center is located in Aubervilliers. It is involved in research projects in the field of construction materials such as plaster, mortar, insulation and glazing, and high-performance materials such as ceramics, abrasives, crystals and plastics. This R&D center focuses its expertise on numerous housing and construction-related projects. SGR Paris relies on its building science know-how to meet the challenges of thermal, acoustic, visual and air quality comfort.

2021 CONTEST JURY

A jury composed of members of the architectural community, a representative of the Seine Saint-Denis department and Saint-Gobain, will vote to select the winning students among the 53 projects presented.

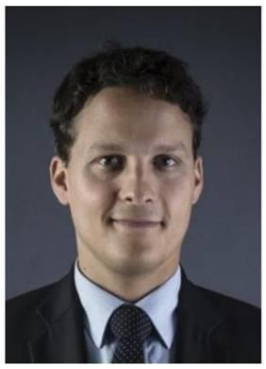
- José-Michael CHENU, Marketing Strategy and Urban Development Director of Vinci & President of the association Rêve de Scènes Urbaines
- Catherine CHEVILLOT Director of the *Cité de l'Architecture et du Patrimoine*
- Pascal EVEILLARD, Director of Sustainable Construction - Saint-Gobain
- Pierre-Alain GILLET, International Marketing Projects Director - Saint-Gobain
- David LEBON Chief of Staff of the President of the Etablissement Public Territorial de Plaine Commune
- Bertrand LEMOINE, Architect DPLG and honorary research director at the CNRS
- Laurence PERNOT, Communications Director - Saint-Gobain
- Denis VALODE, Founder of the architectural agency Valode & Pistre

José-Michael CHENU has been Director of Strategic Marketing and Urban Development at VINCI since February 2013, in charge of the "*Grand Paris*" project. In addition, José-Michaël Chenu is delegated by VINCI to chair the "*Rêve de Scènes Urbaines*" association. He is a graduate engineer from the *Ecole Spéciale des Travaux Publics*, and also holds an MBA from EM Lyon, an Executive MBA from HEC, an ICH (CNAM Paris) and is a Chartered Surveyor. José-Michaël Chenu is a Knight of the Order of the Legion of Honor.

Catherine CHEVILLOT has been a heritage curator since 1987 and president of the *Cité de l'Architecture & du Patrimoine* since March 2021. She was director of the Rodin Museum from 2012 to 2021 after holding various positions at the *Musée d'Orsay*, notably as head of the research department, where she created the *Prix du Musée d'Orsay*. Catherine Chevillot is a member of the High Council of French Museums, the Artistic Council of National Museums and the Scientific Council of National Museums.

Pascal EVEILLARD is the Director of Sustainable Construction for the Saint-Gobain Group. He contributes to the development and implementation of Saint-Gobain's strategy to promote the market transition towards more sustainability, in particular in the construction market. He co-chairs the WBCSD working group on the circular economy in the built environment. He holds a master's degree in management from ESCP-BUSINESS SCHOOL and a post-master's degree in communication.

Pierre-Alain GILLET is International Marketing Projects Director in charge of methodologies and tools on Innovation and Building Physics at Saint-Gobain. He holds a degree in Scientific Research from the University of Maine (Le Mans, France) and was a research engineer at the CNRS before joining Saint-Gobain in 1992 where he held several positions in R&D for 15 years before taking up a position in Marketing which led him to work on glazing, insulation and gypsum.



David LEBON started at his position as Chief of Staff of the President of the Plaine Commune Public Territorial Establishment in July 2020. After having worked for the Minister of Economy, Productive Redress and Digital (2012-2015) and as deputy director of the cabinet of Martine Aubry, First Secretary of the Socialist Party, he held the position of director of development at Alliages & Territoires (2015-2020). He was also a local elected official for more than 10 years.

Bertrand LEMOINE is a qualified architect and engineer from the *École Polytechnique* and the *École Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées*, and holds a doctorate in the History of Paris from the *Université de Paris-Sorbonne*. He is an honorary director of research at the CNRS and was director general of the *Atelier International du Grand Paris*. A former president of the Academy of Architecture, he is an internationally recognized specialist in the history and current status of architecture, construction, the city and heritage in the 19th and 20th centuries, particularly in Paris and Greater Paris.

Laurence PERNOT has been Communications Director at Saint-Gobain since 2017. Before joining Saint-Gobain, she held several positions as Communications Director, at AREVA and Vallourec. She holds a postgraduate degree in American History and Anthropology from the Sorbonne University (Paris).

Denis VALODE, architect, is a graduate of the *Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux Arts*. After teaching, he founded the VALODE et PISTRE architecture branch with Jean Pistre in 1980. After receiving the Grand Silver Medal of the Academy of Architecture in 1999 for all his achievements with Jean Pistre, he became a member of the Academy of Architecture in 2001. He became a Knight of the Order of the Legion of Honor in 2002, and Officer of the Order of Arts and Letters in 2007. Valode et Pistre designed the Saint-Gobain Tower, the group's new headquarters in La Défense (Paris).

