President of Plan Bâtiment Durable, Philippe Pelletier intends to mobilize professionals on the Solar Decathlon Competition

President of Plan Bâtiment Durable, you are one of the most fervent defenders of the Solar Decathlon. Why is this Competition so important to you?

Philippe Pelletier: For five years, Plan Bâtiment Durable is uniting the building and real-estate industries for one common goal: to encourage the energy transition of buildings while obtaining support from as many sources as possible.

Solar Decathlon is fully engaged in this endeavour, beyond the Competition and the scientific aspect of the work: indeed, it’s a great moment of mobilization, especially for the generation of young people who will actually build the cities of tomorrow.

Why must all members of Plan Bâtiment Durable participate in this unique event in France?

The building sector is now fully committed to the transformation of its business, its economy and its operation. The Solar Decathlon is an excellent opportunity to promote French expertise and know-how in sober energy construction. We must make this event a highlight for cohesion and emphasis on our skills and achievements.

Which advice would you give to emphasize the fundamental gesture?

The Solar Decathlon must be fully linked to today’s political agenda and public debate. It’s a great opportunity to promote the ambitions of France in terms of energy efficiency. The timing is particularly interesting: we are at a national level, a few weeks away from the third environmental conference and, at the international level, a few months before the Climate Conference held in Paris. Let’s not miss this unique opportunity!

We must address the issue of building in a global environment and focus on the themes of environmental performance, urban planning, mobility, smart grids. As a result, the more diverse the actors and partners in this project, the better our chances to promote our model of a sustainable city, in France and elsewhere.

To close, how are you bridging this work with the long-term goals that you have established in this field over the past 5 years?

We have been on a great collective adventure since 2009. Thanks to Plan Bâtiment Durable, various players have met, gotten to know each other and worked together. We have collaboratively contributed to the deployment of the Solar Decathlon’s major themes. And most importantly, we have educated and raised awareness for the general public and professionals alike. In recent months, there is a growing involvement of districts, regions & French departments. We find in the Solar Decathlon one of the key ideas that guide our actions & this pushes us as we progress together. I hope with all my heart that the Solar Decathlon will be a great success and I am willing to contribute to the mobilization of the masses!

The Plan Bâtiment Durable will host 3 conferences during the Solar Decathlon:
- The ‘Bureau’ of Plan Bâtiment
- A conference on ‘Gathering Local Actors’
- Its General Assembly

Philippe Pelletier, lawyer, president of Plan Bâtiment Durable
La Cité du Soleil® 3D view

HQE association signs an operational partnership agreement with the Solar Decathlon Europe 2014

On the occasion of the December 17 annual «Building Together HQE Performance» meeting in Paris and in the presence of its President, Michel Harvard, the HQE Association signed an operational partnership agreement for the Solar Decathlon Europe 2014.

The challenges of the Competition line up perfectly with the work of the HQE Association, particularly with its «Building Together HQE Performance.»

Over the past three years the project «Building Together HQE Performance» has mobilized some 200 players and provides a framework for evaluating sustainable buildings aims.

Developed themes are fully integrated into the program of events of the Decathlon (indoor air quality, assessing the environmental footprint of buildings via life-cycle analysis, etc.) through the interventions of certification groups during the contests.

CECODHAS Housing Europe signs a partnership agreement

Given the need to produce affordable social buildings and the challenge of thermal retrofitting of the most energy-guzzling housing complexes, an institutional partnership agreement was signed on November 29th between CECODHAS HOUSING EUROPE and Solar Decathlon Europe 2014. It aims to facilitate, develop, enhance and organize cooperation between the two entities in an information and awareness-raising objective towards national and regional social housing federations.

Themes addressed include: the ecological transition, the sustainable habitat, technology and expertise in the field of renewable energies, which are the starting points for the city of tomorrow.

Learn more here: www.housingeurope.eu

The Conference Quarters, a real crossroads for exchange - don’t miss it

With 3 different areas at the heart of La Cité du Soleil®, there will be a true arena and crossroads for exchange. The agenda is filling up fast.

Learn more here: www.assohqe.org

Temporary schedule of conferences at Solar Decathlon Europe 2014

For more info: www.solarbretagne2016.fr
The official colors of the Competing Teams

The end result of a joint reflection, the final selection of the official Team uniform colors for the Competition is over.

Each Team expressed their wishes and the Organization then ensured that all colours are distinct, the objective being to differentiate Teams easily at any time.

This palette will act as an official part of the rules and each Team will wear its colors throughout the period of the Competition.

A new workshop dedicated to exposing substitute Teams!

4 exposing substitute Teams are invited to participate in a workshop to be held in Paris and Versailles from March 2014 the 13th to the 14th.

With the Organization, they will work on key issues so that all are ready to exhibit full-size prototypes next June and July.

20 Solar Decathlon models exhibited in Versailles’ city hall

“In the city that can be the symbol of the perfect marriage between nature and habitat as well as a demonstration of the XXI century, at the forefront of innovation in sustainable urban development, Solar Decathlon is a must-see”, says François de Mazières, deputy mayor of Versailles.

Only a Few Days left!
Since December 2013 and until February the 10th, the city hall of Versailles welcomes the 20 Solar Decathlon Europe 2014 competing models. The prototypes are not simple concepts - they must meet the individual and collective aspirations of the host country.

Direct Access: 2nd floor of the town hall of Versailles, right outside the Grand Gallery celebrations.

The exhibition is free and open to the public Monday to Friday 8:30 to 17:00 and Saturday from 9:00 to 11:30.

Our partners boost the success of the Solar Decathlon Europe

Diamond partners

Gold partners

Silver partners

Bronze partners

MORE INFO HERE!