

Solar Decathlon Europe 2012: Two model houses entering the race with "PremiDoor"

The prototype houses of two university teams are equipped with "PremiDoor" lift/sliding doors by profine at this year's Solar Decathlon Europe architecture competition. The profile manufacturer is cooperating here, via its subsidiary profine Iberia S.A., with the University of the Basque Country and the University of Porto. In addition, profine is an official sponsor of the event for the second time.

The Solar Decathlon Europe is a technical-interdisciplinary competition where a current 20 university teams from across the world design and build a solar-operated house. This house is then evaluated in ten disciplines, for example energy balance and level of innovation.

This counterpart to the US-American competition was conferred for the first time in the summer of 2008 by the Spanish Ministry of Building and the Polytechnical University of Madrid. The final decision again takes place this year in the Spanish capital between 14-30 September.

"The Solar Decathlon is a great chance for us to prove the effectiveness of our energy-efficient products in a very demanding environment. We want to set another highlight here for our convincingly sustainable windows and doors with our leading Kömmerling brand in Spain", explained Carlos Pérez, managing director of profine Iberia.

The University of the Basque Country is presenting a solution with their "Ekihouse" characterised by two different modules. The house is movable and enables a year-round flexible and energy-efficient achievement of optimal room climate with a summer and winter variant.

The "Casas em Movimento", designed by the University of Porto, are particularly characterised by their interaction with the sun, i.e. they turn by approx. 180° around their own axis through the day so that they can best exploit the light and energy of the sun.

The "PremiDoor" made by profine was found to be ideally suited to meeting the numerous requirements of the teams as it enables very large openings to be filled with a flexible, energy-efficient and light-intensive design.

Carlos Pérez: "Our commitment as a sponsor is primarily a declaration of belief in the sustainability aims of this competition. We want to make our contribute here to anchoring the importance of ecologically superior window systems in the public awareness."

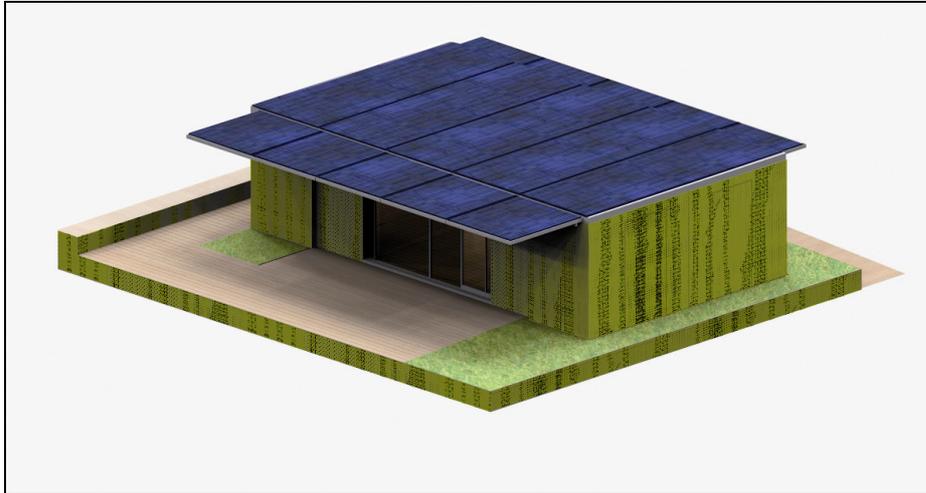
11 July 2012

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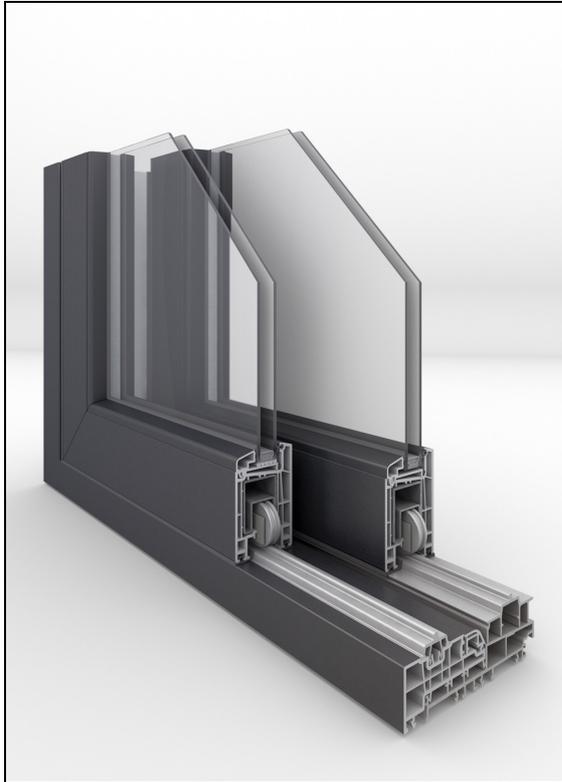
The "Ekihouse" model ("Eki" is Basque for "sun") designed by the University of the Basque Country for participation in the Solar Decathlon 2012 in Madrid.



The "Casas em Movimento" (houses in movement) designed by the Portuguese university team of Porto are characterised by their interaction with the sun.

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The "Ekihouse" and the "Casas em Movimento" at the Solar Decathlon 2012 have been equipped with anthracite grey "PremiDoor" lift/sliding doors by profine.

About profine:

profine GmbH – International Profile Group – is a worldwide leading manufacturer of PVC-U profiles for windows and doors and a renowned provider of shutter systems and PVC sheets. With its KBE, KÖMMERLING, and TROCAL brands, the Group has an excellent international standing at 28 sites in 21 countries. profine Group manufactures at production facilities in Germany, France, Italy, Spain, Russia, Ukraine, the USA and China. With its head office in Troisdorf, North Rhine-Westphalia, and a payroll of 3200, the Group recorded a turnover of about €700m in 2011.

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