APPENDICES

CONTEST

History

Year	Project	Venue of the international final
2005	Passive Hotel	Bansko, Bulgaria
2006	Renovate a construction hall and turn it into a disco	Sighisoara, Romania
2007	Detached house for one family	Belgrade, Serbia
2008	MultiComfort House School	Dubrovnik, Croatia
2009	MCH Office Complex	Ljubljana, Slovenia
2010	Renovate a post-industrial building situated in Paris to MCH	Innsbruck, Austria
2011	Skyscraper to MCH level in Manhattan	Prague, Czech Republic
2012	MCH Sustainable Community in Trent Basin area, Nottingham, UK	Bratislava, Slovakia
2013	Vision & Reality Glückstein Quartier, Mannheim, Germany	Belgrade, Serbia
2014	School of tomorrow, Gaziantep, Turkey	Bucharest, Romania
2015	Residential for EXPO Astana 2017, Kazakhstan	Astana, Kazakhstan
2016	Community in Brest, Belarus	Brest, Belarus
2017	Renovation of existing 2 MF block	Madrid, Spain
2018	Creating a comprehensive vision for the Dubai Culture Village	Dubai, UAE

2019	Rehabilitate and reconnect the urban area around the Crescenzago subway station in Northeast Milan	Milan, Italia
2020	Edition postponed due to sanitary conditions	

2019 1st prize winners

Silesian University of Technology, Poland
Anna Toborek and Joanna Machera

Testimonies

- Interview 2019 participant – Kweku Danso Akrofi (Ghana): https://youtu.be/B3z8Je4QPuc
- Interview 2005 winner– Florin Corbuz (Romania): https://youtu.be/Gy7EtyFVgwo

Find out more about the full history of the Contest on: https://multicomfort.saint-gobain.com/multi-comfort-student-contest/last-editions

Award ceremony on June 11, 2021 hosted by:

Pierre-André de CHALENDAR

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Saint-Gobain

Pierre-André de Chalendar is a graduate of the ESSEC business school and the *Ecole Nationale d'Administration*. He is a former Inspector of Finance and served as Deputy Director General for Energy and Raw Materials at the Ministry of Industry.

Pierre-André de Chalendar joined *Compagnie de Saint-Gobain* in 1989 as Director of Planning. He was Vice President of Abrasives Europe from 1992 to 1996, President of the Abrasives Division from 1996 to 2000, and General Delegate of the Company for the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland from 2000 to 2002. In 2003, Pierre-André de Chalendar was appointed Senior Vice-President of *Compagnie de Saint-Gobain*, in charge of the Building Distribution Sector.

He was appointed Chief Operating Officer of Compagnie de Saint-Gobain in 2005 and elected to the Board in 2006. He was appointed Chief Executive Officer of *Compagnie de Saint-Gobain* in 2007 and Chairman and Chief Executive Officer in 2010.

Pierre-André de Chalendar is also a Director of BNP Paribas. He is Vice-Chairman of *Entreprises pour l'Environnement*, which he chaired from 2012 to 2015.

Pierre-André de Chalendar has acted as Co-Chairman of *La Fabrique de l'industrie* since July 2017 and Chairman of the Supervisory Board of ESSEC since February 2019.

Benoit Bazin

Chief Operating Officer, Saint-Gobain

Benoit Bazin is a graduate of the *École Polytechnique*, *Ponts Paris Tech* and the *Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris* in economics. He also holds a Master of Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.I.T.). In 1995, he joined the French Ministry of the Economy and Finance as *rapporteur* for the Interministerial Committee for Industrial Restructuring, and later became head of the Aeronautics, Electronics and Defense Department of the French Treasury.

Benoit Bazin joined Saint-Gobain in 1999 as Director of Planning for the Abrasives Division. In September 2000, he was appointed Director of Planning at *Compagnie de Saint-Gobain*. In 2002, he was appointed General Manager of North America and Bonded Abrasives Worldwide for the Abrasives Division. In 2005, he was appointed Chief Financial Officer of *Compagnie de Saint-Gobain*.

From 2009 to the end of 2015, Benoit Bazin headed the Building Distribution Sector and, since 2010, has been Senior Vice President of *Compagnie de Saint-Gobain*. From 2016 to the end of 2018, Benoit Bazin headed the Construction Products Sector.

Since January 1, 2019, he has been Chief Operating Officer of the Saint-Gobain Group. He will be appointed Chief Executive Officer as of July 1, 2021.

Benoit Bazin is also a director of the VINCI Group and of the *Cité de l'Architecture et du Patrimoine*. He also chairs the ProQuartet association, the European Center of Chamber Music.