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Irish passive builds

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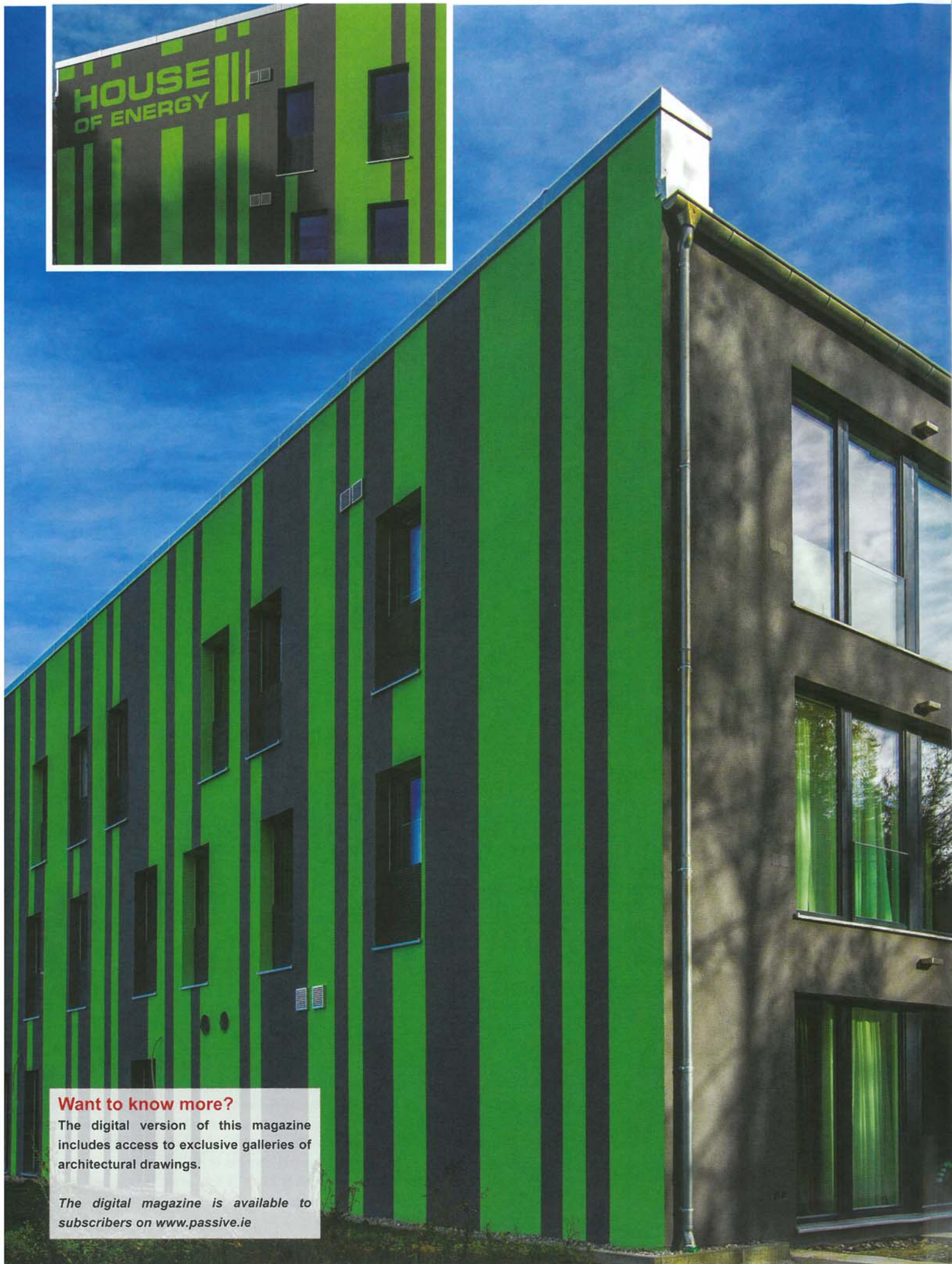
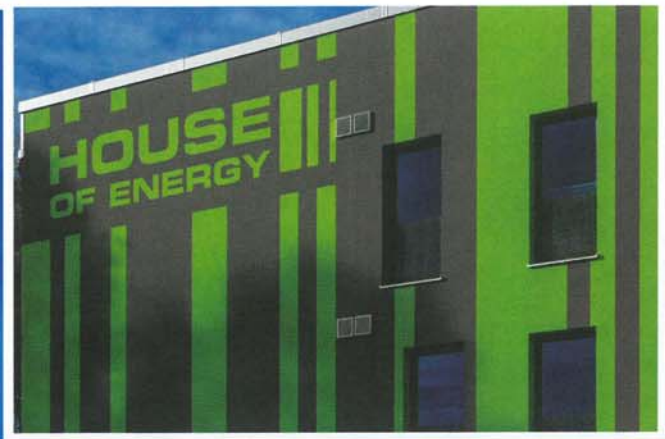
insulation | airtightness | renewable energy | triple-glazing | ventilation | green materials | water conservation + more

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House of Energy, Bavaria, Germany



This mixed residential and commercial project in the town of Kaufbeuren is the first building in the world certified to the new 'passive house premium' standard. The certificate was presented to the building's owners at a special event during the International Passive House Days last November. This new certification category, launched earlier in 2015, rewards passive buildings that produce more than 120 kWh/m²/yr in renewable energy. House of Energy achieves this via a huge 250 square metre solar photovoltaic array on its roof.

The project was developed by the building services company Airopitima, which now has its

headquarters in the building. The building also houses the operations manager's flat, a training centre, and a permanent exhibition on the topic of construction and refurbishment.

The House of Energy was designed by BG Architektur and certified by leading passive house certifier and consultant Herz & Lang. The three-storey building was constructed from masonry block and insulated externally, and scored an impressive airtightness test result of just 0.2 air changes per hour. A ground-source heat pump is used for the remaining small heating demand and hot water provision. The necessary auxiliary energy and domestic electricity is provided by the photovoltaic system. Any surplus energy that is generated is fed into the grid.

Photos: Markus Meyer, Airopitima

